



Newsletter No. 1: Friday 9th September 2022

Weekly News

Dear Parents,

First and foremost, how special it was to see the smiles on children's faces as they entered the school gates this week. It has been wonderful to welcome them back to school into their new classrooms and year groups.

I'm delighted to now take the opportunity to introduce myself to you as headteacher. Although I am only a couple of days in to the role, already I am beginning to feel right at home in what is clearly an excellent school with delightful children and fantastic staff.

As was the case in my previous school, I will work diligently and with great integrity to ensure the children of St Mary of the Angels receive nothing but the very best, recognising only too well that children get only one chance at their education. It is my intention in the coming days and weeks to immerse myself fully in the school community, taking time to thoroughly learn the school's current workings, strengths and areas for improvement along with, most importantly of all, getting to know your children. I am also a great believer in the benefit of forming effective partnership with parents and carers and understand clearly the vital role you all play in the education of your child.

As with other key staff, I will be available daily on the school gate so please do not hesitate to share with me anything of importance. (Unfortunately, the weather has been against us this week.) I look forward to meeting more of you over the coming weeks.

Kind regards,
Mrs Hill

Award Winners

During our Congratulations Assembly this morning, the children have been commended on the excellent start they have made to our new academic year!

Individual certificates have been distributed for children showing beautiful manners, excellent communication, hard work and effort.

Our Class of the Week Award was presented to Y6 this week. They have started the year off beautifully as fantastic role models for the rest of the school!

Our Attendance winners for this week were Y1 and Y2 with 100%! What a super start!

Virtues



This half term, our virtues focus in on the two key traits of being 'compassionate and loving.'

Pupils are growing to be compassionate towards others, near and far, especially the less fortunate; and loving by their just actions and forgiving words. As a school, we are helping our pupils to grow by being compassionate and loving in the way they are treating others, especially when a pupil needs a friend; and by opening their eyes to those who suffer poverty, injustice or violence.



Recognising and celebrating the presence of Christ in one another.

Notices

- If you have not yet sent your child's inhaler and spacer into school, please could you bring it to the school office next week, clearly labelled with your child's name and class.
- Thank you for your patience in terms of the end of the school day. Children have been dismissed from new exits for the first time with siblings coming from a new classroom as well. This has taken a few days to get into the routine of.
- Teachers are working hard to set up the new class pages. These will contain key information, including reminders about homework and special events; plus curriculum information and links to useful websites and activities to support the children's learning.
- Homework and P.E. lessons will start next week. Please keep an eye on your child's class page so that you know on which days they are expected to come to school in P.E. kit.

Curriculum, Safeguarding and Well-being

All staff have received updated safeguarding training this week. We will be bringing our school website up to date with key safeguarding information and information about policies that we are currently redrafting. We will keep you informed of any changes and updates as appropriate.

The children have enjoyed their induction week in their new classrooms this week. We feel that they have been put at ease with the nature of activities on offer, including: reminders about class rules to keep everyone safe and happy; expectations for behaviour and standards of work and exciting information about their new class saint, their class composer and their upcoming wider learning projects.

Tweet of the Week



St. Mary of the Angels Primary School
@SMAAldridge

Welcome back. It is so lovely to see our school family back together. The children have had a wonderful week settling in to their new year groups. We are sending our former pupils best wishes at their new secondary schools. You will always be part of our SMA family.

Events

Our Mass to celebrate the start of a new term will take place on Friday 16th September in school at 9:15am for Y1-6. Parents and members of the parish are welcome.

We have been putting together the dates for some key events this term. Please look out in next week's newsletter for more information.

Prayer

Yesterday we celebrated the Feast of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary - the day on which we celebrate Mary's Birthday.

It is celebrated on this date as it is exactly nine months from the Feast of the Immaculate Conception.

The birthday of Our Lady is an important feast day as we celebrate the joy she was to bring to the world by giving birth to Jesus, the Son of God.

By celebrating Mary's birthday, we are also honouring Jesus and the precious gift of life.

Hail Mary

Hail Mary, full of grace,
the Lord is with thee.
Blessed are thou amongst women
and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.
Holy Mary, Mother of God,
pray for us sinners now
and at the hour of our death.
Amen.

Yours sincerely,
Mrs N. Hill
Headteacher

