



St Mary's Catholic Primary School, Workington. CA14 5LN

Welcome back Newsletter September 2026

"Children are a gift from the Lord, they are a reward from him."

Psalm 127:3

WELCOME BACK!

Term dates: Wednesday 2nd September to Friday 18th December

Half Term: Holiday Monday 26th October to Friday 30th October.

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am delighted to welcome back all of our children, staff and families. I'd like to mention an extra special welcome to those children and staff who are joining our St Mary's family this academic year! We hope you will be very happy here with us.

It has been wonderful to see all of the children, eager and excited and I am very impressed as to how well the children have all settled back into school life! School has been full of smiles, chatter and laughter and I know this is set to be a brilliant Autumn Term.

As always at the start of term, we have arranged the opportunity for you to meet your child's new class teacher and these meetings will take place during the week of the 14th September, dates and times for individual year groups can be found on the key dates newsletter (attached below).

A huge thank you to everyone for adhering to our new gate opening times — the morning was much smoother and the children were able to settle down to learning quickly. A polite reminder that, the whole school use the same gate and single pathway, creating a lot of foot traffic. We kindly ask for your support with swift drop-offs and collections. Children in **Key Stage 2** (Year 3 upwards) are encouraged to come into school independently to help reduce congestion and, more importantly, build confidence and independence.

Can we kindly ask that should parents/carers need to pass a message onto members of staff on the gate, you wait until the majority of children have entered school premises. Staff priority at this time is to welcome and supervise the children and ensure everyone enters school safely and smoothly. If you need to speak to your child's class teacher you can contact them via DOJO or ring the office on 01946 830433 where the staff will be happy to arrange a phone call or face to face appointment at a convenient time.

OPAL is up and running and has been all week - the children continue to enjoy accessing areas at all break periods and lunchtimes. Can you please ensure your child has a pair of wellies to access the areas in all weather, these can be left in school daily and stored in the outdoor sheds. Waterproof jackets and pants are provided by school.

Have a wonderful weekend - Mrs Douglas

Our Mission Statement.

WHY WE ARE HERE.

Jesus told us to love God
and love one another.
We do this by showing respect
and by caring for each other.
We want all of us to do our best
at all times and
take pride in ourselves because each of us
is special to God.

Our mission statement is shared in school daily. Ask your child about it and the reason we share it?



Breakfast Club.

Breakfast club starts at 8am each morning. It is extremely popular and therefore places need to be booked. To book a place please contact the school office on 01946 830433. To access breakfast club you need to use the Nursery entrance door and ring the door bell on the left hand side.

SCHOOL GATE.

The gate **opens at 8.40am** each morning and all children should be aiming to arrive at this time. Gate closes at **8.50am prompt**. Arrival after 9am is "late" and children need to be escorted by an adult to the main office. At the end of the day the gates open at 3.10pm.

School day finishes at 3.15pm.



Pe days this half term:



On PE days children need to bring a full change of clothing and appropriate footwear, ie - trainers.

School PE kit is required (it does not have to have the school badge)- Navy/black joggers or shorts, Navy/black T shirt and trainers. Football strips are not permitted and spare kit will be provided if necessary.
All jewellery must be removed before lesson.

Please note children do complete some lessons outside, therefore as the weather changes please ensure they have warm clothing such as joggers/tracksuit pants and a hoodie/jumper.

PE AND DANCE:

Reception - PE on Thursday

Year 1 - PE on Friday

Year 2 - PE on Thursday

Year 3 - Dance on Tuesday and PE on Friday

Year 4 - Dance on Tuesday and PE on Friday

Year 5 - Dance on Tuesday and PE on Friday

Year 6 - Dance on Tuesday and PE on Thursday

COMPETITIONS THIS TERM:

Should your child be selected for any sporting events you will receive a text message regarding kit and we will try to give as much notice as possible.

Jewellery

Children are permitted to wear a small pair of earrings and a watch for school (no smart watches), necklaces, rings and bracelets are not permitted. All jewellery must be removed for PE and other physical activity within school. Staff are not permitted to remove ear rings, children are required to do this independently if not done at home.

After School Clubs

Activities and details for after school clubs have been sent out.

Clubs will run for 7 week blocks finishing 23rd October.

If your child decides they no longer want to partake in the club please inform the school office so that they can be removed from the register.



PARKING NEAR SCHOOL

Polite reminder to please be mindful when parking near school!

Please **refrain** from parking on Zigzags, double yellow lines, between the cones and opposite the junction onto Moorclose road.

Lets continue to **work together** to keep all of our children and families **safe!**



Communication with school

If you need to speak to the Class Teacher you can communicate through the DOJO app. If it is more urgent or a sensitive matter, you can contact the school office either by email

admin@stmarys-harrington.cumbria.sch.uk

or by telephone 01946 830433 and they will arrange a call back or a face to face appointment.

Please refrain from emailing staff directly these can sometimes be missed resulting in responses delayed.

Tuck shop.

Tuck shop will commence from Friday 11th September,
50p per item.

Children are allowed to bring their own **healthy snack** for break time if they wish to do so.

Loving God,

Thank You for bringing us safely back to school.
Bless our teachers, friends, and all who help us learn and grow.
Help us to be kind, to do our best, and to follow Jesus in all we do.
Keep us safe and happy this year.
Mary, Mother of God, pray for us.
Amen.