

Welcome back



Welcome back to school and Happy New Year to you all. I cannot believe that we are in 2024 already. I hope that you all had a peaceful Christmas and New Year and that your children are ready for the new term.

Before Christmas our children learnt how to say Merry Christmas in sign language and last week signed Happy New Year to each other. We can say thank you, good morning, and good afternoon also. We will continue this throughout this term. It would be lovely if you asked your children to share these with you.

Collective worship

Our value for this term is Perseverance. We have discussed what persevering means and set a goal that we would like to achieve. This goal might not be an easy one, but the children know they will strive to do their best and not give up.

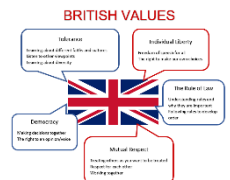


In collective worship we have also talked about karma and how we can make the world a better place with random acts of Kindness. We watched a video called 'A pebble in the pond' and discussed the analogy that just like dropping a pebble in the pond, the ripples of our kindness can stretch out very far.

For our anti bullying worship, we looked at bullying from the bully's point of view and learnt about the harmful effects that bullying can have. We have reminded the children that bullying is not accepted in our school, and we pride ourselves on being a kind and loving school.

British Values

This term we have been looking at the British Value of Individual Liberty. Individual Liberty means that people can choose how to live and what to do – but it also means that we are accountable for the consequences too. The children have reflected on how Individual Liberty affects them in their daily lives and the choices of those and others around them.



Next Walk in Wednesday

Our next Walk in Wednesday will be on Wednesday 7th February. The focus will be on our new online classroom. There will also be time in class to look at your children's work. Please come and join us if you are able. If you are not able to but would like more information about the online classroom, please leave a message for Mr. Laughton at the office. Information will also be sent home on how to access the new classrooms.



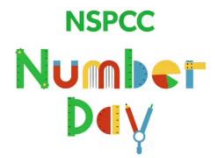
Homework

Thank you to those parents who support children with their home learning. Reading, practising spellings and maths facts at home really does help the children to learn in school. We have been so impressed with the quality of the project work that the children have also produced. Our next homework project is all about castles and will be emailed out to you on 16/2/24. It is then due in on Friday 15th March.



NSPCC Number day – Friday 2nd February

We are delighted to be supporting the NSPCC by taking part in Number Day.



Making maths meaningful!

Number Day is a great way to make maths fun and bring about a positive, 'can-do' attitude towards it. We are taking on Buddy's Key Challenge in our classes to help raise vital funds for the NSPCC. We are working to solve exciting maths puzzles in our classes, against the clock with Buddy, the *Speak out. Stay safe* mascot. Family and friends can sponsor pupils to complete the challenge. The following page has been set up for donations to the NSPCC:

www.justgiving.com/page/st-marys-ce-academy

Express yourself day

Monday 5th February sees the start of Children's Mental Health Week, which exists to empower, equip, and give a voice to every child in the UK. This year's theme is Your Voice Matters, and we will be taking part in activities across the week to help our children feel listened to and know that they are not alone.



On Friday 9th February, we are joining thousands of schools across the country and taking part in Express Yourself Day. This special mufti day allows children to come to school dressed in a way that celebrates what makes them unique – this could be sharing their favourite hobby, such as skateboarding or dancing, or wearing their favourite colour or accessory. Or it could just be them coming as themselves.

Express Yourself Day is about letting children's voices shine through and empowering them to tell their own stories!

If you need a little inspiration, here are some ideas to get you started:

- Let your inner disco diva shine on the dance floor
- Let your personality shine through with your favourite colours
- Show off your team spirit with your favourite team's kit
- Take the stage as the coolest rock star in town
- Come as you are and wear your comfiest clothes
- Share what makes you, you... and celebrate what sets you apart.

Parent Forum

Our next Parent Forum Meeting will be on Monday 5th February at 9:00am. We would love to welcome some more parents to this meeting. If you are able to come, please let the office know. Parent voice is very important to us and the more parents we can work with and gather their thoughts, the better.



Parent voice

Our Trust have asked us to send out some questions to gather parent voice on certain areas. If you can, please do fill this questionnaire. As I have already said, parent voice is important to school. Please use this link to complete the questions:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/CYPHLXX>



PTFA



PTFA News



Please like, share, and keep an eye on our [Facebook Page](#)

Email: stmarys.ptfa@yahoo.co.uk

❖ Uniform Sale

- ❖ The next sale is 31st January from 3pm
- ❖ All being well with the weather, this will take place by the school car park gates
- ❖ Cash and card accepted

❖ Rags2Riches clothing collection

- ❖ Next collection is 1st March
- ❖ We welcome all clothing & accessories donations on Friday mornings at the school gates

❖ Disco

- The next disco will be on the 9th February, it is open now on ParentMail to book!
- These events are fully run by volunteers so please let us know if you'd like to help!
- More info to come soon...

