



"Grow together in Christ"

Rothwell St. Mary's  
Catholic Primary School Leeds



www.rothwellstmarys.co.uk  
(0113) 2828182

## Head Teacher's Newsletter 19 – 1.2.23

### Virtue to live by:

#### FRIENDSHIP:

**I am a good friend when:** I forgive my friend.

**Attendance:** Last week the class with the best attendance was Year 1 with 98%. This is amazing attendance. This week across school – Rec 95%, Y1 98%, Y2 96%, Y3 96%, Y4 89%, Y5 97%, Y6 89%. Overall, since September our school attendance figure is 95.46%, this is well below where we need this to be. Illness is understandable but we have had lateness and holidays are affecting attendance. Our school target is 97%.



Lateness can build up over time and affect the attendance of a pupil without you really knowing. If a child was late every day for the following number of minutes, this table shows how many days this equates to over a year! Imagine how many lessons missed this would equate to!

Minutes late	Number of days over a year
5 mins	3.4 days
10 mins	6.9 days
15 mins	10.3 days
20 mins	13.8 days
30 mins	20.7 days



**Awards:** These awards are given out in Friday's Gold Book assembly and must be returned the following Thursday.

#### Handwriting:

Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Joseph L	Rose	Olivia	Aria	Henry	Isaac	Michael

**Excellent attitude to learning award:** these are prestigious awards, and the children should be very proud of themselves for achieving these. Well done.

**EYFS/ KS1:** - Ellia – year 2

**KS2:** Sadie- Year 4



**Strike Action:** Just to inform you that there will be no disruption to our school due to Strike Action.

**Gold Book:** This week Reception will be reciting a poem at the beginning of assembly. Mrs Sweeney and Miss Leonard will have to have a preview as we are on training on Friday Mrs Hallos will lead assembly.

**Little Wandle Parents session:** Thank you to those families who came to the information session last week led by Mrs Sweeney. It was wonderful to work with you and to be able to answer some of your questions. Please watch out for the next date being announced. The next evening will be an opportunity to see live teaching of phonics and reading practice.

Mrs Sweeney will also be sending a google form to gauge the view of good timings for meetings for parents. Please respond and we will do our best to go with the majority vote.



### Important days and dates for this half term

#### Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> February

10 Year 5 children - Ice Skating- Elland Road  
12.45-1.45pm

#### Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> February

FOSM  
Valentine Disco  
KS1 3.15-4.45 and ks2 5-6.30pm

#### Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> February

Young Voices

#### Friday 10<sup>th</sup> February

Break up for Half Term

#### Monday 20<sup>th</sup> February

Return to School

#### Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> March

World Book Day

#### Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> March

Bringing Books to Life  
Dance Workshops for whole school

#### Friday 17<sup>th</sup> March

Year 1 Poetry Recital

#### Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> March

SCOPE SEND coffee morning (please let Mrs Sweeney know if you can attend)

#### Monday 20<sup>th</sup> / Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> March

Parent Consultation Evenings

#### Friday 24<sup>th</sup> March

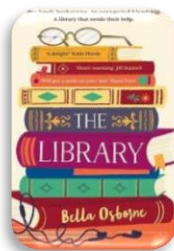
Panathlon  
9.30-12.30  
More information to follow

### School Council: 30th January

**Sports club** We will be starting a sports club around Easter time, it will be held at lunch time and it will be led by our own school council members.

Thank you!

**Libraries:** Our libraries are up and running with the children borrowing books of their own choosing. In order to keep our library running and having a broad selection for the children, please can you check your homes for any books belonging to the St. Mary's library. Our vigilant and enthusiastic Y6 librarians will issue letters each Friday to anyone with outstanding loans.



**Parent Consultation Evenings for the Spring Term:** These will be going ahead in the second half of the Spring Term in the week beginning 20<sup>th</sup> March. This gives us another term to see how well your child is performing. If you have any worries or questions during the term, please do come and have a chat and likewise, if teachers need to flag anything, they will be in contact.

**Young Voices:** This will take place on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> February – not many weeks away now. As usual, we will leave school around 12.30 after the children have had their lunch and return by 10pm. I will send a detailed letter out but please add these timings to your diary. We are all very excited.

**Provision beyond the school day:** We are so lucky to have so much on offer to extend and enrich the personal development of your children. Here is a reminder of what is on offer and when:

Day	Provision	Year Groups	Staff
Monday	Reading Fluency Cheer Leading	Selected pupils All	Mrs Sweeney Ace Club
Tuesday	Reading Fluency Booster Choir Mindfulness Chess	Selected pupils Y6 KS2 KS1 KS2	Mrs Sweeney Miss Nicholson Miss Leonard/ Dionne Miss Stephens Mrs Sheldon-Price
Wednesday	Reading Fluency Basketball Booster  Food Ambassadors (once per half term) Art	Selected pupils KS2 Y6  KS2 KS1	Mrs Sweeney Ace Club Miss Nicholson, Mrs Hallos, Mrs Poole Mrs Sheldon Price  Miss Cohen
Thursday	Reading Fluency Y4 TT Rockstars (before school) Football Gardening	Selected pupils Y4  KS2 All	Mrs Sweeney Mrs Poole  Ace Club Mrs Sheldon -Price / Mrs Penchion
Friday	Netball	Y5/ Y6	Mrs Sweeney

There will also be a computing club starting next half term for KS1 on a Tuesday after school with Miss Drury.

