

St Mary's Catholic Primary School

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St Mary's Catholic Primary School Newsletter



Potential School Closure

Sleet and snow showers are likely in northern and eastern counties and it will be getting very cold. During Wednesday and Thursday there is a risk of rain or snow pushing across some parts of the north, and also the potential for significant precipitation in southern and central Britain as weather fronts bump into the cold air over the UK. If our school needs to close, we will put this information on the TAW School Closures page and send a Parentmail. Here is the link to the school closures page:

[Closures - School/Nursery Closures - Telford & Wrekin Council](#)

Coffee Morning Invite

BSAT & The Linden Centre Coffee Mornings/ Evening

Please come and join us for a cuppa, a slice of cake and a chat!

The BSAT Team are keen to hear your suggestions of how we can further support our students and their families.

We would also like to support parents/carers and our young people to better understand school systems, exclusion, procedures and signpost the different support agencies that are available.

We look forward to seeing you.

The BSAT Team

@ The Linden Centre
Oak Road
Overdale
Telford
TF3 5BT

BSAT Coffee Dates:

Wednesday 27th September
Wednesday 15th November
Wednesday 17th January
Wednesday 28th February
Wednesday 17th April
Wednesday 12th June

9.00 - 10.30am & 5.00 – 6.30pm



The Year of Prayer 2024 and The Jubilee Year 2025

In preparation for the 2025 Jubilee Year 'Pilgrims of Hope', 2024 has been designated a Year of Prayer by Pope Francis. It starts this Advent.

There is a particular focus on the *Our Father*, and this presents us with a great opportunity to go back to the basics of prayer.

Our Father,
Who art in Heaven,
hallowed be Thy name;
Thy Kingdom come,
Thy will be done
on earth as it is in Heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
Amen.

If the Gospel is a message of Joy, then it is one we should be eager to share with others, and this can be done especially by inviting people to a deeper, prayerful encounter with Jesus Christ this year.



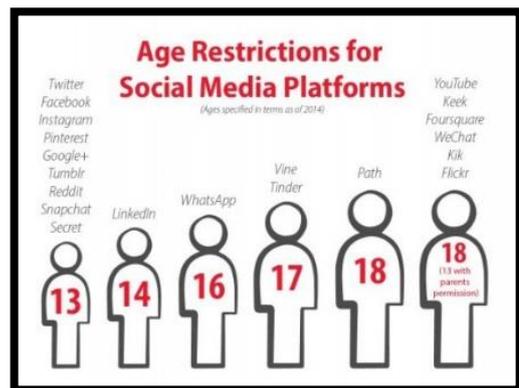
On Evangelii Gaudium Sunday (Sept 2023) the Diocesan Office for Mission encouraged every Catholic to reflect on their life of prayer: what they pray, how they pray, and why they pray. This is for two reasons:

To encourage people to go deeper in their commitment to pray, and in their love of God;

To think about how they might accompany someone else to pray during the coming Year of Prayer.

WhatsApp Usage: Nationwide Issue

This poster makes it clear the age restrictions on social media sites and messaging tools. Nationally across schools, the use of WhatsApp Groups has accelerated, and adult users have found themselves in serious trouble for slander, libel, bullying and defamation of character. This has mostly come about because one of the group members has usually screenshot messages and sent them to the parent, teacher, and child being targeted. As adults



Slander & Libel

- **Slander** occurs when a person's character has been defamed *verbally*.
- This includes spoken words, gestures, sounds, and even facial expressions.
- **Slander** is often difficult to prove as the action is not recorded in any way.
- **Libel** occurs when a person's character has been defamed *in written form*.
- This includes permanent visual and audio recordings, publications, and memos.
- Over the past several years, there has been a significant increase in **libel** cases as a result of the Internet.

we know that saying and then writing untruths about another person, inciting hatred, and attacking the reputation of another person are totally unacceptable ways of using social media and messaging apps. Children, however, do not always have the emotional maturity to understand the impact of their behaviour online and the long-lasting impact that their actions can have on another person or indeed, on themselves. Headteachers nationally are dealing with an increasing number of

issues brought about by things being written and shared using social media platforms. We would naturally urge you to delete the application from your child's phone as chats,

particularly large group chats, are proving detrimental to children's emotional wellbeing across the country.

Head lice and nits: Please take action

Head lice and nits are very common in young children and their families. They do not have anything to do with dirty hair and are picked up by head-to-head contact.

Treat head lice as soon as you spot them. You can treat head lice without seeing a GP.

You should check everyone in the house and start treating anyone who has head lice on the same day. There's no need to keep your child off school if they have head lice.



Wet combing

Lice and nits can be removed by wet combing.

You can buy a special fine-toothed comb (detection comb) online or from pharmacies to remove head lice and nits.

There may be instructions on the pack, but usually you:

- wash hair with ordinary shampoo
- apply lots of conditioner (any conditioner will do)
- comb the whole head of hair, from the roots to the ends

It usually takes about 10 minutes to comb short hair, and 20 to 30 minutes for long, frizzy or curly hair.

Do wet combing on days 1, 5, 9 and 13 to catch any newly hatched head lice. Check again that everyone's hair is free of lice on day 17.



Medicated lotions and sprays

If wet combing has not worked or is not suitable, you could try a medicated lotion or spray. These kill head lice in all types of hair, and you can buy them from pharmacies, supermarkets or online.

Head lice should die within a day. Some lotions and sprays come with a comb to remove dead lice and eggs.

Some treatments need to be repeated after a week to kill any newly hatched lice.

Check the pack to see if they're OK for you or your child and how to use them. If lotions or sprays do not work, speak to a pharmacist about other treatments. Some treatments are not recommended because they're unlikely to work. For example:

- products containing permethrin
- head lice "repellents"
- electric combs for head lice
- tree and plant oil treatments, such as tea tree oil, eucalyptus oil and lavender oil
herbal remedies

Information:

The charity Community Hygiene Concern has a [video about wet combing for head lice](#).

You cannot prevent head lice

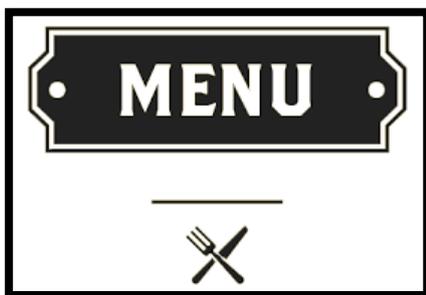
There's nothing you can do to prevent head lice.

You can help stop them spreading by wet or dry combing regularly to catch them early.

Do not use medicated lotions and sprays to prevent head lice. They can irritate the scalp.

There's no need for children to stay off school or to wash laundry on a hot wash.

School Menu



Our school's menu can be viewed here:

https://www.telford.gov.uk/downloads/file/388/st_marys_primary_school_menu