



**IMPORTANT DATES/TASKS THIS WEEK:**

- Last day of term for all pupils is **Friday 11<sup>th</sup> April**. All pupils return on **Monday 28<sup>th</sup> April**.
- Big Lent Walk – All pupils should come to school in their own clothes on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> April with suitable footwear and outerwear ready to take part in a sponsored walk event to raise money for CAFOD as part of our Lenten Almsgiving. Adult helpers please arrive at school for 9:45am. Reception and Year 1 will be taking part in activities around the school grounds whereas Years 2 – 6 will be taking part in a 'walk of witness' around the nearby Watergate Park following our cross of hope.  
If you haven't yet made a donation, we are encouraging all families to contribute what they can to CAFOD via our dedicated 'Big Lent Walk' page [here](#) (suggested donation of £5 per family).
- Please share your views with us via our Spring Term parent/carer voice survey [here](#). We would love to have as many responses as possible, so please spare 5 minutes to complete the multiple-choice questions to take part.
- We will be celebrating Mass with the whole school at St Mary's RC Church at 9:30am on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> April. All welcome.
- Friends of St Mary's – The Friends will be meeting in school at 8:45am on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> April to discuss plans for our Summer family event. Please come along – the more the merrier!  
*Please see the below note with a plea from the Friends.*
- There will be no gymnastics on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> April.  
There are currently spaces in both gymnastics sessions. Places will be allocated on a first-come-first-served basis by contacting the school office. Please contact Julie on 07896577832 for more information.

**LENT 2025:**

**Big Lent Walk**

Thank you to all those who have volunteered to help us on our Big Lent Walk on 7.4.25. We will be contacting those who have volunteered next week with more details about the plan for the morning.

**Almsgiving/Fasting**

Please ensure all donations for our Food Bank appeal are sent in to school by Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> April.

**Moments of Prayer**

Our remaining Moments of Prayer will be celebrated on the following dates (to begin at 2:45pm):

DATE	CLASS(ES)
7.4.25	Y5
9.4.25	Y4

**Mass/ Service times for Holy Week/ Easter in the Parish of Our Lady and St Philip Neri**

Please come along to share in the joy of the Easter story with us in our parish celebrations of the Easter Triduum:

- Holy Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> April 6:30pm Mass of the Lord's Supper at St Mary's, Whickham
- Good Friday 18<sup>th</sup> April 3:00pm Celebration of the Lord's Passion at Immaculate Heart, Lobley Hill
- Holy Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> April 5:30pm Vigil and First Mass of Easter at St Philip Neri, Dunston
- Easter Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> April 10:00am Mass of Easter Morning at Immaculate Heart, Lobley Hill

#### FRIENDS OF ST MARY'S:

We would love to hear from anyone who would be willing to volunteer some time over the coming months – in advance of our planned family event in June – to help secure some high-ticket raffle prizes which we hope will raise funds for school resources for St Mary's pupils.

We would also be keen to hear from anyone who would either be willing to donate high-ticket items for – or who has contacts with those who would be keen to support us as part of – the event.

Please contact the school office ([info@stmw.bwcet.com](mailto:info@stmw.bwcet.com)) to express interest, let us know what you have to offer or to find out more information as to how you could get involved.

Thank you!

#### SPORTS UPDATE:

Well done to our Year 1 footballing stars who took part in an event hosted by the Gateshead Schools Sports Partnership this week and also to our school football team who finished third in their league qualifying for the shield finals night which will take place during the Summer term.