



“Grow together in Christ”

Rothwell St. Mary's  
Catholic Primary School Leeds

www.rothwellstmarys.co.uk  
(0113) 2828182

## Head Teacher's Newsletter 32 – 24.5.23

Virtue to live by:  
**TRUST**  
I am reliable and  
determined



**Attendance:** Last week the class with the best attendance was Year 5 with 100%. Well done to Year 5. Please ensure that your child is on time to school. The gate opens at 8.20am each morning and pupils should be in classes by 8.30am.



**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
Nathan	Raya	Joshua J	Oliver	Alexis	Maria B	Eddi

**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:** - Chinedu - Reception

**KS2:** George- Year 3



**Mrs Hatherly Retirement:** It is with sadness that we announce the Mrs Hatherly, one of our lunchtime supervisors is taking early retirement in August. Mrs Hatherly has worked at St Mary's for 21 years, giving her time each day to come and look after the children at lunchtime. I know that the children have loved her down the years and she will be sadly missed. We wish Mrs Hatherly a happy and enjoyable retirement. We will, of course, say our goodbyes at the end of the year celebrations. If you wish to donate to a retirement collection, please drop this into the school office.

**THANK YOU!** I want to express my thanks to Mrs Hallos and Mrs Penchion for giving their own time to take Y5 on an overnight residential. I am not sure how many other people in jobs, other than teaching, who would give 24/7 hours. It struck me this weekend of the importance of saying thank you! How often do we remember to say it? Is it genuine? Do we encourage and expect our children to say thank you? To receive a thank you means so much but to not be thanked can leave us feeling empty!



**Year 5/6 Sleepover:** This will take place on Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> July. You should now have received information for this and able to pay on School Money. It will be lovely to see the majority of pupils taking part. Thanks to the members of FOSM for organising this. Miss Leonard and Mrs Sweeney will be giving their time to be sleeping in school too but this is FOSM event.

**Statutory Tests still to come:**

**Important days and dates  
for this half term**

**Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> May**  
**Break up for half term**

**Friday 26<sup>th</sup> May**  
**Training Day**  
Staff CPD with  
Educational Psychologist

**Monday 5<sup>th</sup> June**  
**Training Day**  
(Assessment/ den  
building and fire lighting  
CPD for staff)  
**New Parents Meeting**  
**5.30pm**

**Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> Friday 16<sup>th</sup>**  
D:side Drug education  
for Rec – Y6

**Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> June**  
Dance Spectacular at  
Headingley

Sleepover for Year 5 & 6  
- more details to follow.

**Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> July**  
Rothwell St Mary's  
SUMMER FAIR

**Friday 7<sup>th</sup> July**  
Reception Class  
Assembly

**Monday 10<sup>th</sup> July**  
**Transition Week in School**  
**Reception home visits  
and visits to school**

**Monday 17<sup>th</sup> July**  
School Sports Day  
KS2 am at 9am  
Rec + KS1 pm at 1.15pm  
Please bring your own  
chair or picnic blanket  
and pray for good  
weather!!

**KS1- Year 2** will be completing tests for the last time, these have begun this week and they have approached them brilliantly. Keep up the good work.

**Year 1** – Phonics screening tests will take place in the week beginning 12<sup>th</sup> June. The children are already on track to do brilliantly!

**Year 4** - Multiplication Times Table check will take place in the two weeks beginning 5<sup>th</sup> June. Again, Mrs Poole has been preparing the Year 4 children and they are experts on TT Rockstars! Keep up the daily practice.

We all know that tests do not determine the destiny of any child, the richness of a child's character and their outward qualities and their ability to be a good citizen are far more important. However, we do want children to feel a sense of success in life and we need to prepare them for the next stages of their education too.

**Good Shepherd Mass:** You may recall your child colouring in a cross during Lent and brining £1 into school. We did have a lot of crosses and two children from each class were chosen to win an Easter Egg supplied by Catholic Care. Each year, we are asked to present the monies raised at a special Mass. This year, unfortunately, we had lots of crosses but not many £1 coins were sent in. School will have to contribute to the donation this year (from school funds). The Mass is on tomorrow, Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> May and we have chosen three pupils to represent school. Mrs Sheldon Price will take the children to this event. We will share photos after the Mass. Catholic Care are such a valuable resource and we are lucky to still be able to afford to pay for this service.

**Holidays in term time and attendance:** We are seeing a drastic increase in the number of holiday request forms. The total number of days taken as unauthorised holiday since September 2022 now stands at **151.5 days**. School is open for 190 days per year, so we are not far off the equivalent of one full year's worth of unauthorised days. We appreciate that holidays cost a lot of money, but every school day missed is a lost day of learning. Attendance in school is well below what we saw before the pandemic, and I hope that we can work together to bring back a belief that education is important for our young people.

#### Future Dates:

**Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> July**  
Leaver's assembly 9am  
Y6 Play for parents  
1.30pm

**Friday 21<sup>st</sup> July**  
Mass 9am  
Breakfast roll, tea, coffee  
for parents

Please can you let the school office know if you are going to attend.

