SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

9th October 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

Today, school took part in **Mental Health Awareness Day.** Children participated in a wellbeing worship, had opportunities to talk about safe adults and how school support our them in feeling safe and secure. Children also received an extra break time 🙂 Today, I wanted share with parents and carers what we do at our school to support our children.

We prioritise creating a nurturing environment through building positive relationships with our children, celebrating their successes on our ***'Shining Like Stars'*** board and support behaviour through restorative conversations whilst promoting our Christian values e.g. Respect.

Mental health and wellbeing is taught through our **PSHE scheme 'SCARF'** and we host annual parents' meetings from the SCARF team in the hall. PSHE lessons include teaching resilience, self esteem and coping strategies.

We teach children that our staff are '**trusted adults**' who they can talk to as well as a wonderful pastoral lead, Mrs Prosser (alongside Pippa), who provides counselling, the Dog Mentor Programme and other specific interventions such as Drawing and Talking and Lego Therapy. We have a **Play Therapist** called Nicola who supports small groups, using play as their natural language to express, explore, and process difficult emotions.

Year 4 and Year 5 take part in a **Resilient Minds** course lasting 12 weeks - representitives from the charity come into school weekly and discuss a wide range of approaches to mental health, wellbeing and online safety.

Additionally, we classes have daily wellbeing check-in boards to indicate how they feel through simple symbols. We have a '**Worry Monster**' - children can go to the wellbeing area and leave a note inside, this is then read by Mrs Prosser who offers advice and support to those children who reach out.

As headteacher, I pride myself on the small details - getting to know the child, a smile and a 'hello' in the morning, asking children questions like, 'did you win at the weekend?' and 'what are you doing for your birthday?' I believe goes a long way to getting to know your child. It is our duty as staff to support children's wellbeing daily and conversations living out our vision and ultimately allowing our children to **thrive**. I wish all parents, carers and children a happy weekend.

Mr Atherton



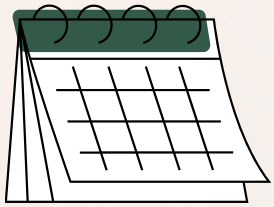
School Football Team Triumph!

Congratulations to the Year 5 and 6 boys' football team who finished in the top two places during last week's football competition at St Mary's High School. The team will now play in the regional finals against groups of other schools.

Getting this far is already a magnificent achievement - I wish the team all the very best in the finals. A special thank you to Miss Rogers for taking the time to take the boys and the parents and carers who supported.

The Year 5 and 6 girls will get an opportunity to participate in the same tournament later this month at St Mary's. The girls have their own lunchtime football club each Monday, which is a popular club enjoyed by many.





DATES FOR THE DIARY

Autumn 1

· Black History Month - 1st - 31st October

· 14th October PTFA Disco

· 15th October - Choir Church Service 15/10/26 3:30 at Church

· 19th October – Intake 2027 Open Day 1:30pm

· 20th October – Intake 2027 Open Day 9:45am

· 21st October – Finish for half term at 3:15pm

· 22nd October-1st November (inclusive) - HALF TERM

Autumn 2

· 2nd November - School reopens after half term at 8:45am

· 6th November - Non-Uniform Day. Children to bring an item for the Christmas Fayre

· 10th November Parents' Evening for Rec – Year 6 (information to follow)

· 11th November - Act of Remembrance Worship for Year 6 children and parents

· 14th November - Leyland St James' Christmas Fayre

· 16th November - Anti-Bullying Week (wear odd socks to launch on Monday)

· 30th November – 4th December (pm) – PTFA Secrets Room – details to follow

KS1 Christmas

8th December 6pm – KS1 Nativity

· 10th December 9:30am – KS1 Nativity

KS2 Christmas

Christmas Singalong – Parents and Carers invited to join in a Christmas Singalong in the school hall.

· December 14th 9.15-10.15am Y5 & Y6 Festive Singalong

· December 15th 9.15-10.15am Y3 & Y4 Festive Singalong