



Monday 27th October 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we start our half term break after this incredibly 8 weeks, I thought I would send you some information about what has been happening in school and what we have to look forward to that is coming up next half term.



Two weeks ago, we welcomed PCSO Rob into school. He brought a police van and a bag full of mini police vests and helmets and visited Reception, Year 1 and Year 2. The children had a great time trying the vests and helmets on and sitting in the police van. We are looking forward to working closely with PCSO Rob in coming months.

Two weeks ago also saw our Year 6 children taking part in Bikeability, organised and lead by Cycle North. The children thoroughly enjoyed their sessions – even those who were a little bit nervous to start with – and we are incredibly proud of their achievements and also their behaviour and attitude towards the visitors in school. Well done Year 6!



Last week we had our first Values Afternoon – this is when children from Reception to Year 3 and Year 4 to Year 6 separate out into their House Teams and work together on our Christian value. This half term our value is aspiration. All children are now in a House and our four Houses are Hogan (red), Colley (orange), Calverley (green) and Saxton (blue). The Houses are named after former members of staff who are sadly no longer with us. Our hall is now brightly decorated with everyone's work on aspiration.



We also celebrated our Harvest Festival – we would like to give a huge thank you to everyone who donated food for this occasion and to those parents, carers and family members who were able to join us to celebrate. I think you will agree that the children did an absolutely brilliant job of leading the Harvest festival and sharing their work. The food we collected has been donated to Leeds South and East Food Bank.

Last week we appointed our House Captains and Deputy House Captains.



Congratulations to ...

Saxton: Shekinah and Gregory

Calverley: Michelle and Miles

Hogan: Docilyne and Malik

Colley: Alena and Mia

We also appointed children into several other leadership roles in school – congratulations to everyone who has been selected for this year:

Reading Ambassadors – Maria, Daniel P, Alicia and Victoria

Play Leaders – Divine, Marnie, Mikael, Riley N and Noah C

Buddies – Lily-Grace, Rhys, Tyler, Gracie, Sienna, Rowan, Esmae, Nora, Norinda, Luke and Axel

Leading Lights (Worship Leaders) – Jacob P, Aadhya, Darcie, Naksha, Ruby

After half term we will hold our class votes to elect our School Council Members. Having a Leadership role at St Mary's is a fantastic opportunity to make a real difference to our school. It is more than just wearing a badge – it is about being a role model, using your voice to represent others and helping to make our school the best it can be. Children will develop confidence, teamwork and communication skills – they will learn how to listen to others, share ideas and solve problems. It is an excellent opportunity to **let your light shine** too!



November

Monday 3rd November – school opens for the start of autumn 2

Wednesday 5th November – Shine Bright Day (children can wear sparkly or bright coloured clothes to school)

Monday 10th November – Anti-Bullying Week (children are encouraged to wear odd socks)

Wednesday 12th November – Flu Immunisations



Wednesday 12th November – Year 6 Amethyst Class Worship (rescheduled)

Friday 14th November – Children in Need (children can wear their own clothes for a suggested donation of £1)

Tuesday 25th and Wednesday 26th November – Pupil Progress Meetings for parents/carers – information will be sent out after the holidays.

Wednesday 26th November – Year 5 Opal Class Worship

Thursday 27th November – Staff Training Day (school closed to children)



Staffing Updates

Both Mrs Vos and Mrs Pawsey have now started their maternity leave. Mrs Vos welcomed a beautiful baby girl called Leah in September and Mrs Pawsey is awaiting the arrival of her little one. Mrs Dovgan has worked at St Mary's for many months now and she will cover Mrs Vos' maternity leave working mainly in Year 3. Year 2 will be taught by Mrs Emily Brown from Monday to Thursday and Mrs Sarah Shoesmith on a Friday.

We hope you all enjoy a well-earned rest over the half-term break and we look forward to welcoming everyone back refreshed and ready for another exciting half term ahead on 3rd November.

With best wishes,

Ms Jessica Crisp
Head of School

Mrs Alison Smith
Executive Head teacher