



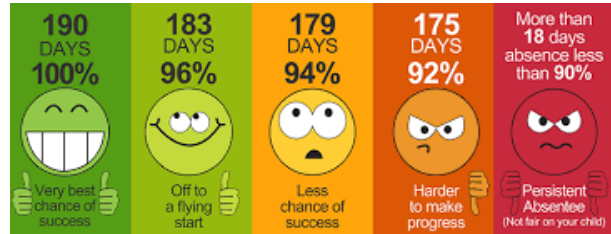
NEWSLETTER 7th June 2024

St Mary's & St Benedict's Catholic Primary School
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WE PRAY  WE LEARN  WE SERVE

“If you are going to get anywhere in life you have to read a lot of books.” - Roald Dahl

	Attendance School Target – 96%
Beesley	94.4
Benedict	92.4
Finch	96.4
Haydock	77.2
Marsden	92.2
Mary	90.0
Rigby	95.0
Southworth	86.1
Ward	87.8
Woodcock	92.5



The Importance of School Attendance – We want our children at SMSB to enjoy coming to school. Our attendance target is 96%, but we hope for 100%! Research has proven that there is a high correlation between school attendance and academic performance and success. Absence from school is often the greatest single cause of poor performance and achievement.

It is important to attend school every day because:

- Learning is a progressive activity; each day's lessons build upon those of the previous day(s).
- Reading material and completing work independently does not compensate for direct interaction with the teacher.
- Many classes use discussions, demonstrations, experiments and participation as part of the daily learning activities. These cannot be made up by those who are absent.

The benefits to your child are:

- Children with good attendance generally achieve higher grades and enjoy school more.
- Having a good education will help to give your child the best possible start in life.
- Regular school attendance patterns encourage development of other responsible patterns of behaviour.

The risks of frequent absences are:

- A child who doesn't attend school regularly will be unlikely able to keep up with the work.
- The more children miss school, the lower their grades; the lower their grades, the less they want to stay in school.

Parents and carers can help by:

- Modelling the value of education, including the importance of regular attendance.
- Making sure your child goes to school regularly and arrives on time which will establish a good habit that they will carry through life.
- Working with school to put things right if your child starts missing school.
- Contacting school immediately if your child is ill or has to miss school and making sure any home learning is completed.
- Arranging family holidays, birthday treats etc during holiday times and weekends so that your child will not miss anything.
- Taking an interest in your child's school work and be involved in school as much as possible.

Well done to Finch class for the highest attendance this week – 96.4%!

SEND Newsletter - For parents and families of SEND pupils, the latest edition of the SEND newsletter has been uploaded to our website. Visit the SEND page (found under 'Key Information') for more information and details of support.

First Holy Communion - The first group in the sacramental programme will take their First Holy Communion on Sunday 9th June, with a further two groups on Sunday's 16th and 23rd of June. Please keep the children and families in your prayers.

Uniform Orders for September – We are now taking uniform orders for those wanting new uniform to be collected before the end of term. Please order by Friday 28th June. Please also remember that only book bags will be allowed to be brought to school from September, so please don't buy rucksacks or large bags for your children during the holidays.



Elmer Day - The children in Barlow and Beesley classes had a fantastic day celebrating Elmer Day. The children enjoyed taking part in a range of activities including making their own Elmers out of milk bottles, peg board Elmers, larger scale Elmers, Elmer jigsaws, rainbows using oil pastels and creating their own Elmer ears. Throughout the week the children read lots of different Elmer stories.



Year 1 Phonics Screening and Year 2 SATS - Year 1 Phonics Screening and Year 2 SATs will take place from next Monday. Please make sure your children are in school and on time.

Sports Camp - Back by popular demand! Chris and Marcus will be running another Sports Camp Monday 22nd July until Friday 26th July. The cost will be £11.00 a day or £50.00 for the full week, please book and pay via ParentPay. The sessions run from 9:00am until 3:00 pm.

After School Clubs - Multi-skills after school clubs for this half term start next week and are available to book on School Spider.

St Mary's & St Benedict's RC Primary Pre-school - At SMSB we have a vibrant and happy Pre-school catering for children aged 3 and 4. We offer a wide range of activities within our continuous provision, which we continually develop and adapt to our children's interests and needs. We can take up to 16 children and are now starting to take names for the September intake. Please contact us as soon as possible if you would like a place as they are filling up quickly.

