

Collecting children at the end of the school day

At the end of the school day we have either after school club or sports clubs which use the playground and / or field. We cannot start these activities until the gates of the school have been locked. The staff would really appreciate it if parents could collect their children and make their way to the gates as soon as possible. I appreciate your understanding.

Packed lunches

We have some children who bring a packed lunch into school for a wide variety of reasons. Over the past few weeks, we have noticed that some child's packed lunches do not contain the balance and nutrition required to sustain them for a full days learning.

There is a good website run by the NHS which provides some good information around nutrition and offers different types of food which you could put in your child's lunch box.

[Lunchbox ideas and recipes – Healthier Families- NHS](#)

14 th Oct	Year 5/6 tag rugby
16 th Oct	Individual school photos
17 th Oct	Strung, Sung, Supper – school / parish event. School Hall
18 th Oct	Cross Country (Saturday)
21 st Oct	Year 5/6 tag rugby
24 th Oct	End of Autumn 1
3 rd Nov	Start of Autumn 2
4 th Nov	Girls' Football tournament
6 th Nov	Year 5 to work with RNCM
10 th /11 th /12 th Nov	Year 6 Robinwood trip
14 th Nov	Football tournament

Parish News

The parish newsletter can be viewed by clicking the link here: [Newsletters](#)

Birthdays

A very happy birthday to: Kirsty, Tiannah, Toby, Joshua, Morgan and Eseoghene who have all celebrated birthdays this week.

Stars of the Week

Congratulations to each of our stars of the week: Luca, Frankie, Asher, Aiden, Sofia, Noah and Oakley who have received a star of the week award for behaviour.

Congratulations to each of our stars of the week: Sophie, Esme, Emily, John, Imaan, Dhikshitta and Christiana who has been award star of the week for learning.

St. Mary's Parish Youth Group

Fr is setting up a parish youth group which will run each month on a Wednesday evening from 6:30pm -7:30pm. Places are limited but there are still a few places left. If you wish for you child to attend, please call into, or email, the school office and we will pass you a form to complete.

The first date for the group is 22nd October.

Safeguarding

Our safeguarding team at St. Mary's consists of Miss Johnson, Mr Knapper and myself. If you wish to discuss any concerns with us, please ask and at least one of us will be available. All of our staff are safeguard trained, and we are here to keep your children safe and happy at all times.

Merit Badges

Congratulations of Morgan, Ted, Darcie, Blake, Avani, Niamh, Matilda, James, Ava, Ethan, Tristan, Sophie, Tommy and Keanna who has been awarded merits badges for fabulous work throughout September.

Attendance.

All research shows that there is a direct correlation between attendance at school and high attainment. If your child is not at school, you may be limiting their life choices later in life. At St. Mary's we have an expectation that all children should be in school everyday. We do however understand that sometimes, such as illness, there are unavoidable reasons why your child may need to be off school. We have a 5% tolerance in our attendance. Therefore, if your child's attendance drops below 95% you may be contacted by school or asked to attend an attendance meeting.

	F2	99%	
Year 1	96%	Year 2	94%
Year 3	98%	Year 4	98%
Year 5	99%	Year 6	93%

Congratulations to F2 and Year 5 who have the highest attendance this week with an amazing 99%. Well done

Photographs

School photographs will be taken on Thursday 16th October. As well as individual photographs, we will also be having sibling groups. If you have a sibling who doesn't attend St. Mary's and you wish them to be on the photograph, please bring them to the hall (via the main gate) at 8:40am. We will then bring down their siblings once they have been registered in class.

Don't Miss Out...

It may seem very early, but each year we have children who miss out on their first choice school because they miss the deadlines for applying for school places.

For children in Year 6 – the application window for high schools opens in early September and closes on the 31st October. More information will follow shortly.

For children in Nursery – The window for applications to Primary school opens in November and closes on the 15th January 2026. This year we had close to 70 applications for our 30 places. **If your child attends St. Mary's Nursery – this does not automatically entitle you to a place in our Reception class. You must still apply via Tameside.**

Don't miss out...

...on a school place for your child



Primary School

If your child will be 4 before 1 September 2026

- ★ You should put your child's name down at any Tameside Primary School.
- ★ During October the school will send you the information you will need to make your application.
- ★ If your child attends a school nursery they are NOT guaranteed a place in Reception. You will need to make a new application for a Reception place.
- ★ You must apply for a Primary School Reception place online through the Tameside MBC website at www.tameside.gov.uk
- ★ The online application facility will open for new Reception applications **early November 2025**.
- ★ The closing date for Primary School applications is **15 January 2026**.
- ★ Any application received after 15th January 2026 will be dealt with as a 'LATE' application and considered after those received on time.



High School

If your child will be 11 before 1 September 2026

- ★ You should apply for a High School place through the Local Authority where you live.
- ★ Extra district residents will receive information on how to apply from their own Local Authority.
- ★ You must apply for a High School Year 7 place online through the Tameside MBC website at www.tameside.gov.uk
- ★ The online application facility will open for new Year 7 applications **early September 2025**.
- ★ The closing date for High School applications is **31 October 2025**.
- ★ Any application received after 31st October 2025 will be dealt with as a 'LATE' application and considered after those received on time.

Fireworks Night Dinner

We will be holding a second themed lunch on Wednesday 5th November. The menu for the day can be seen on the right hand side. Although it seems a long time away – it is during the first week back after the half term break so will soon be on us.



HAF TAMESIDE
EAT, PLAY & THRIVE

Free Holiday Activities

- ★ Free places for FSM Children and Young People
- ★ Choice Activities throughout Tameside
- ★ Activities for ages 5-16
- ★ Inclusive and SEND places available

Book Now via EEUQ
✉ hafenquiries@tameside.gov.uk



HAF Tameside

There are several opportunities via HAF (Holiday Activity and Food Fund) for children to access a range of interesting half-term activities. These are funded, or part funded for children in receipt of free school meals. If you wish to find out more information, or book sessions, [please click here](#).