



SCHOOL UPDATES

START OF THE SUMMER TERM:

Welcome back – I trust that you've all enjoyed a revitalising Easter holiday. I can't quite believe that it's this time of the year already, but we find ourselves at the outset of our final Term of this school year. As you'll see from the attached diary dates, it's going to be another jam-packed Summer Term at St Mary's; among many other opportunities and experiences, we have a Year 6 residential, Year 5 Coast to Coast cycle ride, whole-school Activity and Creative Arts Weeks, KS1 and 2 Sports Days, First Holy Communions in Year 4 and an extra-special, top-secret project for our Reception Class to look forward to! It is at this time of year – when we reflect on the journey that we have been on since the start of September – that we see just how far our pupils have come, and can really celebrate the wonderful progress they have all made, which makes for a very uplifting time to be in school.

I look forward to you being able to share in the successes of the upcoming Term with us all here at St Mary's and would urge you to continue keeping an eye on our weekly News Bulletin, school website (www.whickhamstmarys.org.uk) and school Twitter feed (@whickhamstmarys) for regular updates.

God Bless,

Mr J Wheatley
Headteacher

SUMMER UNIFORM:

As we hopefully move towards lighter and brighter days, pupils may now come to school in summer uniform (i.e. summer dresses and shorts). Please be reminded that sandals/open toe shoes should not be worn for school. Trainers will now be needed by all pupils as PE lessons will take place outside (weather permitting).

Please also be reminded that in the case of warm, sunny weather, pupils should also bring sunhats to school, and sunglasses may also be worn – if necessary – during playtimes. Suncream should be applied at home, though pupils may also bring suncream in to school to reapply during the school day if needed. Under normal circumstances, staff will not apply suncream to pupils.

It is also vital that pupils bring a water bottle with fresh water each day. Pupils should not bring juice in their water bottles.

GATESHEAD FUN RUN:

On Friday 24th May, Years Reception – 5 will be taking part in the Gateshead Fun Run at Saltwell Park. We are in need of lots of willing helpers for the day (runners and non-runners) from all classes. We will be leaving school at around 8:30 and will be back for lunch. If you are able to help out, please let Mrs Noble in the school office know.

REMINDERS

LOCAL AND EUROPEAN ELECTIONS:

In spite of the school being used as a polling station for the local and European elections (2nd and 23rd May), we will remain open as normal. As the school hall will be closed to pupils on these days, please be reminded that packed lunches will be provided for those selecting a school meal on the day. *We will take your child's food order (already returned to school) for both the 2nd and 23rd May unless we are informed otherwise.*

UPCOMING EVENTS

1ST HOLY COMMUNION LITURGY:

Liturgy 7 (The Rite for Election for 1st Holy Communion) will take place during 9:30am Mass at St Mary's RC Church on Sunday 12th May.

TERM DATES:

Please find attached the current dates for the upcoming Term. Please keep an eye on the weekly News Bulletin (which can always be found in the 'News' blog on the school website) for updates and changes to the termly dates.

THE WEEK AHEAD (29.4.19 – 3.4.19)

TUESDAY –

Bikeability session 2 for all pupils in Y5 (pupils to come to school in suitable cycling attire with their bikes and helmets).

C2C after-school ride (3:30-5:30pm).

WEDNESDAY –

Y2 trip to the Centre for Life.

Y5 'Spelling Bee' (pupils involved have received a letter).

Y3 Rugby Festival at Ryton RUFC (all pupils involved – PE kit and trainers needed; 1-3pm).

Y4 Class Liturgy (2:45pm; all welcome).

THURSDAY –

Local elections – school open as normal.

Friends meeting 9am – all welcome.

FRIDAY –

Y4 trip to Gibside.

Y5 girls' football at Whickham Fellside YFC (pupils involved have received a letter).