

ATTENDANCE (%) 2nd September to 8th July 2016 (National Average = 96.1%)

Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6	TOTAL
95.3	94.3	96.3	97.6	97.2	96.2	96.2	96.2

Above national average	Same as national average	Below national average
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TERM DATES 2016—2017

<u>Holiday</u>	<u>Closing Date</u>	<u>Date Re-open For Teaching Purposes</u>
Autumn 2016		Monday 5th September 2016
Autumn half-term 2016	Thursday 20th October 2016	Monday 31st October 2016
Christmas 2016	Friday 16th December 2016	Tuesday 3rd January 2017
Spring half-term 2017	Friday 17th February 2017	Monday 27th February 2017
Easter 2017	Thursday 6th April 2017	Monday 24th April 2017
May Day 2017	Monday 1st May 2017	Tuesday 2nd May 2017
Summer half-term 2017	Friday 26th May 2017	Monday 6th June 2017
Summer 2016	Friday 21st July 2017	

Staff Training Days

Friday 21st October 2016
Friday 3rd February 2017
Friday 7th April 2017



Holy Family Parish Events



Family Sunday Mass and Party— 10th July, 10am St Mary's Church. All children Interested in joining in with the ministries of Sunday Mass should contact the church office or fill in the forms that will come in the school bags next week. Let's celebrate the end of the school year together as a church family and the start of the summer family fun. There will be a fun day for children after Mss, donations for a raffle and children's tombola would be greatly appreciated. Check out the church bulletin for a list of summer fun activities.

Family trips in the Summer:

Please sign up on the posters in the church porch or contact Louise Elgey if interested so buses and bookings can be made. Prices and times to follow.

22nd July, Teddy Bears Picnic July, afternoon, 29th July, Saltburn on the train, 3rd August, Hamsterley Forrest – Den Building. 12th August, Farm trip, 19th August, Hardwick Park picnic in the park, 26th August – South Shields, 2nd September – Air Trail at Tees Barage (Bus)

Family Tuesday (Summer Holidays)

9am—Arts and Crafts in church hall, (for all ages)
10am—Mass (followed by more Arts and Crafts)

**ST. MARY'S ROMAN CATHOLIC
PRIMARY SCHOOL**



Newsletter date: Monday 11th July 2016

WEBSITE: <http://st-marysrc.schooljotter2.com/>

Events

Tuesday 12th July 2016
Y6 Leavers Assembly 2:00pm



Wednesday 13th July 2016
Y6 Leavers Mass 2:00pm



Friday 15th July 2016
Celebration Assembly 9:00am



Friday 15th July 2016
BREAK UP FOR SUMMER

Monday 5th September 2016
BACK TO SCHOOL



Dear Parents & Carers

I cannot believe I am writing the last newsletter of the school year. Today was 'Move Up' day. What a shock I received when I walked into Mrs. Brown's classroom to see the children who started St Mary's on the same day as I did, sitting there as next year's Y3 class! Boy am I feeling old!

This week we were all totally entertained by our Y6 children performing Cinderella Rocker- Fella. I can honestly say it was one of the best leavers' performances I have seen. The children excelled at the singing and the acting. It was difficult to recognise some of them in the costumes! Well done to the whole class and the staff who helped them with the show on. Can we ask that parents/carers and children do not put any photographs or videos on social media sites please?

On Thursday we hosted our Sports Day. Inclement weather postponed the original event and meant we had to split the day. This allowed for a much nicer experience for the children and the parents and family members stated how much easier it was to see their children due to the smaller number of parents being there for each key stage.

Y6 and Reception have worked so well on a joint project about Endangered Animals. This included Reception running a Cake Stall – very successfully may I say, and the two classes decorating a huge Snowdog Sculpture that will be a part of the Great North Snowdog Trail around the North East in the winter. Our Snowdog looks fantastic.

Also I must mention our Y6 Maths Challenge team that made it to the County final on Friday. There were 13 teams and our children did very well, winning two trophies. No pressure for next year's Y6!

Our end of term has had to differ from previous years due to the transition days of our Y6 children being on the last days of our term. We have 2 children who leave us on Tuesday and the cohort moving on to St John's Academy, leave on Wednesday. This has required us to have the Leavers Assembly to Tuesday and the Leavers Mass to Wednesday afternoon so we are able to say goodbye to them properly.

On Friday morning we have the Celebration Awards Assembly at which we announce the new Children's Leadership Team, along with the awards for the children who have contributed most to school life this year. All parents are invited to this event. It is a wonderful occasion to celebrate all the hard work children, staff and volunteers have put in throughout the year. On

Friday we also say goodbye to Mrs Salmond as she leaves us to move to a school nearer her home. She has had a fantastic impact on the school since she arrived and she will be missed. We wish her every success and know she will be loved wherever she goes.

