



19th January 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

Scholastic Book Fair Rewards!

Thank you to all those, who helped us to raise £560 in rewards, by purchasing books at the book fair last term. The books have arrived! We were able to buy a lovely range of brand-new books. Most will go into our school library with some books going to each of the classroom book areas. Happy reading everyone! Thank you to Mrs Foster-Lewis, our Reading Leader, who organised this for us.

Parent / Carer Evenings:

This afternoon you should have received, on School Ping, an invitation to parents' evening.

This is an opportunity to meet with your child's class teacher and discuss your child's attainment and progress.

Tuesday 6th February - 3.30 - 6pm (Last appointment 5:50pm)

Thursday 8th February - 3.30 - 6pm (Last appointment 5:50pm)

St Mary & St Martin : Tuesday 7th and Wednesday 8th February

Book on School Ping. You can sign up for your preferred time using the booking system on School Ping.

You can make an appointment for a 10-minute discussion with your child's teacher, in your child's classroom. You will also be able to spend time looking at your child's work before your appointment if you arrive a bit earlier. **In order to ensure you don't have to wait, teachers will use timers. It is really important that appointments do not overrun but if you need more time then you are welcome to arrange a follow up meeting.**

Art Exhibition:



The children's art work is to be exhibited in the main hall after school during the parent evenings on Tuesday 6th and Thursday 8th February. This year's theme is: Shape and Form. We are hoping that when you come to school to attend the meeting with your class teacher, that you take some time to go and see the children's art in the hall. Please feel free to drop into the hall after school on these days.

Coffee Mornings:

Don't forget our weekly coffee mornings! All are welcome. These will be held every Thursday morning. On a Thursday, once you have dropped your child to school, come in to the small hall and have a cup of tea or coffee and a biscuit with other parents. Thank you to all the parents who attended this week. We look forward to seeing you there.



January:

15th – 26th: St Martin Swimming

21st : OLOL Coffee Morning

25th: Coffee Morning

26th: Reception trip to Manor Park

30th: Big Schools Climate Event

February:

1st: Coffee Morning

5th – 9th: Children's Mental Health Week

6th: Safer Internet Day

6th: Parents' Evening

6th: Art Exhibition – Main Hall

8th: Coffee Morning

8th: Parents' Evening

8th: Art Exhibition – Main Hall

Half term: 12th – 16th

19th: Return to school

22nd: Coffee Morning

29th: Coffee Morning

March:

4th: Year 2 trip to Hornimans

7th: World Book Day

7th: Coffee Morning

8th: Early Years Mothers' Day

Class Assemblies

As always, you are invited to attend your child's class assembly. This term we are going to trial a new time for Early Years and KS1 assemblies. These assemblies will be at 2:45pm on Thursdays. The rationale behind this change is that we have observed that many of our younger children become very upset when saying goodbye to their parents/carers after the morning assembly. Our aim, by having it at the end of the day, is that they will not have to say goodbye, they will be able to go home with the adult who has come to watch.

Therefore, if you are coming to a KS2 assembly, you may enter through the main gate and wait under the canopy after bringing your child to school in the morning. At 8:45am you will then be invited into the main hall for an 8:50am start. If you are attending an assembly in the afternoon, you will come through the main reception and be escorted to the hall for the 2:45pm start.

January		March	
Wednesday 8:50am	Thursday 2:45pm	Wednesday 8:50am	Thursday 2:45pm
	25 th : St James the Great	6 th : St Paul Miki	7 th : St John the Baptist
31 st St Kateri		13 th : St Francis	14 th : St Joseph
February		20 th : St Bernadette	
Wednesday 8:50am	Thursday 2:45pm		
	1 st : St Veronica		
7 th : St Martin			
21 st : Year 6	22 nd : St Mary		
28 th : St Josephine	29 th : St Elizabeth		

Nursery Places for September 2024

If you have registered interest for a full-time or part-time Nursery place in September 2024, you will be receiving an application pack soon. This will be for children who were born between 1st September 2020 and 31st August 2021. If you would like an application form and have not registered, please contact the school office.

We will be hosting a series of open days this term. If you would like to book a place on one of the open days, please contact the school office. Please feel free to share this information with prospective parents you may know.

During the School Day		After School
9:30am – 10.15am	2pm – 2:45pm	4pm – 4:45pm
Thursday 1 st February Friday 8 th March	Monday 19 th February Tuesday 19 th March	Wednesday 27 th March

All parents are entitled to 15 hours free nursery provision but some may qualify for the 30 hours free provision. If you think you may be entitled to the 30 hours provision you should apply for an eligibility code at <https://www.gov.uk/apply-30-hours-free-childcare>.

