



St. Mary's RC Primary School, Clive Road, Failsworth, Manchester. M35 0NW

Tel: 0161 681 6663

Head Teacher: Ms M Garvey

Email: info@st-marys.oldham.sch.uk

"Called to love as God loves"

January 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

The new term has got off to a flying start. As always on the first day back in school after a break, we focus on our school rules and expectations.

We have been reminding the children of our five school rules:

- Do your best
- Show respect
- Use friendly language
- Choose safe behaviour
- Be in the right place at the right time.

I am delighted to say that the children work hard to uphold these rules which make for a safer and happier environment for all.

The teachers have also been completing a uniform check to ensure our uniform policy (see website for details) is being adhered to. Thank you to everyone for supporting us in maintaining our high standards by sending your child into school with the correct uniform each day.

Laudato Si Committee

Thank you to the Laudato Si Committee for organising a recycling of Christmas cards competition. The winners were announced in Golden Book assembly on Friday following a "weigh off". It brings me great joy to see our children being proactive and responding to Pope Francis' message to care for a Common Home.



Extended School Day

You may recall that I wrote to you last term advising you of the adjustments being made to the school day in January. The Department for Education (DfE) has directed all schools from September 2024 to ensure school is open for all children for 32.5 hours each week. The Key Stage Two department already complied with this. However, in order to allow parents the time to pick children up in both departments, the infant department started five minutes later and finished five minutes earlier. In order to comply with the DfE

directive, the Early Years and KS1 day has now been extended. As the school has a large footprint, we have maintained the same arrangements of a five minute window at the start and end of each day. Unfortunately, in order to facilitate this, tweaks have had to be made to the school day in both departments. I realise that this may have caused inconvenience, which is why we informed you of the changes in November, but I hope you understand that these changes are necessary in order to meet government guidelines. Thank you for bearing with us whilst these changes are embedded.

Attendance

Overall attendance last week was 95.5% in line with the national average.



Thank you for your continued support.

Ms M. Garvey

Stay With Us, Lord, On Our Journey

Diary Dates:

January dates

Mon 23rd Jan Y6 Trip Stockport Air Raid Shelters
Fri 27th Jan Y3 Class Assembly 9.15am (new date)

February dates

Thurs 9th Feb School closes for half term
Fri 10th Feb Staff Development Day
Mon 20th Feb School opens
Wed 22nd Feb Ash Wednesday. Mass in church 11am

March dates

Thurs 2nd Mar World Book Day
Thurs 9th Mar Parents' Evening
Fri 17th Mar Y2 Class Assembly 9.15am
Fri 31st Mar Y5 Class Assembly 9.15am

April dates

Mon 3rd April Holy Week
Thurs 6th Apr School closes
Mon 17th Apr School opens