



St Mary's Catholic Primary School

Coronation Crescent, Madeley, Telford, Shropshire, TF7 5EJ

Telephone: 01952 388255

Fax: 01952 388244

E-mail: a3357@telford.gov.uk

<http://stmarysmadeley.taw.org.uk>

Headteacher: Samantha Griffiths

Assistant Headteacher: Helen Lambie

School Business Manager: Nicola Pryce

St Mary's Catholic Primary School Newsletter

Friday 7th June 2024

Always be kind.
If you see someone falling
behind, walk beside them.
If someone is being ignored,
find a way to include them.
If someone has been
knocked down, lift them up.
Always remind people
of their worth.
Be who you needed
when you were going
through hard times.
Just one small act of
kindness could mean the
world to someone.



Birthdays and Homemade
baked goods

The children love celebrating birthdays and other occasions with each other. Could we kindly ask that all cakes, sweets, or anything else you bring-in for your child's class is given to the office please. Also, if you

make handmade cakes or any other baked goods, please list all the ingredients and bring those with you also. Thank you for your help with this matter.

Safeguarding: Smart Watch



Smart watches with a camera tool/function are not allowed in school as the taking of photographs of a child by a child could compromise their safety and privacy. If your child is found to have a phone with this function we will ask that it is kept at home. Any children found to have taken photographs/videos in school will be asked to delete the photos in the presence of a member of staff. Nationally, there have been instances when children have taken photographs of another child in the school toilets or changing rooms.

Trip Contributions

We work very hard at Saint Mary's to ensure the financial pressures for parents are kept to an all-time low as we are so aware of how difficult it is to make ends meet sometimes. For instance, we keep breakfast club payments at the absolute minimum whilst other schools charge a great deal more, three times as much per day in some instances. We also deliver a breadth of after school clubs that are all free for our families. Our school prom for Year 6 is paid for completely by our school. These are just some of the ways that we are mindful of financial restraints being experienced by lots of our families during the cost-of-living crisis.

We aim to send the children on two school trips each year. We spend a lot of time to make sure the trips offer good value to our families both experientially and financially. By law we can only ask for contributions.

However, we cannot meet the ever-increasing shortfall. We have had to pay for up to 50% and sometimes

more of the contribution directly from the school budget so there is less money for materials and resources for all our children to benefit from. We do receive contributions from some of our families every time there is a trip planned and indeed, some parents over the years have paid for more than one trip place as a donation. However, some of our children have benefited from many school trips and fantastic experiences over the years, collecting wonderful memories as they go, but we have not received any amount of



contribution towards these days out. Any monies, in part or in full, would be so gratefully appreciated.



Any charge made in respect of individual pupils never exceeds the actual cost of providing the activity, divided equally by the number of pupils

participating. It does never therefore include an element of subsidy for any other pupils wishing to participate in the activity whose parents are unwilling or unable to pay the full charge.

It is important to note that no child would ever be excluded from an activity simply because his or her parents are unwilling or unable to pay. If insufficient voluntary contributions are raised to fund a visit, or we cannot fund it from some other source, then we will be forced to cancel.

We do understand that spiralling costs of household necessities, rising energy costs and inadequate social security policies are hitting households with low income hard, so we give parents as much warning as possible about forthcoming trips. In addition to this, we offer an online contribution plan, splitting the overall outlay per child into three easier instalments.

Thank you for taking the time to read this.



The Government's message: The Importance of good school attendance

Being around teachers and friends in a school or college environment is the best way for pupils to learn and reach their potential.



Time in school also keeps children safe and provides access to extra-curricular opportunities and pastoral care.

That's why school attendance is so important and why the Government is committed to tackling the issues that might cause some children to miss school unnecessarily.

How does attendance affect outcomes for pupils?

Being in school is important to your child's achievement, wellbeing, and wider development. Evidence shows that the students with the highest attendance throughout their time in school gain the best GCSE and A Level results.

