



ST MARY'S RC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Victoria Road, Horwich, Bolton, BL6 6EP ☎01204 333625

Email: office@st-marys-horwich.bolton.sch.uk

Website: www.st-marys-horwich.bolton.sch.uk



Newsletter – 04th September 2026

Message from the Headteacher Mrs Hayes

Dear Parents/Carers

Welcome back! We have missed our school family and are delighted to open our doors again for the Autumn term. I hope everyone had a wonderful summer filled with family fun and happy memories. Our children have come to school excited, enthused and ready to learn. It has been a delight to see their smiling faces as they reconnect with friends and members of staff they haven't seen for a while.

A very big welcome to our new pupils and families who have started with us this year. It is a special time for all the family and we endeavor to ensure a quality start to school by getting to know the individual children and their needs as they begin school life.

Today we celebrated our patron Saint's birthday with a whole school Mass. Every class took part in our school Mary scripture trail, had time in our chapel and time in our special area at the back of the astro turf named 'Our Lady's Peaceful Place'. It was wonderful to see the children making birthday cards and celebrating Our Lady's birthday in many different ways. What a great way to end our first week!

The children are looking very smart and I would like to thank you for your continued efforts as we know they can grow so fast! I am sure you will agree that school uniform is important in helping children in getting back to routines and ensuring our school stays smart. We will be monitoring uniform and asking parents to adhere to our policy and to maintain standards. Please note, pupils are not allowed to wear earrings (even the plastic see-through ones) or jewellery to school. This offers a clear and consistent approach for children and parents.

I look forward to seeing everyone either on the school gate or at a school event this year.

Wishing you a wonderful weekend.

The Importance of Punctuality - At St Mary's, we are committed to ensuring that every child has the very best opportunity to succeed. A key part of this is arriving at school on time, every day. The Department for Education's statutory guidance, *Working Together to Improve School Attendance*, makes clear that regular attendance and punctuality are essential to helping children achieve their full potential. ***Persistent lateness can affect a child's confidence, disrupt the learning of others and make it more difficult for them to achieve their best.***

Recording Late Arrivals - As with attendance, all late arrivals are recorded on our school's register. This information forms part of your child's official attendance record.

We appreciate that occasional unforeseen circumstances can happen. However, we ask all families to make punctuality a priority and to establish morning routines that allow children to arrive at school before the start of the school day. Please see attached letter regarding our new process.

NOTICES - Autumn Term 1: 2/9/26 – 23/10/26 (38 school days)

KS2 (Years 3-6) School Lunches - The cost of school dinners is £2.75 per day. **Total payable £104.50.** ***Please note*** parents must inform the school office of any change in dinner preference. This can be done either in person or by letter/email.

KS2 Snacks - The cost per day for snacks is 40p per day. **Total payable is £15.20.** This can be paid by cash at the beginning of each week, via your child's class in a named envelope. If possible, a full payment for the half-term is appreciated.

OOSC – The Fees and payments will be loaded onto Arbor by the end of next week, confirmation of hours had been sent out over the summer holidays.

PARENTAL CONSENTS - have been added to Arbor, can all parents please ensure they have updated their preferences.

PARENTAL ENGAGEMENT EVENTS; we have the following events taking place this Autumn, for the full year events please see the attached Diary Dates.

- **MEET THE TEACHER** – 15 & 16 September
- **Stay, Pray & Learn** – Parents/Carers are invited into the school hall to spend an hour with their child taking part in various activities; including a liturgy led by the children
- **Celebration Assemblies** – Parents will be invited via a 'secret message' to attend the assembly if your child has won an award. We hope you are able to attend if not you are welcome to send someone on your behalf.
- **Autumn Parent's Evenings** – 21 & 22 October.

We care, we pray, we work, we play . . . in Jesus' way