

St Mary's News

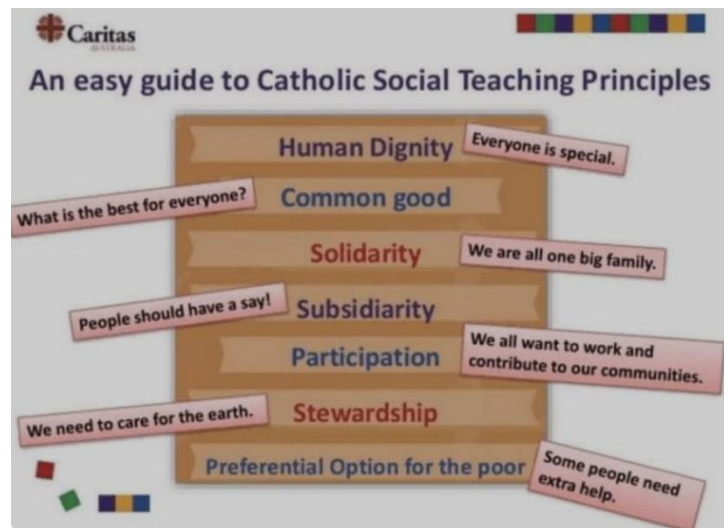


w/c 23rd September 2024

Message from the Headteacher

This week is Art Week which has been planned and organised by Miss Emblin. The theme of 'making your voice heard' links directly with our Catholic Social Teaching and both our Gospel and British Values that we promote in school. We look forward to sharing the children's work with you over the next few weeks.

All schools are special places and communities that strive to ensure children are safe, happy and achieve well academically, so what makes a Catholic School different. Catholic Social Teaching is at the heart of a Catholic School and it is through this lens that we enable children to see and respond to the world around them. It is often not easy making sense of some of the things we hear about, but looking at the world through this catholic lens guides the children to make choices about how to respond and act underpinned by our values.



Value of the Week

Gospel Value: Integrity

British Value: Mutual Respect

Catholic Social Teaching: Care for Creation (Stewardship).

Stewardship



We are guardians of God's creation, living sustainably and enhancing the wellbeing of our planet



Important Dates

Thursday 26th September	Phonics Workshop 2:30pm (see info below)
Friday 27th September -25th October	Class 6W swimming lessons
Friday 4th October	Cafod Family Fast Day/Feast of St Francis of Assisi - Wear something yellow/CAFOD monetary donation (via St Mary's church)
Monday 7th October	Open Book – Grandparents Day
Wednesday 9th October	Maths Workshop
Friday 11th October	Harvest Mass
Thursday 17th October	Open Evening
22nd and 24th October	Parent/Teacher Consultations
Wednesday 23rd October – 9:00	Open Tour of the School for prospective parents
Thursday 24th October – 11:00	Open Tour of the School for prospective parents
25th October - 1st November	Half Term Break
Monday 4th November	INSET Day

Announcements

Breakfast Club Staffing

We are thrilled to announce our new breakfast club team: Mrs Cassidy, Mrs Chanda and Miss Petty. Thank you to Mrs Reyes for covering the last three weeks.

Midday Supervisor Vacancy

We are still accepting applications for our vacancies for lunchtime support. Please see the school website for information and the support staff application form. We would love to welcome you to our team!

Phonics Workshop

Our Early Reading leader, Mrs Eddy, is running a phonics workshop this Thursday at 2:30pm in the hall. Although this is aimed primarily at Year R and KS1 parents it is open to all parents who are interested in supporting children with this vital early reading skill.

Any parents new to the country and whose children have joined KS1 or KS2 are especially welcome. Please arrive at 2.20pm for a prompt start at 2.30pm. We look forward to seeing you there.

Swimming Lessons

Year 6W start swimming this week. You are no doubt aware of funding shortages in education from the media. In order to assist with the cost of swimming, we ask for a weekly donation of £2.00 per lesson or £10.00 for a block of five lessons. This is a voluntary contribution and if you are able to support please do so via scopay.com in the 'Products' section. Many thanks.

Season of Creation

The season of creation ends on Friday 4th October. To mark this day we invite all pupils to wear yellow, or a yellow item, in exchange for a small donation on Scopay (£1.00-£5.00). This donation will go towards developing our school prayer and sensory garden.

