



St. Mary's C.E. Primary School
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6th October 2025

Dear Families,

Our parent consultation takes place tomorrow 3.30 – 5.30. We look forward to welcoming as many of you as possible to hear about the children's progress and a section of books will be available for you to enjoy. This will be on a 'drop-in' basis (specific times will not be allocated). Entry and exit until 3.45 will be via the reception gate and then via the main office manned by myself.

Thank you to parents who completed our parent voice questionnaire. These were overwhelmingly positive and we are extremely grateful for this. You made some brilliant suggestions to make things even better which we are exploring.

On Thursday 9th October we will be celebrating World Mental Health Day.

What is World Mental Health Day?

World Mental Health Day, also known as National Mental Health Day, is dedicated to promoting the understanding of mental health education, awareness, and advocacy. It's important to raise awareness of mental health conditions and ensure that communities recognise the part each person has to play in creating a mentally healthy society. On this day we invite children to wear bright, colourful non-uniform or PE kits, if it is their PE day (this is optional and please only take part if you wish) and we will be completing mindful activities in class.

Our harvest service this year will be held on Wednesday 22nd October.

Exodus 23:16

16 "Celebrate the Festival of Harvest with the first fruits of the crops you sow in your field. "Celebrate the Festival of Ingathering at the end of the year, when you gather in your crops from the field.

Families are warmly welcomed into school for our harvest service and we welcome Reverend Amy Cornell (the new St Mary's Vicar) in the hall at 9.00. There will be a small contribution from the children in classes 1-6. We would welcome donations of any non-perishable items to again support the local charity Reddish:

Their aim is to re-distribute 'good stuff' around Reddish and working together we will:

- Improve the lives of the people living within the wards of Reddish and Heaton Norris
- Create a sense of community pride
- Become known as the place to go for support if you have a problem or crisis.

If any donations could be brought to the school hall before the 22nd October this would be greatly appreciated.

After the October half-term, there will be a change to the way we set homework. Spellings and reading will remain the same, however the maths element will be changing slightly. Instead of writing out their number bonds or times tables, children will now be asked to spend **30 minutes** per week on either **Times Tables Rockstars** or **Numbots for reception and year 1 and 2**, spread across the week (Monday to Sunday).

These fun and engaging platforms help children improve their fluency in number facts and times tables in an enjoyable and interactive way, which supports their overall maths confidence and speed.

To relaunch our use of these fantastic tools, we will be having a **Times Tables Rockstars** and **Numbots Day on Friday 17th October**. Children are invited to come to school dressed as a **rockstar** or a **Numbots character** to celebrate this! Further information on how to access these platforms will be shared before we break up for half term.

At the start of the new term we have been thinking about our behaviour principles of: Ready, Respectful, Safe, and how this impacts our actions alongside 'British Values'.

What are British Values?

Fundamental British Values underpin what it is to be a citizen in a modern and diverse Great Britain valuing our community and celebrating diversity of the UK. These values are Democracy, Rule of Law, Respect and Tolerance, Individual Liberty.

A key part of our plan for education is to ensure children become valuable and fully rounded members of society who treat others with respect and tolerance, regardless of background.

Every school is encouraged to promote the basic British values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, and mutual respect and tolerance for those of different faiths and beliefs.

This ensures young people understand the importance of respect and leave school fully prepared for life in modern Britain.

Stockport LA has again informed us that earrings **MUST** not be worn for PE and taping is not acceptable. Please ensure earrings are removed on PE days. If this presents any problems, please speak to your child's class teacher.

If you have any issues relating to anything in this letter please discuss this with myself or your child's class teacher who is available on the door every morning and after school or if you wish please make an appointment.

We look forward to seeing you at the Parent Consultation after school tomorrow.

With the warmest wishes,

Mrs Faryniarz