



St. Monica's Primary School

Newsletter 5th January 2024



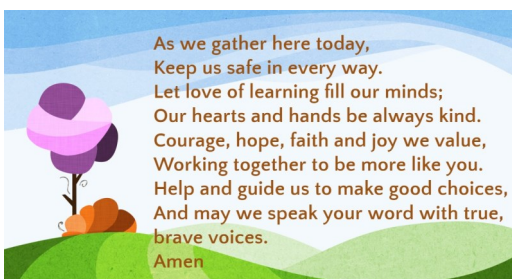
Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to a new term at St Monica's, and a very Happy New Year to you all!

I hope that you all had a special time over Christmas celebrating together with family and friends.

This week we have continued the Christmastide season, ending with our celebration of the Epiphany of the Lord in today's assembly. The children have been thinking about the gifts that we can share with others - our kindness, generosity, talents, love.

Today I introduced our new School Prayer, which has been written with the support and ideas of our Year 5 and 6 pupils. This will be said in classes every day, and is a way to remind us of our mission to love like Jesus. The prayer is below, and also will be on our website.



I have received a lovely thank you card from St Joseph's Family Centre, thanking you all for your kind donation of food goods and the collection from the Nativity (£206) to help support local families. This year they have sent out over 300 Christmas hampers and gift vouchers.

Our Year 6 librarians and some of our staff have been very busy at the end of last term and this first week back, categorising, labelling and shelving well over a hundred new books for our school library. These were purchased through the school virtual book fair, and we thank the Friends of St Monica's for their donation to pay for them.

This year the Spring term is quite a short one, with Easter being at the end of March. As always, it will be a jam-packed term with lots of opportunities, events and enrichments. Please keep an eye on the calendar dates on the newsletter and on the website and School Spider app.

Have a lovely weekend.

Mrs J Pearson

Dates for your diary

20th February—Y4 First Reconciliation Parents Meeting in school at 6pm

25th February—Reconciliation Enrolment Mass at 10am

28th February—Y3 First Eucharist Parents Meeting in school at 6pm

3rd March—First Eucharist Enrolment Mass at 10am

26 March—Passion Play at 6pm

Contact :
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Assemblies

2nd Feb—Y5 Swifts

9th Feb— Reception Pupils

1st March—All Y1 and Y2 Pupils

Trips

23/01—Blackbirds Y3 to Warrington Museum

25/01—Swifts Y5 to Jodrell Bank

05/02—Young Voices at Manchester Arena

27/02—Y1 and Y2 to Delamere Forest

French Day

This is a little reminder that on Monday 8th January we have French Day. Children have a number of wonderful activities to enjoy and they are welcome to come to school dressed in red white and blue, the colours of the French flag. Mrs Wallace is preparing a French feast for lunch. There is a Parentpay option for paying £1 towards the day or if you prefer, your child can bring the cash in on Monday.

Tasty Tuck Award

You will have now received the Tasty Tuck letter that was sent out yesterday. Thank you to everyone for your support. We have already had a fantastic start with many children being proud of their healthy snacks. The school council will update you further in the coming weeks.

Weather

We appear to be expecting colder weather next week. Please make sure that your child comes to school wearing suitably warm clothing for outdoor play. Thank you.

Clubs

All of our clubs start next week. You will have receiving confirmation from Mrs Rylance this afternoon. Please note that on Thursday 11th January that the Choir and Coding Clubs will not be running as we have a full staff training meeting for OPAL— outdoor play and learning initiative after school. Thank you.

Plea for sponsorship

With the school budget being as tight as it is, I would like to reach out to our St Monica's community for sponsorship help with some projects in school.

Our first project we would really appreciate help with is to upgrade the facilities in the staffroom. Our kitchen area for staff is small, and our appliances are now coming to the end of their life. In particular our fridges (we have two small ones) and our dishwasher are not working to their optimum, and have parts broken due to age. Do you know a kitchen company who would take this on as a charitable project? Do you know someone who can sponsor us to raise money to replace the white goods?

