



SEPTEMBER'S EVENTS

Welcome Back Everyone

A special welcome back to everyone including our new pupils joining St. Mary's on the Hill in Primary one and all other classes. We hope you have a great year.

Free School Meals

The application process for free school meals/uniform has commenced. Parents who are currently eligible to apply for free meals/uniform should now complete their application. **Please note that entitlement to free school meals will attract funding to the school's budget.** Whether your child wishes to partake of a meal or not is down to individual choice. We would really encourage parents who fall into this category to **please make an application** as soon as possible for the incoming academic year. Application forms may be obtained via the Education Authority website – www.eani.org.uk or alternatively by contacting Free School Meals Section on 02825661350. Forms are also available from the school. Should you have any further queries regarding this, please contact the school office.

Breakfast Club

The Breakfast Club is available from 7.45am – 8.45am. The children can have their breakfast - cereal, toast, pancakes, and fruit. There are a variety of games available for them to play and range of movies to watch. As a result of a generous donation by St Vincent de Paul Association the cost of the club will be reduced from £2.50 to £1.50 per child. If you wish to avail of this opportunity, please contact the school office.

AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS: After School Clubs will commence week beginning Monday 9th September 2019. You can enrol your child and pay for the after school activity of your choice, through School Money Online using your unique username and password. This facility will be available from Friday 30th August 2019 and will close on Wednesday 4th September at 12 noon. Further timetables are available on the school website.

Waiting Club

The Waiting Club operates from 2pm—3pm each day. It costs £2.00 per day per child or £3.00 per family and is available for P1—P3 pupils. Payment for the Waiting Club can be made through School Money Online.

Phone Calls and Messages to the School Office

Office Hours 8.30am to 4.30pm Monday–Friday

If parents need to inform teachers of a change in collection, please notify the teacher or office directly in person or by letter that morning. The info email account is not appropriate for urgent messages as the office staff have many other duties to attend to throughout the day. Emails will be checked in the morning and only as time permits throughout the school day. We have a telephone system which allows parents to leave voicemails.

Attendance

We, in St Mary's on the Hill pride ourselves in the high attendance rate of our pupils, the average attendance last year being 96.2%. It would be great to see this exceeded this year. All absences should be explained by a phone call to the office or note to the teacher. You will find the Holiday List posted on the school website. I would urge you to organise family holidays during these periods only. As far as possible, medical appointments should be made outside school hours. Please inform the school if you wish to withdraw your child from class before the end of the school day. On arrival please call at the school office and Mrs Mason will send for your child.

Please use the designated parking spaces or drop off zone. Children may be left in the playground from **8.45am** when supervision commences. No child should be left before this time. Parents who need to drop their child off earlier should register with the Breakfast Club. Teaching will begin at 9am.

Up to date information about the life of the school including holiday lists, canteen menu and parent letters can be accessed on our school website www.stmarysonthehill.co.uk

CURRICULUM INFORMATION MEETINGS FOR PARENTS

P2	Mon 16 th September 2019	9.00am
P3	Tues 17 th September 2019	9.00am
P4	Wed 18 th September 2019	9.00am
P5	Thurs 19 th September 2019	9.00am
P6	Fri 20 th September 2019	9.00am
P7	Mon 23 rd September 2019	9.00am
P1	Thurs 3 rd October 2019	9.00am

Administration of Medication

Please speak to your child's teacher if you require medication administered to your child whilst at school. Parents need to sign and complete an 'Administration of Medication' form (available from the school office) before the school will administer the medicine. All medication needs to be prescribed should have the child's name on it and the dosage clearly labelled. Teachers will not administer medication that is not labelled as such. Please do not send in any medication with your child – it must be handed into the school office by an adult. Thank You.

Healthy Eating/Nut allergies

Please continue to support our 'Healthy Eating Policy' and provide your child with a piece of fruit and water or milk for break. We have a number of children who suffer from peanut allergies, which can result in potentially serious consequences. I would therefore ask that these children are not exposed to danger and that you do not give your child anything which contains nuts. Parents of children with these diagnosed allergies are asked to provide the school with 2 EpiPens (with valid dates) and any other necessary medication as soon as possible.

Sleepy Hollow: For those parents wishing to avail of child care provision, Monday to Friday until 6pm, please contact Bronagh on 07920 111417 or 028 9069 3419.

Contact details If your address, telephone number or email address change please inform Mrs Mason in the office to ensure we have up to date information should we have a need to contact you.

Change in Mass Times in St Mary's on the Hill Church:

Tuesdays : 9.30am
Thursdays : 9.30am
Wednesdays : 7.00pm (No confessions 6.30pm)
Sundays : 10.30am (Baptisms 12 noon)

Reminder: Primary 7 parents, the closing date for application for AQE is the 6th September and the closing date for application to PPTC is the 20th of September.

MASSES

P7: Tuesday 3rd September
P4: Tuesday 10th September
P5: Tuesday 17th September

**New School Year Mass for all P4-P7
Thursday 19th September @ 10.45am**

Dates for your Diary:

Friday 22nd November 2019

Parent Teacher Interviews

Friday 6th December 2019

St Mary's on the Hill Primary School
Open Morning – 9.30 – 11.00am. Mr Conway will address parents at 9.30am in the School Assembly



Uniform

All pupils are expected to wear full uniform to school each day. Boots and trainers are NOT acceptable. In the event of inclement weather, pupils may wear boots but are expected to bring school shoes for indoor use. In the interest of safety no jewellery, apart from a watch or stud earrings only, may be worn to school. No pupil should wear makeup. On PE days pupils may wear their PE uniform to school - navy shorts and a plain white polo shirt and trainers/plimsolls. Notification of PE days will follow shortly.

PLEASE LABEL ALL ITEMS OF CLOTHING.

School Dinners

Parents can now select and pay for dinners for the first term, up until w/b Monday 16th December 2019, by logging on to School Money using your unique username and password which was issued to you last year. Your child's dinner should be ordered before midnight prior to the day it is required. Please contact the school if you have any problems. We require every parent to use this facility. A copy of the menu can be found on our website.

P4/P5 Parents:

May I request that in the interest of the children's safety you do not approach the mobiles to leave in forgotten books, lunches, musical instruments etc. If you need to get a message to your child you must, as requested by the signage at the gate, report to reception. Please treat the mobiles as an extension of the school. The safety of the pupils is our first priority and certainly no-one other than those authorised to do so, can enter that area. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.