Brunch Lunch  
Break up 1pm

#### Collective Worship Times

#### Parents are invited to attend in person.

Year 6 – Thursday  
8.30am

Year 5 – Thursday  
2.40pm

**Year 4 – Tuesday**  
**2.45pm**

Year 3- **Monday**  
**2.40pm**

**Year 2 – Thursday**  
**8.40pm**

Year 1 – Thursday  
8.30am

**Reception – Thursday**  
**8.40 am (new time)**

#### Church Bulletin

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

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

Telephone: 0113 8242819  
Email: [pp.stmary.rothwell@dioces eofleeds.org.uk](mailto:pp.stmary.rothwell@dioces eofleeds.org.uk)

Description	Threshold Attendance	Actual Attendance	Whole Days Absent	Learning Hours Lost
Excellent	100%	190 Days	0	0
	99%	188 Days	2	10
Good	98%	186 Days	4	20
	97%	184 Days	6	30
Satisfactory	96%	182.5 Days	7.5	37.5
Cause for Concern	95%	180.5 Days	9.5	47.5
	94%	178.5 Days	11.5	57.5
	93%	176.5 Days	13.5	67.5
	92%	174.5 Days	15.5	77.5
Unsatisfactory	91%	173 Days	17	85
Serious Cause for Concern	90%	171 Days	19	95
	89%	169 Days	21	105
	88%	167 Days	23	115
	87%	165.5 Days	25	125
Critical	86%	163.5 Days	26.5	132.5
	85%	161.5 Days	28.5	142.5

**These are based on a normal 9-3 school day- we actually do 5.5 hours per day.**

**Home learning:** As a school we do not set long pieces of homework on a regular basis, but we do expect that you support your child to complete reading every night and to improve their fluency in maths by going on TT Rockstars or Numbots. There has been a significant negative attitude towards home learning, and this is having an impact on some pupils learning in school. A partnership must be alive and working for each child to succeed! Little and often is not too much to ask!

**Assemblies- We have two assemblies still to enjoy!**

Term	Sum 2	Sum 2
Year	Year 6	Rec
Date	16/6/23	7/7/23 Note change of date!

**Poetry Recitals:** Only one poetry recital to see now - Year 3 – 16<sup>th</sup> June 2023

**Communicating with staff members:** Please can I remind parents that the correct email address to use for any communication to staff is [head@rothwellstmarys.org.uk](mailto:head@rothwellstmarys.org.uk). Please can I ask parents not to use staff personal emails as this can add to excessive workload or undue anxiety outside of the school working day.

**Provision beyond the school day for Summer 1:**

Day	Provision	Year Groups	Staff
Monday	Reading Fluency Tag Rugby	Selected pupils All	Mrs Sweeney Ace Club
Tuesday	Reading Fluency Woodland Art Club Choir	Selected pupils KS2 KS1 Y2 upwards	Mrs Sweeney Mrs Sheldon-Price Miss Cohen Dionne & Miss Leonard
Wednesday	Reading Fluency Racquet Sports Food Ambassadors (once per half term)	Selected pupils All KS2	Mrs Sweeney Ace Club Mrs Sheldon Price

	Art Club Tasty Treats	KS1 KS1	Miss Cohen Miss Stephens
Thursday	Reading Fluency Y4 TT Rockstars (before school) Football Gardening	Selected pupils Y4  Y2 Upwards All	Mrs Sweeney Mrs Poole  Ace Club Mrs Laycock / Mrs Penchion
Friday	Netball	Y5/ Y6	Mrs Sweeney

**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.



Well done to our Y6 tag rugby super stars! They came 3rd place out of 30 schools, only losing the 1 game in semi final. Go Team St Mary's 🏉

Breakfast round the camp fire.



**FOSM:** Can you help us please? Do you have a spare gazebo that FOSM can borrow on the 1st of July for the Summer Fair? If you do, please email [yourfosm@gmail.com](mailto:yourfosm@gmail.com). Thank you all in advance.



School Lottery:

**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:** This week's safeguarding support is all about well being Please follow the Mental Health Awareness week link for more support <https://www.mentalhealth.org.uk/our-work/public-engagement/mental-health-awareness-week>

**SUPPORT OUR LOTTERY TODAY**

£1 per week

Weekly cash prizes

£25,000 jackpot

£1 TICKET

**Splitting the £1.00**

**How it works...**

It's simple—choose 6 numbers between 0-9 and if they match the weekly lottery draw, you win great prizes. One of our players will win a cash prize every week, maybe even the £25k jackpot! Tickets cost just £1 per week and the proceeds are donated to Rothwell St Mary's Primary School

Every Saturday at 8pm the numbers are drawn and posted online. Winners are notified by email and winnings paid into the account of your choice.

The easiest way to join our lottery is online at [YourSchoolLottery.co.uk](http://YourSchoolLottery.co.uk) by direct debit or debit card.

**It's so easy to join and will make a real difference to Rothwell St Mary's Primary School**

- 40p goes to our school
- 36p goes to cash prizes
- 20p goes to admin costs
- 4p goes to VAT

**The Maths...** 100 tickets sold a week means

= £30 weekly cash prize

= £2,080 a year for our school

To start supporting, visit:

**[yourschoollottery.co.uk](http://yourschoollottery.co.uk)**

and search for: Rothwell St Mary's

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. **Remember – working together achieves more!**

God Bless Miss S Leonard –head teacher [head@rothwellstmarys.org.uk](mailto:head@rothwellstmarys.org.uk)

**What special day will it be on Sunday? Discuss with your children.**

