

St Mary's Catholic Primary School, South Moor

NEWSLETTER

March 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we come to the end of this term, it has been a joy to see how hard our children are working and how much they are flourishing — academically, pastorally and in the way they are living out our Catholic values each day. Classrooms feel purposeful and happy, and it is wonderful to see the children showing such kindness, patience and respect towards one another. They really are growing into thoughtful, compassionate young people, and we are very proud of them.

With the sunshine finally starting to appear and the lighter evenings arriving, there has been a real lift in spirits across school. The children have embraced this brighter season with lots of enthusiasm — especially during our Easter activities. We had some truly fantastic entries in the Easter Egg competition this year. A huge well done to:

Shae for her farmyard

Tommy for Egg Sheeran

Jeanie for Narnia

Madison for Wizard of Oz

Fay for Aliens

Mila for Eggsome Farm

Jack for The Solar System

And of course Mrs Tully for her brilliant staff entry!

We hope they all enjoy their delicious chocolate prizes.

This week in assembly we have also spent time discussing road safety. As the evenings get lighter and children begin playing outside more, please do take a moment to remind them about staying alert, crossing safely, and being aware of traffic.

A brief note on attendance: thank you for your continued support in ensuring your child is in school every day they are able to be. Strong attendance really does make a significant difference to learning, confidence and progress. Your partnership with us makes all the difference.

As we finish this half term, I hope all our families enjoy a restful, joyful break together.

Wishing you a happy and holy Easter.

Mrs R. Anderson



St. Mary's
Catholic Primary School!



Bishop Wilkinson
Catholic Education Trust



DIOCESE OF Hexham & Newcastle

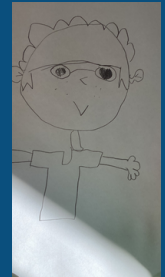
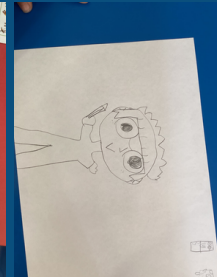
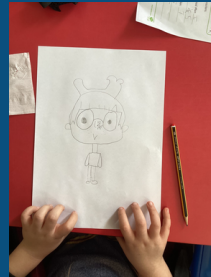
CLASS 1 NEWS

We are incredibly proud of the progress and resilience shown by our Reception children during their Bikeability sessions. They approached each challenge with determination and enthusiasm, developing both their confidence and cycling skills. It has been wonderful to see their perseverance and growing independence throughout the experience.



CLASS 2 NEWS

Class 2 thoroughly enjoyed their World Book Day 'Drawalong', with our live online session. Look at some of our wonderful creations!



CLASS 3 NEWS

Class 3 have made super strong structures with only newspaper and tape using excellent communication and team work. We used uv beads to test how effective different spf Sun creams are for protecting our skin from the sun. We made sundials to investigate how shadows move throughout the day. We have learnt how to calculate perimeter of rectilinear shapes.

MINI VINNIE NEWS

Our new Mini Vinnie group was commissioned last week. We are incredibly proud of our children who have pledged to support our community in the name of Jesus. See the pledge below:

The Mini Vinnies' Pledge

As a member of Mini Vinnies, I promise to make a difference to my world by:

- Caring for, respecting and loving myself
- Strengthening my friendship with Jesus by talking to him each day and talking to others about him
- Caring for others in my school and community by being a friend to those who are alone, in need or in trouble
- Making my family happy by my help, respect and showing kindness and consideration
- Caring for and enjoying God's world
- Treating others the way I would like them to treat me

CLASS 4 NEWS



Class 4 made us all very proud with their excellent efforts in football this term. Huge thank you to Mr Dunn for running coaching sessions after school to develop skills and resilience in our children!

WORLD BOOK DAY – NATIONAL YEAR OF READING

Children may come to school in non-uniform for a minimum £1 donation.

Fancy dress is welcome but completely optional as part of non-uniform.

Donations will help us buy new books chosen by the children for their class libraries.

Children are invited to bring in pre-loved books or comics to donate.

Each class will explore their library, decide what to keep, and create a wish list of new titles.

Children will enjoy book sharing and a story quiz.

SUMMER 1 TERM DIARY DATES

- 2nd April: International children's book day
- Thursday 2nd April: School closes.
- Monday 20th April: School reopens.
- Monday 20th April: booster sessions for Y4 & Y6 pupils restart.
- Tuesday 21st April: Mini Vinnies after school
- Wednesday 22nd April: Mini Police assembly.
- Monday 27th April: National tell a story day.
- Wednesday 29th April: Mini Police assembly.
- Wednesday 29th April (3 pm): Class 3 Celebration of the Word . All welcome.
- Tuesday 5th May: Mini Vinnies after school.
- Monday 11th May to Thursday 14th May: KS2 SATS
- Tuesday 19th May: Mini Vinnies after school.
- Wednesday 20th May (3 pm): Class 2 Celebration of the Word . All welcome.

A GENTLE REMINDER

A gentle reminder to parents that school lunches and attendance at Breakfast Club should be paid for in advance.

RECEPTION ADMISSIONS 2026– PORTAL NOW CLOSED

Reception Admissions – September 2026

Reception applications for September 2026 have now closed, and we're delighted with the high number of families who chose St Mary's this year. Offers will be sent out on **Thursday 16 April 2026. If your child is not allocated St Mary's but you would still like a place, please contact me – we can talk through the options.**

If you haven't yet applied, you can still do so, but please act quickly. The Parent Portal is now closed, so you will need to contact Durham County Council School Places (Admissions), **who can send you a late-application form.** The sooner you do this, the better your chances of being considered.



St Mary's Catholic Primary School
(01207) 232189

info@stms.bwcet.com

Hustledown, South Moor, Stanley, County Durham, DH9 6PH