Our research found that pupils who performed better both at the end of primary and secondary school missed fewer days than those who didn't perform as well.

The data also shows that in 2019, primary school children in Key Stage 2 who didn't achieve the expected standard in reading, writing and maths missed on average four more days per school year than those whose performance exceeded the expected standard



Similarly, in the same year, secondary school pupils who didn't achieve grade 9 to 4 in English and maths missed on 10 more days on average over the key stage than those who achieved grade 9 to 5 in both English and maths.

What are the risks of missing a day of school?

Every moment in school counts, and days missed add up quickly. For example, a child in Year 10 who is absent for three days over a half term could miss 15 lessons in total.

The higher a pupil's attendance, the more they are likely to learn, and the better they are likely to perform in exams and formal assessments.

Data from 2019 shows that 84% of Key Stage 2 pupils who had 100% attendance achieved the expected standard, compared to 40% of pupils who were persistently absent across the key stage.

Dates for your diaries

Date	Event	Notes
Thursday June 13 th	Reception Class Curriculum Assembly for parents	8.50am start in the hall.
Thursday June 20 th	Year 5 Class Curriculum Assembly for parents	8.50am start in the hall.
Monday July 1 st and Wednesday 3 rd	Parents Evenings	Appointment times will be given-out after half-term
Friday July 5 th	Year 6 Leavers' Prom	5.30-9.00pm

Wednesday July 10 th	Family Picnic	11.45am-1.30pm. All parents welcome. More information will be provided.
Monday July 15 th	Key Stage 2 Sports Day	9.00am – 11.00am. All parents and family members invited. More information will be provided.
Tuesday July 16 th	Key Stage 1 Sports Day	9.00-10.30am. All parents and family members invited. More information will be provided.
Thursday July 18 th	Year 6 Leavers' Assembly	8.50am- 10am. All parents of Year 6 children invited.
Friday July 19 th	Break-up	Tee-shirt signing day for Year 6

Do you have a degree? Are you, or do you know someone who is interested in becoming a teacher?

Come and train with us from September 2024 on our Lead School Partner route, in partnership with the University of Chester, who have over 150 years of experience of training the next generation of teachers.

Severn are in their 11th year of delivering high quality ITT training, in partnership with our local schools, offering two courses, Early Years 5-7 years and Primary 5-11 years.

Your training will be full-time, over the next academic year, following the terms and holidays of our schools. At the end of your year's training, you will be awarded a Post Graduate Certificate in Education(PGCE), with Qualified Teacher Status(QTS).

All academic, centre based learning and your two contrasting placements will be based in Telford.

Quote from an ex trainee, working in one of our local schools:

The PGCE course at Severn Training and Schools Alliance was the scariest, but most rewarding challenge I have ever undertaken. As a mother of children with special needs, I particularly appreciated that mental health and wellbeing was at the forefront of the training programme. I felt

supported and encouraged at every stage, and I made friends and memories that will last a lifetime!

The robust academic programme enabled me to broaden my knowledge with the latest pedagogical approaches and gave me a thorough understanding of the current issues facing schools.

Receiving hands-on, practical experience in the classroom from the beginning enabled me to enter my Early Career Teaching programme with confidence. The carefully structured initial teacher training programme ensured that I experienced all aspects of teaching and allowed me to build resilience. Careful consideration regarding school placements meant that I could experience contrasting placements which also suited my individual circumstances and career aspirations.

The collaborative approach at Severn Training and Schools Alliance meant that I had a strong support network of Associate Teachers.

I was able to build excellent relationships with mentors and Quality Assurance leaders from local schools. Every aspect of the training was relevant, we were encouraged to share knowledge and ideas, and we received the most up to date knowledge from specialist leaders of education.

Stepping into your own classroom for the first time can be overwhelming, but having trained with Severn Teaching and Schools Alliance I felt empowered, confident and ready to make a difference.

sian.deane1@taw.org.uk

Attendance Check

