



St Mary of Charity Primary

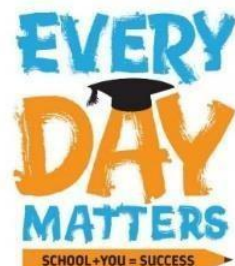
Weekly Newsletter

Friday 21st November 2025



Telephone: 01795 532496
 Email: office@smcs.aquilatrust.co.uk
 Website: www.smcschool.co.uk

Attendance



EYFS Hamilton	Year 1 Donaldson	Year 2 Anning	Year 3 Malala	Year 4 Hockney	Year 5 Rosen	Year 6 Attenborough
90%	90.2%	96.4%	95.3%	96.9%	89.4%	92.3%
Term 2 94%		Year to Date 95.7%			Target 96%	

Dear Parents and Carers,

We will be taking part in Christmas Jumper Day this year, this is scheduled for Thursday 11th December. Children are welcome to wear a Christmas jumper into school on this day or another Christmassy item i.e. socks, hairband etc. Please donate anything you are able to save the children in support of this day, we will not be collecting cash on the gate. The children will have another opportunity to wear Christmas themed clothing into school on Wednesday 17th December as part of our Christmas dinner day. Thank you to our PTFA who are organizing a Christmas jumper swap rail again this year which will be available in the school of office from Monday next week. If you have any older Christmas jumpers that your child has grown out of please do donate these.

We hope you are all looking forward to our Carols on the Playground event, the classes have all selected their song and are busy rehearsing. Please see the poster with more information.

Well done this week to our girls Football team who took part in their very first competition, we were incredibly proud of how they showed team spirit, especially when competing alongside teams who have been training together for years.

Tickets for our Key Stage 1 and EYFS nativity will be sent home next week. There are 2 tickets available per child and performances will be on Tuesday 16th December at 10am and 2pm, the performance will last for approx. 40 minutes. We kindly ask that if you are bringing younger siblings you select the afternoon performance and where possible do not bring buggies or pushchairs as space in the hall is very limited.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs. Rowley-Jones
Headteacher



**PLEASE
NOTE..**



**Breakfast
Club**



We run our own **Breakfast Club** and **After School Club**; spaces for these need to be pre-booked at least 24 hrs in advance using the MCAS App. Please contact the school office if you need support booking a place for your child.

Breakfast Club: 7:30am-8:35am

After School Club: 3:15pm- 6pm (with a 4pm, 5pm & 6pm collection option)

Please note: If you wish to collect after 5pm, we require 7 days' notice. Contact the office via email or phone to book a 6pm slot.



We have a large amount of school uniform in the lost/unclaimed uniform box in the reception area. Please do check if you are missing any items. Anything not claimed will be passed onto the community wardrobe.

Please ensure that you name all of your child's school uniform, including lunchboxes and water bottles to prevent items getting lost.

Cold and Extreme weather

We have reached the time of year when the weather has turned. Please do ensure that your child comes into school with appropriate clothing, including coats, hats and gloves.

Each morning the site is assessed by Mr Muddiman who clears and salts paths, please do ensure that you take care as freezing temperatures can make paths extremely icy.

In the event of a school closure due to severe weather you will be contacted as early as possible by a notification on the MCAS app, we will also post information on ClassDojo and our Facebook page.



This week in Worship

We have been exploring the Proverbs: Worry can rob you of happiness but kind words will cheer you up 12:25 and It is dangerous to be worried about others think of you 24:25. We considered how we can support each other and not worry and that the bible teaches us to:

'Give all your worries and cares to God, for he cares about what happens to you.'
1 Peter 5:7

and that God made all people in his image, beautifully and wonderfully made
(Psalm 139)

Feed my lambs....take care of my sheep." John: 21

We are a community where everyone is included. A place of nurture where through creative learning, acceptance and celebration we are all able to flourish. Our inclusive school encourages children to be curious, passionate, ambitious and courageous. Everyone at St Mary of Charity is determined to be confident in who they are, aspire to realise their full potential and support each other through respect, honesty and forgiveness. Guided by Jesus we are accepting of the wonderful diversity within our community and have hope that our children will continue to advocate for and celebrate the unique needs of all throughout our wider world.



COLLECTIVE CELEBRATION

Luelle, Freddie, Albert,
Ernesto, Reuben, Ajay,
Ahmut, Ava-Anne, Edmund,
Naeema, Oliver, Ifemaya,
Eden





INTERNET SAFETY

This week's poster is about . Please continue to monitor your child's online behaviour and access. If you need help with a specific app we have not highlighted yet, please talk to Mrs Ling.

ATTENDANCE



If your child is poorly and unable to come to school, please ensure that you inform the office via telephone or leave a message on our answer phone.

DROP OFF

Can we please remind parents that school gates shut at **8:45am**. If you arrive late, please drop off your child/ children at the school office.

For safeguarding reasons we do not allow parents/carers to drop off their children to their classes.



We would politely ask all parents/carers to park sensibly when dropping and while picking children off at school.



