



**Our school is a friendly and vibrant community, where all of God's children flourish and gain the knowledge, wisdom and skills needed to care about themselves, their community and their world.**

**Friday 16th May 2024  
Headteacher's Update**

Dear Parents and Carers,

I'd like to start by celebrating our much-loved Year 6 children, who have approached this week of SATs tests in an admirable way; they have been so focused and so determined to try their very best. I am so proud of them.

And so, the week started with a slight buzz coming from the hall, as all the Year 6 children shared breakfast together. We then moved to the classrooms for some Grammar songs and dances and it was with an actual skip in our steps that we went off to our various places for the tests.

The children have generally felt that the tests have been fair and some even thought they were easier than the practice ones they'd done earlier in the year. Throughout the week, their resilience has been exemplary and all you Parents and Carers of our Year 6 children should feel very proud.

But the week has also been full of other wonderful learning activities around the school: Year 3 have been building structures with Fruit Pastilles and sticks and Year 5 have been making Greek Theatres. I caught another group of Year 5s in the Forest School racing to be the first to pull their heavy load to the finish line having used some strong knots and still another throwing their javelins across the field.

I've shown a number of visitors around the school again this week and they've all remarked on what a beautiful site we have and how lucky the children are to have so much space. The Site Team have worked hard to make the school look so lovely and I'm really proud of it - and them!

And so, we come to the end of another busy week. Thank to you everyone who has made this such a happy and successful week at school. I especially want to thank all of you wonderful parent helpers and volunteers who support with trips, read with children, help out with lessons and enable the school to run so smoothly. We are grateful to you all.

Have a lovely weekend everyone,

Amanda



**Prayer of the Week**

Dear God,

Thank for the animals, food, water and my family.

Thank you for our planet, the trees and the air that we breathe.

Please help us to care for our planet by being careful with plastic.

Amen

### Parking—Polite Notice

Please park in Wear Bay Crescent, Warren Road, or Foreland Avenue when bringing your children to and from school.

Can we ask that you do not to drive right up to the school gate as there has been some very dangerous parking recently, where children were not safe. There is nowhere to park near the school, but there is always plenty of space in the surrounding roads.

Thank you for your co-operation.



### School Term Dates 2024/2025

Term 1	
Staff Development Day	Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> September 2024
Staff Development Day	Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> September 2024
Start of Term 1	Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> September 2024
End of Term 1	Friday 25 <sup>th</sup> October 2024
Term 2	
Start of Term 2	Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> November 2024
End of Term 2	Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> December 2024
Term 3	
Start of Term 3	Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> January 2025
End of Term 3	Thursday 13 <sup>th</sup> February 2025
Staff Development Day	Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> February 2025
Term 4	
Start of Term 4	Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> February 2025
End of Term 4	Thursday 10 <sup>th</sup> April 2025
Staff Development Day	Friday 11 <sup>th</sup> April 2025
Term 5	
Start of Term 5	Tuesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> April 2025
Bank Holiday	Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> May 2025
End of Term 5	Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> May 2025
Term 6	
Start of Term 6	Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> June 2025
End of Term 6	Monday 21 <sup>st</sup> July 2025
Staff Development Day	Tuesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> July

**Mental Health Foundation**

In support of Mental Health Awareness Week, we will be participating in the Wear It Green Day Campaign organised by the Mental Health Foundation.

1 in 6 people are affected by mental health problems every week. The Mental Health Foundation is raising funds to conduct vital research, develop solutions and treatments, as well as work towards their goal of prevention.

On **Thursday 23rd May**, we will be having a 'Wear It Green' fundraising day to support this very worthy cause. Children are welcome to wear items of green clothing to school instead of their school uniform.

Mrs Harrison will be at the gate with her collection bucket at the beginning and end of the school day.

Thank you for your support.

## Tag day – Friday 24th May

Friday 24th May is a Tag Day at St Mary's. The children are invited to wear their own clothes to school. Please can we ask that clothing and footwear are suitable for a normal working day at school.

The Tag Day is in support of our upcoming Summer Fayre on Friday, 21st June. We would like the following donations if possible:

From KS1 - Sweets, Party bag toys for game prizes and lucky dip.

From KS2 - Bottles, chocolates, toiletries for the tombola and raffle. Items for hampers.

Thank you as always for your continuing support.