The staff and Governors would like to thank you for the support you give your children and the school over the year and we wish you a safe and enjoyable summer holiday.

Mrs. A. Sowden, **Head Teacher**

RECEPTION NEWS We have frogs—at last!! Reception have had a wonderful week running a cake stall to raise money for St Oswald's Hospice and WFF. Thank you for all the cake donations.



YEAR 1 NEWS I can't believe we only have one week left of Year 1, the children have worked so hard since I have been here term and I am so proud of them, I will miss them very much when they move into Year 2. We have had a fantastic sports day, with great competition and have shown excellent sportsmanship. We are looking forward to our Seaside themed day next week.

YEAR 2 NEWS In Year 2 we have been finding out about the seaside long ago and how people travelled there on horse and carts or the 'new trains'. We have made our own Punch and Judy shows too.

YEAR 3 NEWS Only a week left, where is the time going? The children have really enjoyed our Athletics sessions and I am sure they will have put these skills into practise on Sports day. I am so proud of all of the work the children have been doing on their homework projects; hardly a day goes by without something being brought in and shared with the class and often Mrs. Sowden. It is a pleasure to see, I am sure they will continue to work as hard and enjoy their learning in year 4!



We will be working hard next week finishing off all of our Topic work on Ancient Egypt; we are also hoping to spend some time looking at Modern Egypt, so some of us who have been to Egypt already can share their experiences.

YEAR 4 NEWS Well done year 4 you made it!! I am so proud of all you have achieved this year you created an amazing assembly last Friday. Well done for been fantastic role models whilst our visitor from the Green Belt came. Keep up the good work.

YEAR 5 NEWS The class had an amazing day at the Northumbria University 'Big Bang' event last week. STEM activities included making a bath bomb, finding out about Viking medicine that if used today would combat the MRSA virus better than current antibiotics and finding how many tins of beans it would take to pop a balloon on a bed of nails.

YEAR 6 NEWS We had an interesting visit to Hitachi last week, looking inside the factory, going on a train that was being fired out and then trying the manual dexterity test that all employees try.

Year 6 put on a fabulous performance of Cinderella Rockerfella - there are a few stars in the making. Well done to you all. If you missed the performances then you missed a real treat. We now turn our attention to our Leavers Mass and assembly next week. The children can bring a shirt for others to sign on Wednesday only.



The Y6 children now start their last week, and for some last half week at St. Mary's. They have worked incredibly hard this year which is evidence by their SATS results and they should all be proud of their achievements. We wish them good luck in their new schools.

Milk in School

- If your child is under 5 they will automatically receive milk each day in school.
- When your child turns 5 they can still receive subsidised milk through school by contacting Cool Milk.
- If your child is entitled to benefit-based Free School Meals, they can receive free milk each day in school.

If your child is over 5 and is entitled to benefit-based Free School Meals, please contact Mrs Hall to discuss the options. To set up paying for your child's milk, please contact [Cool Milk](#) or pick up a registration form from the office. If you have any queries, please contact Mrs Hall.



Stay Safe in the Sun

To keep your child safe in the sun, please make sure you apply sun cream before they come to school, preferably with one that lasts for 8 hours.



Please note that staff are not allowed to apply sun cream. Children may bring sun cream to school in their bags but they must be able to apply it themselves and must not share it with other children.



We also ask that children bring a sun hat and a bottle of water (which can be topped up in school).



Sports Day

Sports Day was a great success! The day was filled with lots of smiles, fun, laughter as well as sports activities. The children were organised into their pastoral groups and they represented their team in a number of events. Points were awarded for positions in each event as well as for good behaviour, listening skills and teamwork. The main highlights for the children was watching their parents compete in a team Egg and Spoon Relay. I thought the children were competitive but I think the parents were more so on the day! Well done to St Aidan's who won both Key Stage One and Reception, and Key Stage Two Sports Day.



Year 6 Leavers Play

Y6 entertained their friends and family with their version of Cinderella Rockerfella last week. The children all worked hard learning songs and the lengthy script. All say that it was a big confidence



builder, it was very funny, parents understood all the jokes and joined in when prompted. The singing was superb, both group and solos.



Year of Mercy

'When I needed a neighbour, were you there?'

In the month of July, we pray for our families.



Lord Jesus,
we know you grew up in a loving family
with Mary and Joseph as your parents.
Help us to follow your example.
Bless our families and keep us safe.
Help us to be gentle, kind and caring to each other
and to be peacemakers in our own homes.
Help us to treat each other with respect
and learn to live together in harmony.
We ask this in your name, Lord.

Amen

Lost Property

We have a new Lost Property bin in reception. From September this bin will be checked for items with children's names in (of which there are not many) and the rest will be put in the Salvation Army Recycle with Michael clothes bank near the school yard every Friday.



Please can you put your child's name in ALL uniform items so we can return them to the right children.