**Assemblies- Please note change to Y2 Class Assembly date.**

Term	Spring 2	Sum 1	Sum 2	Sum 2
Year	Year 2	Year 1	Year 6	Rec
Date	<b>24/3/23</b>	5/5/23	16/6/23	14/7/23

**Poetry Recitals:** In an aim to continue to encourage a love of reading, we are introducing poetry recitals in assemblies this year. Here are the dates when your child's class will perform:

**Collective Worship Times**  
**Parents are invited to attend**  
**in person. These will start**  
**this week.**

Year 6 – Thursday 8.30am  
Year 5 – Thursday 2.40pm  
Year 4 – Wednesday  
8.30am  
Year 3- Tuesday 2.40pm  
Year 2 – Thursday 2.40pm  
Year 1 – Thursday 8.30am  
**Reception – Thursday 8.40**  
**am (new time)**

### Poetry Recitals:

In an aim to continue to encourage a love of reading, we are introducing poetry recitals in assemblies this year. Here are the dates when your child's class will perform:

Reception- 3<sup>rd</sup> February  
2023  
Year 2- 10<sup>th</sup> February 2023  
**Year 1 – 17<sup>th</sup> March 2023**  
Year 4 – 5<sup>th</sup> May 2023  
Year 3 – 16<sup>th</sup> June 2023



### Church Bulletin

Please use the link below to access St Mary's Church weekly bulletin.

<https://www.stmaryrothwell.org.uk/bulletin/>

Telephone: 0113 824  
2819

Email: [pp.stmary.rothwell@dioceseofleeds.org.uk](mailto:pp.stmary.rothwell@dioceseofleeds.org.uk)

**Reception- 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2023** / Year 2- 10<sup>th</sup> February 2023 /Year 1 – 17<sup>th</sup> March 2023/  
Year 4 – 5<sup>th</sup> May 2023 /Year 3 – 16<sup>th</sup> June 2023

**FOSM:** Please be aware that Amazon are winding down their Amazon Smile service at the end of February. Amazon is one of the retailers listed on easyfundraising, so please can anyone who used to use Smile please switch across to easyfundraising. These contributions really do add up, and with the amount we all spend at Amazon these days the potential benefit to FOSM is huge and at no additional cost to you too. You can access easyfundraising [here](#)

### Your School Lottery

Our school lottery has launched, and tickets are available now! To be in with a chance of winning and raise funds for the school please visit [www.yourschoollottery.co.uk](http://www.yourschoollottery.co.uk) and click on Buy a ticket. Search for the school using 'Rothwell St Mary's' and click on the Support us button under the school image.



Tickets are just £1 a week with a TOP PRIZE of £25,000, and 1 guaranteed winner for each school receives 30% of the ticket sales in the Saturday weekly draw. Remember 40% of the sales is coming straight back to FOSM and the lottery is open to anyone who'd like to support us so share with friends and family and keep boosting the prize fund.

**Twitter:** All our teacher now keep our Twitter page updated. Please follow us @rothwellstmarys to find out what has been happening in school each day.



Our families joined us for an evening of phonics and early reading led by Mrs Sweeney #phonics @LettersSounds

Y5 were set an engineering challenge to build the highest, free standing structure using only paper! #STEM



**Class Pages:** On each class page you will find the teacher's planning for each half term, your class newsletter, up to date photographs and any additional information that teachers may post. Please keep a regular eye on here. <https://www.rothwellstmarys.co.uk/classes/>

**Coming Soon:** Our School Council in conjunction with the President of Mini Vinnies have registered to become a Plastic Clever School. They have received their registration certificate and will be sending more information in the coming weeks. Watch out to see how you can help.



### Safeguarding:

Our safeguarding policy for 2022/23 is available on the school website <https://www.rothwellstmarys.co.uk/school-info/safeguarding/> . Our safeguarding team is below.

**Miss Leonard, Mrs Sweeney, Ms MacPherson, Mrs Sheldon-Price** should you wish to contact us, please use the usual address. We have a duty of care to protect all our children and families.

[Safeguarding Support for Parents:](https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/support-for-parents/pants-underwear-rule/) This week's safeguarding topic is PANTS! This is always an area for discussion in schools. Here are the NSPCC resources to support your conversations at home too. <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/support-for-parents/pants-underwear-rule/>

Always remember that the door is open, and your first port of call should be your child's class teacher. If you need to speak further, then please see Mrs Sweeney or failing that myself. It is always better to nip things in the bud and get a resolution quickly with your child's teacher.

God Bless

Miss S Leonard –

Head teacher [head@rothwellstmarys.org.uk](mailto:head@rothwellstmarys.org.uk)