Any help you can provide in talking to contacts would be highly appreciated. The children and their resources always come first, which is how the staffroom has not had the share of the love it desperately needs.

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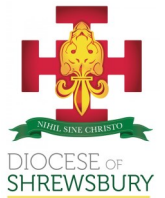


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We are delighted to share with you that we raised a magical £2,365.61 at our Christmas Fayre. A huge thank you to you, our St Monica's Family, and St Monica's Parish for your generous contributions and support of this special annual event for the School.

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School Health

Information from the School Health team - Please see these two recommended websites which are there to support families and individuals with health and mental health.



<https://chathealth.nhs.uk/>

This is an anonymous, safe and secure messaging system, where School Nurses provide confidential help and advice for young people aged 11-19 and for parents of 0-19s. This is known as ChatHealth.

Parents and carers of children aged 5-19 07480 635944

Young people aged 11-19 07507 330101

Scan the QR code

Some information from the website:

Confidential help and advice

- It's safe and easy for you to speak to a qualified health professional. Just send a message, you don't have to give your name.

Discreet and quick. It only takes one message to start making a difference. You'll get confidential advice from trained health staff in your area

Professional help, friendly staff

- Need to talk? Whatever's on your mind, we can help. Even if you just need someone who understands or want advice for a friend.
- The teams we work with help lots of people like teenagers in schools, parents of young children and mums with newborn babies.

Happy? Ok? Sad? - Warrington mental health support website <https://www.warrington.gov.uk/happy-ok-sad>

Happy? Ok? Sad?



We all deserve to enjoy life and feel good about ourselves but sometimes life can be tough!

Whether you're feeling great and want to stay that way, you're a bit tired and fed up or you're struggling to manage your feelings, we can point you to local and national information and resources. You can find tips ranging from how to boost your mood to where to get help if you're unable to cope.

If you or someone you know is struggling with their mental health, know that you are not alone and there are places you can go to get help. Visit '[I need help right now](#)' or our [Support Directory](#) to get the most appropriate mental health advice for you or a loved one. For information and advice about how to start a conversation about mental health, visit '[I'm looking for mental health training and resources](#)'.

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SOMETHING TO SHOUT ABOUT... 2023 End of KS2 Results

Pupil results at the end of Year 6 continue to exceed both National and Warrington averages at St Monica's Catholic Primary, in Appleton.

RWM COMBINED

81% of pupils achieved the expected standard or higher across all three key subjects: Reading, Writing and Maths – well above both the National average of 59% and Warrington average of 67% – placing St Monica's in the top 16% of primary schools in Warrington!



WRITING HIGHS!

90% of pupils achieved the expected standard or higher in writing, compared to a National average of 72% and Warrington average of 76% – placing St Monica's in the top 7% of schools in Warrington!



MATHS HIGHER

45% of pupils achieved the **higher standard** in Maths, compared to a National average of 23.8% and Warrington average of 29.2%.



READING HIGHER

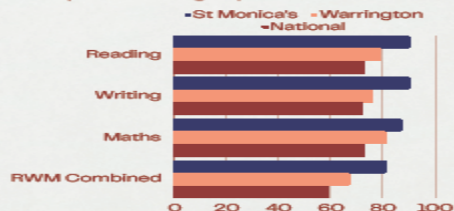
52% of pupils achieved the **higher standard** in Reading, compared to a National average of 29% and Warrington average of 33%.



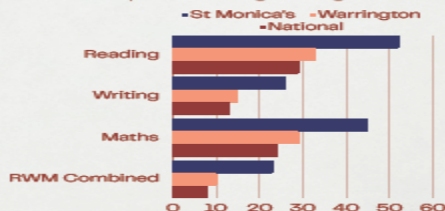
COMPARISONS

St Monica's results out-perform National and Local Authority averages in every area.

% Pupils achieving Expected Standard and Higher



% Pupils achieving the Higher Standard



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