We have created additional parking bays over the summer holiday to help improve congestion in the carpark. Please do park sensibly and do not block the entrance of exit to the car park or other vehicles. We hope to get these more clearly defined asap

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about TRACKING DEVICES

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

STALKING AND HARASSMENT

Because of their tiny size and unassuming appearance, tracking devices can easily be hidden in bags or clothing. They've been used to monitor individuals without their knowledge, with a lawsuit in the US labelling AirTags "the weapon of choice of stalkers and abusers". In the UK, use of tracking devices in coercive control and stalking cases reportedly rose by 317 percent between 2018 and 2023.

TOOLS FOR BULLYING

Tracking devices could allow bullies to follow or locate their targets even outside of school. This makes it difficult for children to find refuge, potentially extending the trauma of bullying into spaces – like home – that should feel safe and secure.

FALSE ACCUSATIONS

Because tracking devices are linked to user accounts, they could be misused to 'prove' ownership of someone else's possessions. Someone could, for example, plant a tracker on another person's belongings to falsely claim them as their own.

INVASION OF PRIVACY

These devices are designed to share location data with the user via other people's phones, which can unintentionally broadcast someone's movements without their consent. This makes them vulnerable to being monitored by strangers without realising.

DIFFICULT TO DETECT

Many tracking devices are designed to be discreet, but that also means they're easy to hide. Without proactive checking or the right tech to detect them, children and young people might not realise they're being tracked.

Advice for Parents & Educators

WATCH FOR WARNING SIGNS

If a child's peers always seem to know their location – whether in person or hinted at online – it could be worth checking for tracking devices. Some, like AirTags, will eventually make a noise if separated from their owner. Listen out for a chirping sound.

CHECK LIKELY HIDING SPOTS

Common places where trackers may be planted include jacket linings, bag seams, pockets, or under bike seats. If you find one, take a photo of the serial number before disposing of it – this could help police trace the account it's linked to.

USE DETECTION APPS

Apple devices running iOS 14.5 or later will notify users of unknown AirTags nearby. Android users can install Apple's 'Tracker Detect' or the third-party app 'AirGuard' to scan for tracking devices from various manufacturers.

HAVE THE CONVERSATION

Talk to your child about what tracking devices are, what signs to look out for, and how they might be misused. Emphasise the legal consequences of using them to prank, harass, or monitor someone.

Meet Our Expert

Alan Martin is a seasoned technology journalist with bylines in Wired, TechRadar, The Guardian, The Evening Standard, The Telegraph, and The New Statesman. He specialises in consumer tech, online safety, and emerging risks in the digital landscape.



The National College®

REMINDER

The School Gate

Please be mindful of other children and parents at the school gates. The front of the gates can become a very crowded place and we want children to have ease entering the school in the morning. Please encourage your child to walk through the gates on their own and do not stand in groups talking where you potentially block the entrance. It is intimidating for children to walk through adults into school.

HEALTHY LUNCHES



We promote healthy eating at St Mary of Charity Primary School and would appreciate parents adhering to the healthy eating guidelines as below:

Sweets: Please do not pack sweets or chocolate bars.

Drinks: children under 5 receive free milk with their snacks and water is available for everyone whenever they want to drink. Please do not send in fizzy drinks with your child's packed lunch.

Nut Free: Please be aware that we are becoming a nut-free school. We now have children in school who have potential life-threatening nut- allergies which can be triggered by direct or indirect contact with nuts in the environment. To keep our children safe, we request that parents please find a nut-free alternative. This also includes NUTELLA or any CHOCOLATE spread.

Thank you for your co-operation.



SCHOOL DINNERS –

Dinner Money cost £3.05

Please be reminded school meals are to be paid for in advance.

WRAPAROUND CARE: Both Breakfast and Afterschool club bookings are placed under this tab and payments need to be made when you book your session for your child. *This is done to avoid any payments not made.*

Please be reminded to clear out any outstanding balances under individual accounts of your children.

Dates for your Diary



Date	Event
TERM 2	
24/11/25	Yr 4 Experience Christmas at Davington Church Residential presentation to Year 5 parents 3.15pm
25/11/25	Year R & Year 6 NCMP Screening
27/11/25	Whole School Family Trust Christmas Show 9.30am
1/12/25	Kent Fire & Safety Workshops – all classes
2/12/25	Yr 2 and Yr 3 Christmas Workshops
8/12/25	Abbeyfields care home visit for Year 3
9/12/25	SMC Football Match against BysingWood 3pm Kickoff
11/12/25	Christmas Jumper Day – children invited to wear a Christmas jumper or festive item into school.
12/12/25	Carols on the Playground 2pm – 4pm
16/12/25	KS1 Nativity 10am and 2pm Performance times
17/12/25	Governor Prize Giving Christmas Lunch Day Father Christmas visiting classes
18/12/25	Yr 6 Golden Ticket trip to Ninja Warrior
19/12/25	Christingle Service at the Church 9.30am End of Term 2 – school finishes at 2pm
22/12/25 23/12/25	Holiday HAF Club
29/12/25 30/12/25	Holiday HAF Club
5/1/26	TERM 3
5/1/26 – 8/1/26	Arty Party Art Days
15/1/26	Year 3 Ancient Greece Day