❖ Chocolate bingo

- Back by popular demand on 22nd March
- Chocolate donations to be made on 15th March
- More info to come soon...

Next Meeting - Wednesday 28th February 7pm

We love to welcome new people, just come to reception.

Sport

PE Kit

As you are aware pupils are now required to attend school wearing PE kit on their designated PE days.



Earrings must be removed, and long hair tied back, children need to be able to do this themselves or arrive at school prepared.

Please note PE kit is a part of our uniform policy and should only include:

- Trainers or plimsolls
- Plain white T-shirt (school logo optional)
- Plain sky-blue jumper (school logo optional)
- Plain royal Blue or navy shorts
- Plain Black or Navy leggings or jogging bottoms.

PE is a valued part of our Pupil's education; we thank you for your support in ensuring they are suitably prepared for their physical education. If you are unsure which days your child will be completing their PE lessons, please contact their class teacher.

Healthy School Ethos

Year 6 sports leaders continue to be involved in planning and delivering of lunchtime activities for their younger peers, they will also be assisting Mrs Patrick with planning of intra school competitions, challenges and healthy initiatives that we are looking to launch from January 2024.

School Sports Competitions

Our aim is to attend as many inter school competitions (minimum of 5 competitions each term) to allow as opportunities for as many pupils as possible to attend and experience a variety of sports in both competitive and non-competitive environments.

We cannot deny that winning is always great feeling, but more importantly we hope pupils who attend gain a sense of pride, increased self-esteem and desire to continue participating in sport. We promote our schools and school games values at these events including Respect, Determination, Honesty, Passion, Self Belief and Teamwork., our motto is "win, draw or lose we always show our values."

Cross Country District Finals

On Saturday 20th January Ella represented St Marys as she participated in the school county cross country finals.

We are so proud of her achievement in progressing to this stage, only 3 St Marys pupils have progressed this far in the competition in previous years and she should feel extremely proud of her success.

More importantly we are pleased that she has a new found passion for running and hope she continues to compete or run for fun.

Archery

Last week 6 pupils attended an Inter School Archery competition. The children had a fantastic morning competing in 4 varying archery activities (Tin can alley, traditional, jigsaw and over the drawbridge).

It was great to see the pupil's confidence grown throughout the event.

Special mention to Rosie who achieved the highest score on Tin can alley out 48 competitors. We finished an impressive 4th place overall.

Forthcoming Competitions

This term we look forward to attending KS1 New Age Kurling, KS2 New Age Kurling, Year 5/6 Gymnastics finals.

Attendance of extra curricular clubs will then aid us in selecting/inviting pupils to attend the competitions.

We hope this will help to allow pupils to feel more confident, prepared, and knowledgeable when attending competitions.

Before and After School Sports Clubs

This term the following sports clubs are taking place:

Sport Club	Day / Time	Year Groups
KS2 Basketball	Monday AM - 8:00-8:45am	Years 3-6
Gymnastics	Tuesday PM - 3:15-4:15pm	All Years
KS2 Netball	Wednesday AM - 8:00-8:45am	Years 3-6
KS2 Dodgeball - FULL	Wednesday PM - 3:15-4:15pm	Years 3-6
KS2 Multi-Sports Club – invite only	Thursday AM – 8:00-8:45pm	Selected KS2
Target – (Archery, Boccia and New Age Kurling)	Friday AM - 8:00-8:45am	All Years
KS1 Dodgeball	Friday PM - 3:15-4:15pm	EYFS – Year 2

UK's largest parenting title: Family First

Please see attached the link to a free magazine: Family First, also emailed out separately. We hope you enjoy reading and find it useful!

https://issuu.com/sevenstarmedia/docs/ff_winter2024_digital160124

SEND

We are an Inclusive school, so everyone is always welcome to read, attend or access anything listed in this section of the **Newsletter**

Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND)

Individual Support Plans



Later this term, we will holding review meetings for your children who have Individual Support Plans (ISPs). These meetings focus on what is going well and any further support we feel needs to be put in place. These are the targets that were set following our review meetings in October. Your child's class teacher will be arranging a date and time with you in the next few weeks. These meetings will take place in the **week beginning 5th February** and the **week beginning 12th February**. Thank you for your continued support and engagement with these meetings. We hope you find them as helpful as we do!

These reviews will then inform your child's next ISP which will be sent home on **Monday 18th March**

Spotlight

At St. Mary's, we have children with a wealth of different needs. This section of the newsletter will highlight a particular area of need and explore how you can help to support your child at home. Each newsletter, we will explore a different area of need. If you have a specific area you would like us to cover, please send your suggestions into the school office.

