



St. Mary's Catholic Primary School

Ayr Drive, Jarrow NE32 4AW Tel. 0191 4898336

Executive Head Teacher: Mrs. M. Graham

Head of School: Mrs. A. Tumelty

soffice@stmarysjarrow.co.uk www.stmarysjarrow.co.uk



Bishop Chadwick
Catholic Education Trust

17th February 2023

Dear families,

We have reached the end of this half term and it is nice to see the lighter days getting closer. It has been incredibly windy today and the children were kept off the yard for part of the day to ensure their safety.

The Wellness Café was a great success this morning. This will continue to be held on the last Friday of each month from 8:30am in the main hall; there is no cost to this. Please join us next month.

Our whole school attendance is currently 94.48%, but we would like to see it higher. We want all children to be in school to enjoy the wonderful activities that are happening, and of course we want the children to reach their full academic ability and not miss any school. We do understand that children are sometimes ill, if this is the case then please ensure that you phone the office to inform them of any reason that your child is off school. When a child is absent, the office will make phone calls to all families, and if we do not get a response then we follow this up which is often a home visit.



PE days

Next half term the PE days are

Class	Session 1	Session 2
Reception	Tuesday	Friday
Year 1	Monday	Thursday
Year 2	Monday	Thursday
Year 3	Wednesday	Friday (swimming every other week)
Year 4	Monday	Friday (swimming every other week)
Year 5	Monday	Tuesday
Year 6	Wednesday	Friday

Due to the size of the Y3 class and to ensure they get enough pool time; the two classes will attend swimming on alternative weeks. Class teachers will confirm the dates on Dojo; when they are not swimming then this is a PE normal lesson.

Forest School

Next half term, year 4 and year 5 will take part in Forest School. This will be on a Tuesday morning; please make sure that your child has a pair of wellies or walking boots to change in to on these days. We do have some spare wellies, so please let the class teacher know if you need to use them.

Turkey- Syria Earthquake

The school council have organised a sponsored walk on Wednesday, March 1st 2023 to raise money to provide relief for those in Turkey-Syria. Sponsor forms have been sent out today with the children. We have spoken to the children about asking for sponsorship and only asking people they know well. They also know about the cost of living crisis and that they shouldn't expect sponsorship from everyone.





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Art Project

St Oswald's Hospice will be launching a brand new Art Trail in and around Newcastle called 'Shaun on the Sheep on the Tyne', starring **Shaun the Sheep** himself.

Our school is very excited to announce that we will be part of this baa-rilant project by designing a sheep to be displayed somewhere on the trail.

A blank Shaun will be delivered to school later this term, but before we can begin to paint it we need to design him and we need your help. It would be fabulous to have as many ideas as possible to consider in our final design.

Your child has brought home a blank template of the sheep (front and both sides). We'd like all our children to get involved with designing a wonderful sheep for our school. Imagine how wonderful it would be to see part of their design on the trail!

We are very open to ideas - your design could link to so many areas. For example, our school values, diversity, healthy eating, the environment, or a simply a character or a theme. Maybe you could look up previous Snowdog or Elmer trails for inspiration too. It really can be anything, just let your imagination run wild! No logos though please.



We will collate all the ideas and consider them in our design planning sessions in school after the holiday. Please either hand in any completed ideas to your class teacher or hand them into the office after half term. Thank you for your support and we cannot wait to see what bewe-tiful designs you all come up with. All of the puns were written by St. Oswald's Hospice!

Personal Development

On Monday 27th February 2023, we have 14-year-old upcoming pop sensation Zak Hull coming into school to perform to years 3-6. He will then talk to pupils in year 4-6 about his personal mental health journey. Zak is an inspirational young speaker and the children will enjoy his performance and talk.

<https://youtu.be/EkNNUuhOKJY>

Industrial action

As previously shared, school will only be open to year 4 and year 6 on Tuesday 28th February. Our kitchen staff can make a packed lunch for children who are not in these year groups and are entitled to free school meals. If you would like to come and collect a packed lunch on this date then please inform Mrs. Chaganis in the school office by 12pm on Monday 27th February.



Artsmark
Silver Award
Awarded by Arts
Council England



Better Health
at Work Award
Continuing Excellence

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**magic
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fuel for learning





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Lent

Lent begins next Wednesday and we are therefore not in school for Ash Wednesday. Please help your children to find ways to help others and make changes through Lent.

We celebrated Shrove Tuesday early today and held our traditional fun pancake race on the yard.

Mrs. Colley will send information out about our Lenten activities.

Have a wonderful half term and a restful start to Lent.

Mrs. Tumelty
Head of School

Mrs. Graham
Executive Head Teacher



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