



Autumn Term 2024 Newsletter

Amethyst & Indigo Classes

Welcome to Year 6

It has been a pleasure welcoming back the children after the summer holiday. Both classes have settled in really well and made a great start to life in Year 6, working hard and enjoying being back among their friends. Below is information that you need to know about the upcoming term.

Curriculum

We have got a busy term ahead! Please see the Topic Map for information on this term's curriculum and please come and ask if you have any questions or would like more information.

Home Learning

Homework will be sent home weekly on a Friday in the children's homework books. The expectation is to complete the work and hand it back in on the following Wednesday. This will always contain a list of spellings to be learned as well as times tables to be practised along with an accompanying task relevant to our class learning.

Please remember to use your **Times Table Rock Stars** account or other websites such as Hit the Button to focus on fluency skills (please email the School Office if you cannot find your login). Furthermore, the children also have access to **Spelling Shed** to practise their spelling patterns.

Please ensure that your child reads every day and do listen to them and ask them about **what** they have read. The most important thing is that this is an enjoyable and valuable experience which will further support your child to develop a love of reading.

Please talk to your child about our **Reading Challenge** and which books they have read so far.

Specialist Teachers

Your child's specialist music and French sessions will happen every Tuesday, and PE with Mr Oakley on Mondays. Children to wear their correct PE kit to school - this is a plain house coloured t-shirt, black shorts or leggings/tracksuit bottoms and black trainers. Black fleece/sweatshirt for the winter. PE with class teachers is every Tuesday.

Specialist sessions with Ms Lincoln in art will continue. These will be timetabled throughout the year and will begin on Fridays in the first half of this term.

Punctuality & Attendance

It is really important that your child arrives at school promptly every day to help them settle in to their learning routines. It is also important to be collected promptly.

GATE OPENS: 8.35am

START OF THE DAY: 8.45am

END OF THE DAY: 3.15pm

Attendance is compulsory for all children. Regular contact and communication to our office about illness, medical appointments and absence is crucial.

Please contact the School Office if you have any questions. Office: 020 8340 489 Email: office@stmarysn8.co.uk

Trips

We are excited to take the children on lots of amazing trips this year. We are particularly pleased to be returning to Pendarren in South Wales on 7th–11th October, on an adventure filled week. Please look out for letters and meetings for this trip.

Secondary School

Secondary School Application Deadline: 31st October 2024. Please make sure you contact school if you need any support with the application.

General Reminders

- **PLEASE NAME** all sweaters, coats, gloves, hats, plimsolls etc. We regularly end up with bundles of unnamed uniform or sports clothes, which are piling up in the lost property container.
- The children will be doing **PE** on **Mondays**. Children to wear their correct PE kit to school - this is a plain house coloured t-shirt, black shorts or leggings/tracksuit bottoms and black trainers. Black fleece/sweatshirt for the winter.
- Children are encouraged to bring in a piece of fruit to eat during morning playtime.
- Please send a named water bottle into school daily.
- We would like to remind parents that the school has a no jewellery policy, and earrings should be studs only, please. Nail polish is not allowed.
- If your child has long hair, please make sure it is tied back.
- Please also ensure that your child wears **black shoes** to school. If trainers, these must be completely black with no bright logos, flashing details or coloured laces/soles.
- We are a strictly nut-free school; please remember this for packed lunches and party/birthday treats.
- We are strictly a latex-free school, i.e. no latex materials including balloons, rubber bands, latex gloves etc.
- Please keep up to date with news on our website [here](#)

Mobile phones

- If your child truly needs a mobile phone (Years 5 & 6 only), it must be clearly labelled, switched off before they enter the school premises and handed in to the teacher for safe keeping during the day.

Key Dates

Please look out for the main newsletters as well as emails/text messages from the Admin Team.

- Wednesday 18th September: Y3 to Y5 Curriculum Evening 5.45pm
- Wednesday 18th September: Secondary School Transfer Evening 6pm
- Friday 20th September: Jeans for Genes Day wear something denim and bring in £1
- Monday 7th to Friday 11th October: Y6 Pendarren
- Thursday 24th October: Y6 Pendarren Assembly
- Monday 28th October to Friday 1st November: Half Term - school closed
- Thursday 31st October: Secondary School Application Deadline
- Monday 4th November: INSET Day - school closed to children
- Tuesday 5th November: children return to school
- Friday 8th November: individual photo day

*You can find the above dates and more on our calendar [here](#)

If there is anything that you would like to talk to us about, please do contact the School Office, and we can phone you or make an appointment - we really value close communication with you.

Mr Gould and Mr Cummins

Year 6 Team