Spotlight on...Local Services

Through discussions we have had with many parents, it has come to light that there are a number of services in the local area that some of you may not be aware of. These are free services which can support the families of children with additional needs, which do not require a diagnosis to access.

SEND Support Service

The SEND Support Service offers advice and support to children, young people, families, carers and a range of educational establishments for children with a wide range of special educational needs and/or autism, aged 0 to 19 years. You can request consultation support or access courses and workshops without a referral or diagnosis. Anyone seeking advice for an individual child can request a consultation. Consultations for parents or carers are usually held by telephone and take around an hour. To request a consultation, email sss.ncc@northnorthants.gov.uk, providing the child's name, address, date of birth, setting, contact number. You should also include a brief background of the child's Special Educational Need (SEN) and what you hope would be the outcome of a consultation. You will be contacted with dates available.



North
Northamptonshire
Council



SEND IASS
North Northamptonshire's **SEND Information Advice Support (IAS)** service provides free, impartial information, advice and support to children and young people with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) and their families about education, health and social care. North Northamptonshire SEND IAS covers Corby, East Northamptonshire, Kettering and Wellingborough areas. Please see the flyer below for more information.

0 – 19 Universal Services

We provide the Healthy Child Programme, a planned series of contacts (face to face or virtual via video call) with children and young people up to 19 years old and their families. These contacts are provided by a healthy visitor for children who are pre-school age, and school nurses who help to look after children who are school age. We aim to support families across Northamptonshire providing a universal service for all, whilst also identifying those who might need specific help. To contact the **Children's Admin Hub** to contact the team or find out any other information call: 0800 170 7055 (Mon-Fri 8:30am - 4:30pm) Email: CUSadminhub.nhft@nhs.net or **0-19 Live Chat** - To start 0-19 Live Chat click the orange button on the bottom right-hand side of the page on <https://www.nhft.nhs.uk/0-19/>. Via Live Chat you can book appointments for development appointments and school aged immunisation appointments, change or cancel appointments with the 0-19 service, ask for advice, information or signpost to local resources and services. You can ask general queries regarding the 0-19 service and also request a call back from a duty health visitor or school nurse regarding your child's health, wellbeing or behaviour. All live chats are secure with end-to-end encryptions provided by a digital certificate and NHS information governance standards.



Northamptonshire Healthcare
NHS Foundation Trust

WE ARE:

North Northants Special Education Needs and Disabilities, Information, Advice and Support Service (SEND IASS) is a statutory provision operating at 'arm's length' of the Local Authority.

We provide free, confidential, impartial advice, guidance and support to children and young people with SEND, and their parents and carers.

North Northants IASS, empower children and young people with SEND and their parents and carers, to understand their entitled rights, fulfil their aspirations and reach their potential.

The experienced team of officers are independently trained in special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) and have a wealth of experience and knowledge across education, health, and social care.

We provide a range of flexible services which include training, referrals to statutory and voluntary agencies, access to local and national support groups, a telephone advice line operational Monday to Friday and in-person appointments.

We are driven to improve our community identity and strengthen our working relationships to meet need, and to ensure the voices of our children, young people, and parents and carers are heard.



WE GIVE:

Information, advice and support to children, young people and parents/carers around special educational needs and disabilities (SEND). This includes health and social care where it is linked to education. You can contact our advice line between 9:30am – 4:30pm Monday to Friday by phone, email, or through our website. We offer casework support, training, a range of information booklets and process packs, and resources.

WE HAVE:

A Steering Group which includes parents/carers and representatives from local voluntary groups, Children's Services, the Parent Carer Forum, Education, Health and Social Care, and a Young Persons Action Group where we gather feedback to ensure their voice are heard. Together, we plan the services we offer across North Northants.

WE GIVE INFORMATION ON:

- The law on Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND), Health and Social Care (where they link to education)
- Local policy and practice
- Personal budgets and working together
- The Local Offer
- Education Health and Care Plans (EHCP)
- Transition arrangements
- Mediation and dispute resolution
- Special Educational Needs & Disabilities Tribunal Service
- Complaints procedures

WE GIVE ADVICE ON:

- Gathering, understanding, and interpreting information
- Signposting to other services for information, advice, and support
- What to do when things go wrong
- How to get the best from a meeting

WE OFFER SUPPORT WITH:

- Preparing for and attending meetings
- Writing letters
- Understanding reports
- The EHCP process and reviews
- Appeals and Tribunals
- Admissions and Exclusions
- POST 16 provision
- Working in partnership with schools and the Local Authority to develop positive relationships



CONTACT DETAILS:

 0300 373 2532

 SENDiass@northnorthants.gov.uk

 iassnorthants.co.uk



@NNCSENDIASS

