



### IMPORTANT REMINDERS/TASKS THIS WEEK:

- Please make a note of the important dates for the upcoming term (see below).
  - Please ensure that payment is made for all after-school clubs and extra-curricular opportunities.
  - Uniform – pupils may now wear Summer uniform (see [here](#) for more details). Please ensure that all items of clothing are clearly labelled with your child's name.
  - Hot weather – please ensure that your child brings a filled water bottle to school each day and that sunscreen and sunhats are worn on hot days.
  - Year 4 swimming kit for this half term only – pupils to bring a pair of shorts and a T-shirt to wear in the pool as well as their usual swimsuit or trunks as part of lifesaving skills sessions. No tracksuits to be worn at these sessions.
  - Please read the note below regarding the ordering of school uniform for September 2026.
  - We look forward to welcoming Mrs Shenton back following her maternity leave from wb/27.4.26.
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### TERM DATES:

- School will be closed on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> May for the May Bank Holiday.
- May half term will be from Monday 25<sup>th</sup> – Friday 29<sup>th</sup> May.
- The school will be closed to pupils for staff inset on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June.
- The final day of the school term for pupils and staff is Friday 17<sup>th</sup> July.
- The new academic year begins on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2026.

### DIARY DATES:

Please make a note of the following key diary dates for the upcoming term:

- 11.5.26 - 14.5.26 KS2 SATs
- 18.5.26 - 22.5.26 Y6 Residential to Bassenfell Manor Christian Outdoor Centre
- w/b 1.6.26 (2 week window) Y4 Multiplication Tables Check
- w/b 8.6.26 Phonics Screening Check
- 17.6.26 Sports Day – whole school 12:30-3pm
- 19.6.26 First Holy Communion celebration for pupils in Y4 (5.30pm at St Mary's RC Church)
- 30.6.26 and 1.7.26 St Thomas More transition days
- 1.7.26 Transition-day for St Mary's pupils
- 2.7.26 Y5 to attend the Bishop Wilkinson CET 'Celebration of Sport'
- Wb/6.7.26 Explore the Curriculum Celebration events:
  - 6.7.26 2:30pm Y5
  - 7.7.26 9:15am Y4
  - 7.7.26 2:30pm Y3
  - 8.7.26 9:15am Y1
  - 8.7.26 2:30pm Y2
  - 9.7.26 9:15am Reception
  - 9.7.26 2:30pm Y6 (culmination of 'fiver challenge')
- 6.7.26 1pm String Orchestra showcase – Y5 pupils and small group strings
- 7.7.26 KS2 SATs results

- 10.7.26 annual reports shared with parents/carers
- 16.7.26 Y6 Leavers' Mass and premier of Leavers' Film 2026 (9.30am Mass with reception at school following Mass – approx. 11:30am finish)

Further dates and changes will be communicated via the weekly News Bulletin.

## **SCHOOL UNIFORM:**

A note from Salto UK Ltd, our school uniform supplier:

*The deadline date for this years' uniform issue is **SATURDAY 18<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2026**. All orders that are placed before the deadline will have an extended returns and exchange policy until the start of the new school term in September.*

Orders can be made online: [here](#) or by visiting the uniform shop.

Please see uniform expectations on the school website [here](#). It is important for parents/carers to remind themselves of all uniform expectations to avoid unexpected issues with infringements of school policy.

## **FUN RUN:**

We would be hugely grateful for volunteers to help our participation in the Gateshead Schools' Fun Run at Saltwell Park (Years 3, 4 and 5 participating) on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> May, 8.30am - 12.30pm. Please contact the school office if you are able to volunteer.

## **YEAR 4 TRIP TO CENTRE FOR LIFE:**

Year 4 enjoyed a very exciting and informative trip to the Centre for Life on Wednesday. After exploring the different zones in the centre in the morning, pupils donned lab coats in the afternoon in order to become super scientists, investigating all things relating to digestion. A highlight of the day was creating the illusion of digested food by mashing up banana and weetabix and using a pair of tights to mimic how the food would move through our intestines. Very memorable!

## **SPORTS UPDATES:**

### **Year 5 Rounders Competition**

Twenty of our Year 5 pupils took part in a rounders competition on Wednesday. They all showed great sportsmanship and represented our school brilliantly. They enjoyed showing their new skills to their friends in PE the following day!

### **Year 2 Cricket Festival**

Year 2 had a fantastic morning at Gateshead Fell Cricket Club on Thursday. They took part in many different fun games using their throwing, catching, batting and fielding skills. They had great fun and showed some brilliant skills. We are looking forward to playing some of these games at school.

There are many opportunities for children to get involved in cricket - check out the All Stars website to find out more: [England and Wales Cricket Board \(ECB\) - The Official Website of the ECB](#)

### **Blaydon and District League Football**

Congratulations to our school football team for bringing another trophy back to St Mary's: the Blaydon and District League East Division title! The team has been exceptional all year and played with incredible skill, determination and respect for their opponents throughout the whole season. With two more competitions

still to play for, the quadruple is on, and we look forward to hearing about their continued success throughout the Summer Term.