



Family involvement in St. Mary's Catholic Primary school.



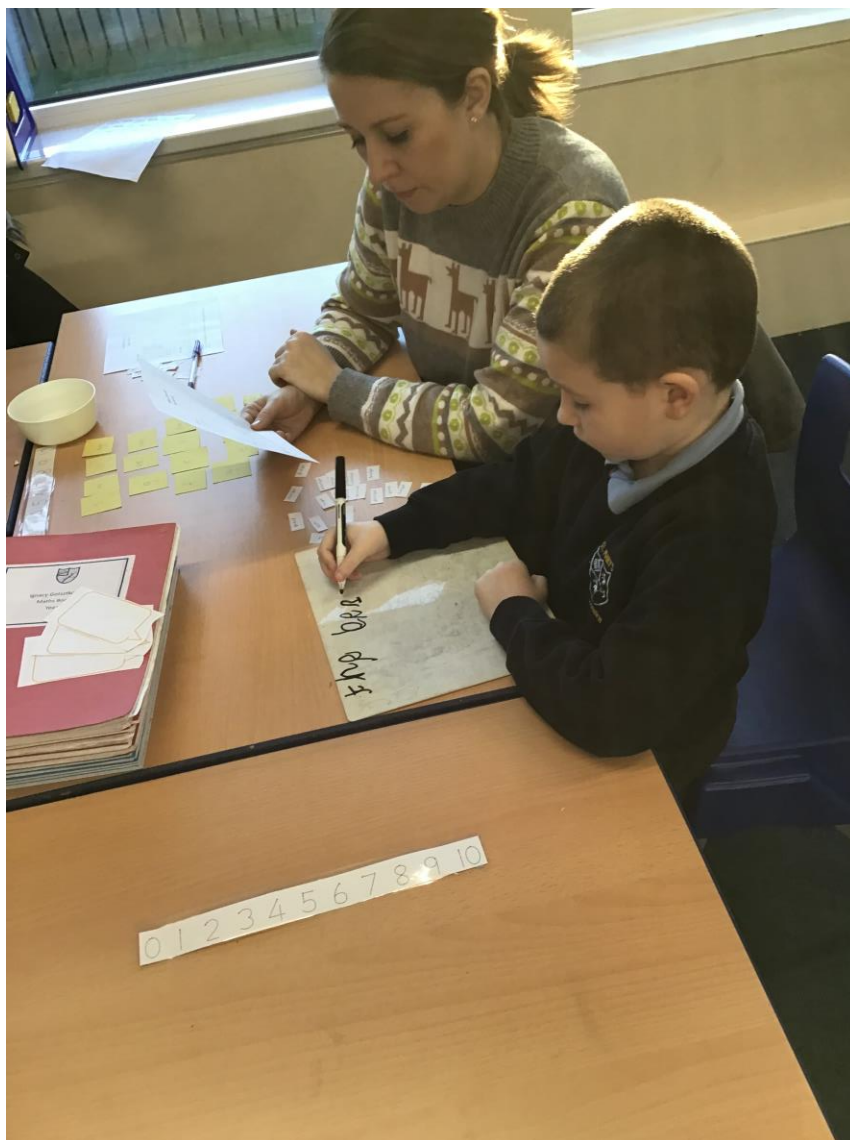
Our Mission for Family involvement:

Here at St. Mary's we engage in an ongoing process to build capacity and create tools to foster partnerships among families, school, and community. These partnerships will result in shared responsibilities for student, school, and community success. We realise that family engagement is a core component of us empowering our students as families are critical partners in their child's learning.



What does Family involvement in school life actually look like?

- ▶ Family engagement refers to teachers and schools involving parents in supporting their children's academic learning. It includes:
- ▶ approaches and programmes which aim to develop Family skills such as literacy or IT skills;
- ▶ general approaches which encourage parents to support their children with, for example reading or homework;
- ▶ involving parents in learning more about approaches and strategies that we use in school.
- ▶ more intensive programmes which focus on supporting children in one particular area of their learning eg. Maths, English, phonics.
- ▶ involving parents in the daily life of the school eg. assemblies, stay and play sessions, staying for lunch with their child etc.



Our recent parent and carer family phonics session was very successful. Family members attended a whole class phonics session and then had the opportunity to learn more about phonic activities and games that they could use to support their child's learning at home.





Families joining in with phonics games in Reception and Year 2.



So when is Family involvement most effective?

- Effects are substantially higher in early years settings.
- Effects tend to be higher for literacy and mathematics. The average impact can add approximately 4 months additional progress over the course of just one year.
- Approaches where a parent works directly with their child one-to-one within the school environment typically show greater impact (+5 months).



Our Toddler group runs each Wednesday afternoon from 1:30 until 3:00 in the Nursery building. Parents and carers can have the opportunity to meet other parents, children have lots of fun exploring the environment and the staff can form good relationships with families even before their child starts in our setting.



In our EYFS unit we run Family learning workshops and regular stay and play sessions so that parents can become involved in day to day routines on a regular basis.



We welcome offers from parents to become involved or talk about their job roles and give children first hand experiences of the world of work. Here, a Nursery parent very kindly offered his time to bring in a police car and talk about his job in the Police force as part of our 'People who help us' topic.

Yearly plan of Family involvement strategies at St. Mary's Catholic Primary.

Autumn term.	Spring term.	Summer term.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * EYFS family learning workshops focussed on boys outdoor learning • EYFS stay and play • EYFS open evening • Parents evening 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SEND family sessions • Maths Family learning sessions with year3 / 4 • Family phonics session KS1 • Family reading session KS2 • Family phonics session KS1 • Family reading session KS2 • Reception family phonics sessions • Celebration assembly (Geography) • Parents evening • Art sessions • Family music workshops 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Year 1 Family numeracy • EYFS stay and play / parents day • Year 2 Family Numeracy sessions • Reception class open day for new parents • Family phonics session KS1 • Family reading session KS2 • Celebration assembly (History focus) • Class assembly based on the whole year's curriculum • Sport's events
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Weekly Toddler group takes place each Wednesday in the Nursery building 1:30-3:00. • SEND coffee morning for parents is held on the first Thursday of each month. • Half termly class liturgies. • Monthly Wellness Café sessions 		