



St. Mary's C.E. Primary School  
Broomfield Drive  
South Reddish  
Stockport SK5 7DR

Tel: 0161 480 4736

Headteacher: Mrs D. Faryniarz

email: [admin@st-marys-reddish.stockport.sch.uk](mailto:admin@st-marys-reddish.stockport.sch.uk)

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Dear St Mary's Families,

Welcome back to a brand-new school year! I hope you all had a wonderful, restful summer break filled with special family memories. Walking through the school doors this week and seeing the children's bright, smiling faces has brought so much warmth and energy back into our corridors. The entire staff team and I are genuinely thrilled to welcome your children back, and we are looking forward to a vibrant, inspiring year ahead—full of success, joy, and achievements for every single child.

Guided by our school mission, we firmly believe that "With God, all things are possible" (**Matthew 19:26**), and we are excited to work together to help every pupil shine.

### **Upcoming Events & Meet the Teacher**

We are currently finalising a full calendar of events, trips, and key dates for the term, which we will share with you very soon so you can plan ahead.

In the meantime, please pop a note in your diary for our 'Meet the Teacher' afternoon on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> September, taking place right after school. This is a wonderful opportunity to step into your child's new classroom, say hello, hear key messages about the year ahead, and ask any questions you might have. We would be absolutely delighted to see you there!

### **Attendance & Punctuality**

Every single day in school counts, and ensuring your child is here on time helps them feel settled, confident, and ready to learn.

As a reminder, our school policy aligns directly with statutory Department for Education (DfE) guidance (Working together to improve school attendance), which states:

"The law entitles every child of compulsory school age to an efficient, full-time education [...] Headteachers should only grant a leave of absence if an application has been made in advance and the headteacher considers that there are exceptional circumstances relating to the application."

In line with this, DfE and Local Authority guidance, family holidays must not be taken during term time. Please be aware that if we suspect an undeclared holiday has been taken, we are required to refer this directly to the Local Authority for formal investigation.

Please also ensure your child arrives promptly every morning, no later than 8:50 AM. Those initial minutes set the tone for the day, and arriving on time ensures no one misses out on vital morning routines and key instruction.

## **School Street & Road Safety**

We are pleased to announce that as a designated School Street, the Local Authority has now provided us with permanent signage. Keeping our children safe as they arrive and leave school is extremely important. Thank you so much for your continued respect, patience, and support in adhering to these restrictions to keep our roads safe and sustainable for everyone.

## **Uniform & PE Kits**

A heartfelt thank you to all our families for sending the children back looking so smart and proud in their uniforms! It creates a wonderful sense of community across our school. As a gentle reminder, please ensure that children wear all-black footwear only.

Additionally, the PE kits from Stockport County will be going out to pupils today, and our new Reception class will receive theirs on Friday. Please ensure your child's name is written clearly inside their kit, as all the kits are identical. If you require a change of size, please bring the kit into the school office for an exchange. We will accommodate if we are able.

Thank you for your continued support, partnership, and trust. Together, we are going to make this a safe, happy, and truly outstanding year for all our children.

“For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the Lord, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.” — **Jeremiah 29:11**

With warmest wishes,

Mrs Faryniarz

Headteacher