No Photos/Videos - Please remember we do not allow recording of still or moving images whilst on school grounds, including within school premises. This is to safeguard our children and we politely ask that you are respectful of this

Names in Uniform - Please make sure your child's uniform is clearly labelled. This particularly applies to jumpers and cardigans, as the weather is getting warmer these items of uniform are frequently taken off and left around school. If you use a biro to label, please check it hasn't washed off.

Dinner Money Debt - As we in the final few weeks of the school year, please keep up with dinner money payments on ParentPay. This particularly applies to children in Year 6. Please check if you have any outstanding balances and make sure any debt is paid before the end of term. Thank you.

KS1 Enjoying the Seaside - The children in KS1 have been thoroughly enjoying learning all about the seaside in this term's topic and they will be going on a trip to Blackpool on Monday 24th June! They will visit the Sea Life Centre and see the sights along the sea front. The cost of the trip is £15 which will include an ice-cream! A letter has been sent home today via School Spider with further details.

On Tuesday 18th June they will also take part in a fun filled, hands on 'Seaside Holidays' workshop.

Family Support - Families of Year 1 and 2 children are invited to PASTA, delivered by the South Ribble Borough Council. PASTA (Play and Skills at Teatime Activities) is a fun, friendly activity programme where families can cook, play and spend time together. The sessions are held on Tuesday after school. Numbers are limited so please let Julia know if you would like to attend. Julia can be contacted on:

Mobile-07706008185

Email-family.support@smsb.lancs.sch.uk

Sharing Work - Marsden class have been sharing their recent English work with Mary class. The children enjoyed reading each other's non-chronological reports. Well done Marsden class!



Class Weekly News

There have been lots going on at St Mary's & St Benedict's this week. Always check the website for more news and photos.

- Barlow class have had great fun learning about transport this week, in particular trains. They have also been developing confidence in music.
- The topic this week in Beesley class has also been about transport, and travel. In RE they have been learning about friendships. They have made friendship bracelets and have been drawing their friends.
- Benedict class have been working hard in phonics lessons doing fun activities and games to prepare themselves for their phonics screening assessments next week.
- Finch class have learning about robots in English and their global neighbours in RE.
- In history, children in Haydock class have been learning about sea sides. They are looking forward to their trip to Blackpool!
- Marsden class have been practising and performing their poems, using expression to make it interesting to their audience! They've been making posters for the children who will be starting with us in September.
- Mary class have enjoyed learning about rivers of the world.
- Righy class have been introduced to the mischievous character of Brer Rabbit from different folk tales.
- Southworth class are enjoying learning about Greek mythology. They have been looking at what it is and in particular looking at gods and goddesses. They have also been completing their investigations on circuits, in science.
- Ward class have been practising persuasive speeches which they are going to perform next week.
- In geography, children in Woodcock class have been studying different types of settlements and also the local area. They are looking forward to getting their parts in their end of year production soon!

Dates for Your Diary

Sunday 9 th June	First Holy Communion 9:30am in Church
Monday 10 th June	Phonics Screening Begin - Year 1 SATS Begin – Year 2
Wednesday 12 th June	Parish Mass – Beesley Class 9:30am in Church
Sunday 16 th June	First Holy Communion 9:30am in Church
Wednesday 19 th June	Parish Mass – Ward Class 9:30am in Church
Thursday 20 th June	New Reception visit with Parents and Carers
Sunday 23 rd June	First Holy Communion 9:30am in Church
Wednesday 26 th June	Parish Mass – Finch Class 9:30am in Church
Thursday 27 th June	New Reception visit without Parents and Carers
Wednesday 3 rd July	Parish Mass – Benedict Class 9:30am in Church
Friday 5 th July	Sport's Day

Community Larder – Please continue to support our local food bank by bringing into school an item of food each week. The Community Larder is situated at the back of St Aidan's Church Hall, on Station Road and provides food and support to individuals and families from Bamber Bridge, Clayton-le-Woods, Lostock Hall and Walton-le-Dale. It is open Monday – Friday 9:30am – 11:30am and is dependent upon food donations from local Christian communities and schools. Thank you for your continued donations.

Fun Fact of the Week – Make tea not war!

All British armored vehicles have the equipment to make tea!

Riddle of the Week – Why are Teddy Bears never hungry?

(answers to office@smsb.lanCS.sch.uk)

Well done Miss Palacio for correctly answering last week's riddle – Ton!