



### IMPORTANT REMINDERS/TASKS THIS WEEK:

- School will be closed for the May half term break from Monday 25th – Friday 29th May 2026.
  - **School will also be closed on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June for our final Inset day of the year.**
  - Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> June - please note that the kitchen will serve pizza/pasta.
  - Friday 5<sup>th</sup> June – National Fish and Chips Day! As well as traditional fish and chips, jacket potatoes will also be served.
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### RECRUITMENT:

We are currently seeking to recruit **two** new Teaching Assistants to work as part of our fantastic staff team at St Mary's.

You can see more information about the roles [here](#).

Please share this information with anyone who may be interested in the positions, and feel free to contact Mr Wheatley if you would like any further information.

Thank you.

### PENTECOST:

This Sunday we celebrate the Feast of Pentecost, when the Holy Spirit came upon the Apostles, filling them with courage, joy and the gifts they needed to share the message of Jesus with the world. Pentecost is often called the “birthday of the Church”, reminding us that we too are sent out to live and share our faith each day.

At St Mary's, we give thanks for the presence of the Holy Spirit in our school community—guiding our learning, shaping our kindness, and helping us to grow in love and service. We also pray for our parish of Our Lady and St Philip Neri, that together we may continue to be a vibrant and welcoming family of faith.

*Come, Holy Spirit,  
fill our hearts with your light and love.  
Bless our school, St Mary's,  
that we may learn, grow, and care for one another  
with kindness, patience, and joy.  
Guide our parish,  
Our Lady and St Philip Neri,  
that it may be a place of welcome, faith, and hope for all.  
Inspire us to be courageous in our faith,  
to share peace, to show compassion,  
and to use our gifts to serve others each day.  
Come, Holy Spirit,  
renew us and stay with us always.  
Amen.*

## YEAR 6 RESIDENTIAL:

Year 6 had a fantastic week at Bassenfell Manor Christian Centre in the Lake District with the team from Canoes, Mountains and Caves. The children took part in a wide range of exciting outdoor and adventurous activities, including climbing, canoeing, ghyll scrambling and team-building challenges. Throughout the week, they showed great courage, resilience and determination, often stepping outside of their comfort zones and supporting one another to succeed.

It was wonderful to see the pupils grow in confidence and independence, while also developing strong friendships and working together as a team. Their behaviour was exemplary, and they were a real credit to St Mary's, demonstrating respect, kindness and enthusiasm in everything they did.

Please visit our school [X page](#) to see our wonderful photos from the week and to share in some of the memorable experiences they enjoyed.

## SALTWELL PARK FUN RUN:

Pupils in Years 3, 4 and 5 took part in the annual Gateshead Schools Sports Partnership Fun Run at Saltwell Park on Friday. Once again, it was a fantastic event, with over three and a half thousand pupils from primary schools across Gateshead coming together to take part in this well-loved occasion. The atmosphere was full of excitement and energy, with children enjoying the chance to be active outdoors, represent their school, and take part alongside so many others.

Our pupils showed great enthusiasm, determination and excellent behaviour throughout the morning. It was wonderful to see them encouraging one another, celebrating each other's efforts, and demonstrating true sportsmanship from start to finish. Events like these are a brilliant opportunity to promote fitness, teamwork and confidence, and our children did St Mary's proud.

Well done to all participants who had great fun and cheered each other on every step of the way—we are very proud of you all!

## EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST LOCAL GOVERNING COMMITTEE:

The Local Governing Committee of St Mary's school would welcome expressions of interest for positions on our board.

Expressions of interest can be for the role of **Foundation Governor** (from practising Catholics) or **Parent Governor** (open to any parent of the school).

Please contact Mr Wheatley at school for more information about this ([info@stmw.bwcet.com](mailto:info@stmw.bwcet.com)/ 0191 4205828).