Admissions Policy 2025/26 Consultation

You should have received the proposed Admissions Policy for September 2025. The policy has been written following the Diocesan model policy. Consultation will last until the 31st January. Please contact us if you have any comments regarding the proposal.

Swimming:



Being able to swim is a vital life skill and due to this, it is on the curriculum. This year we have managed to book into the Glass Mill in Lewisham. Like last year, the lessons will be delivered in intensive blocks, as they are more effective. Last year we really saw our non-swimmers swimming by the end of the 2 weeks. These blocks consist of 10 consecutive hourly lessons, over two weeks. The children in Year 4 will go swimming in the spring term and Year 5 will go in the summer term in the afternoon. Parents/carers will receive letters regarding their child's swimming lessons a few weeks before their block of lessons commence.

Spring 1: Year 4	Spring 2: Year 4
15 th – 26 th January: St Martin	4 th -15 th March: St Kateri

LOLO Coffee Morning

Our volunteers will be providing coffee, tea and other refreshments after 9am mass this Sunday (21st) in the church hall. Please do pop in for a chat with your fellow parishioners before you rush off for the day.

If you would like to get involved with these events, please speak with one of the volunteers this week or Father Emeka.

Wednesday Word

Please see the [link](#) to this wonderful resource to share with your child, to support them in understanding the Mass Readings for the coming weekend.

Punctuality and Attendance



The government has launched a new national campaign to remind parents and carers of the importance of school attendance. You will be seeing it on tv, social media and hearing about it on the radio. We regularly remind you of the importance of good punctuality and attendance and the negative impact poor attendance has on your child's educational attainment and social and emotional development. In 2018/19, just 40% of persistently absent (PA) children in KS2 achieved expected KS2 standards, compared with 84% of pupils who were regular attenders.

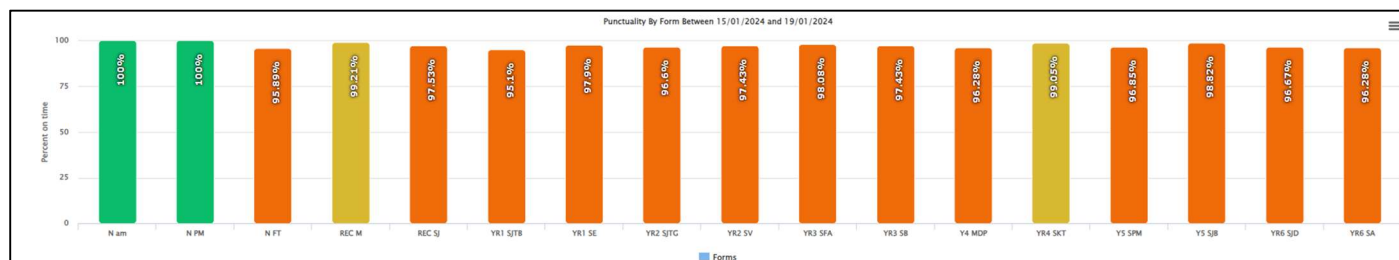
The NHS and the Chief Medical Officer say it is usually appropriate for parents and carers to send their children to school with mild respiratory illnesses, including general cold symptoms like a minor cough, runny nose or sore throat. Please refer to the following link for further information <https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>



From the first day of term to the last, the small moments in a school day make a real difference to your child. #AttendanceCounts, so please ensure your child attends school regularly. We appreciate your support with improving attendance and punctuality.

School attendance this year so far: 95.09% (DfE expects 95%)

Punctuality is ever so important, the aim is for 97% or above. Please continue to support us by getting the children to school on time!



This week's winners are Nursery a.m. and p.m with 100%, followed by St Mary and St Kateri on 99%! Most others are above 96%! Let's try for everyone above 97% next week!

School Ping

Thank you to everyone who has started using this app, 88% of parents have downloaded the app. If you haven't yet, you should have received an email regarding School Ping. SchoolPing is a free app which sends instant messages straight to your smartphone, wherever you are, please remember to turn on your notifications. If you do not have access to a smartphone, you can also receive messages via email or by logging in to your account on the web. Whether you're at work, at home or on the go, all you need is an internet connection to stay up to date with all of the school's news. Moving forward, all communication from the school will be via this app. From feedback, we could see that not all parents were receiving our emails and the current ScholarPack App does not have the same functionality. Please make sure the school has your current email address.



Social Media:

Just to remind you, follow us on:



St Winifred's Catholic Primary School



St_winifreds_lee



@stwinifredslee

Thank you for taking the time to read the newsletter.

Claire Gillespie