Reminders

Uniform

As the colder and wetter weather closes in please ensure your child has a coat to wear to school. Boots are not allowed to be worn in school, however wellington boots may be worn to school on very wet days and then children may change into their school shoes once they arrive.

Asda £ for Schools

Please consider doing your weekly shop at Asda and nominating St Mary's for a share of the Cashpot, this does not affect your rewards but will benefit the school hugely.



Be Safe

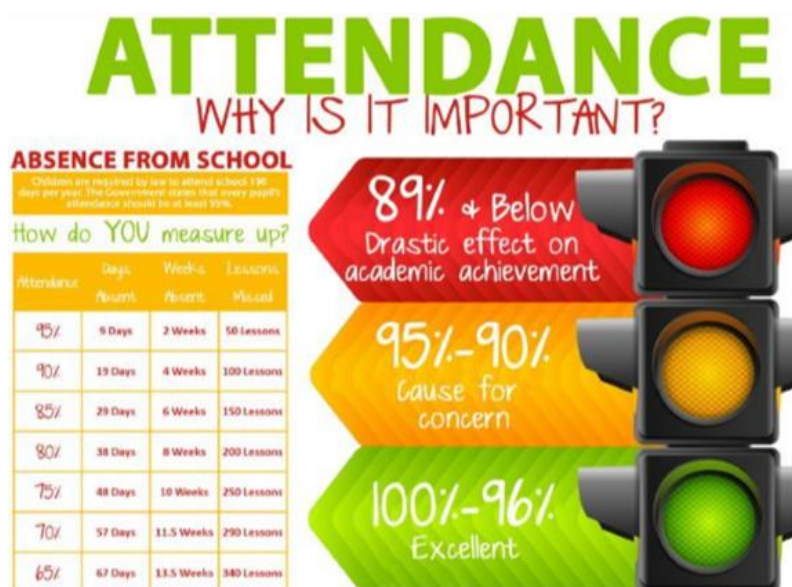
It is hard to imagine life without the technology that we take for granted. The following very short film could help parents discuss online safety with their children. It discusses how the devices that we let the children use may be producing data profiles which may not always work to the benefit of children and families.

- 100% of the largest 12 social media companies with the most worldwide active users track your location data.
- 72 million data-points will be collected on a child before they turn 13 years old. [Source.](#)
- In 2019, 76.04% of the most popular web pages for mental health information contained third-party trackers for marketing purposes

You can find the 'Share Bear' video using the link: <https://twisted-toys.com/>

Be Here, be Ready

Please support your child by ensuring regular attendance and punctuality. Regular school attendance brings enormous benefits to individual pupils, their families, schools and the community as a whole. Without regular attendance, levels of attainment suffer and opportunities are missed to obtain maximum benefit from education. Persistent absence and lateness will affect a child's achievement and progress in school. Comprehensive research shows that there is a direct link between a child's level of school attendance and their level of school attainment. As a parent it is your legal responsibility to ensure your child receives a suitable full-time education. It is your responsibility that your child attends school each day and is on time. Children with attendance less than 96% are identified as a concern if absences are unauthorised.



Spotlight

During the week of 23rd - 27th September, we will be launching Arts Week at St Mary's. It will be centered around both our school values and our British Values and we will be learning about artists who have displayed these values – Frida Kahlo, Pablo Picasso, Yinka Shonibare, Rebecca Strickson, Wassily Kandinsky, Banksy, Richard Bell and Giuseppe Arcimboldo.

Year 5 will be taking part in a banner making workshop with artist, Rebecca Strickson. Year 6 will be enjoying a graffiti workshop with artist, Heidi Steller. We look forward to seeing all of the artwork exhibited around the school very soon.



Mission Moments



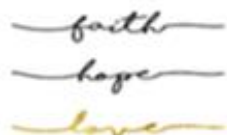
It is always so wonderful to see children helping those who are younger than themselves – especially when it is unprompted. This week we celebrate two more Mission heroes: Oscar in Year 4 for helping Mrs Bolt in the hall and Sanvi in Year 5 for helping so many pupils in Year R and Year 1 to find a friend to play with at break times. [#kindnessandservicetoothers](#)



St Mary's Catholic Primary School

Headteacher: Mrs Clare Tickel

Diocese of Plymouth



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Plymouth CAST operates Catholic schools within the Local Authorities of Cornwall, Plymouth, Devon, Torbay, Dorset, Poole & Bournemouth.