



# The Saint Raphael's News



May Newsletter 2023/ John 10:11  
"I am the good shepherd."

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope that you and your families had a lovely Easter break. The children have settled into the summer term really well.

**STAFFING NEWS:** As you are aware Mrs Murphy is currently on Maternity leave. She is returning to school on Monday June 19<sup>th</sup>. Miss Smith and Mrs Murphy will be liaising about the class to make the transition smooth. We would like to thank Miss Smith for all her hard work in Year 2.

**EID MUBARAK:** We hope that our families who have celebrated Eid recently have enjoyed this special time together as a family.



**MAY THE MONTH DEDICATED TO MARY:** During May the children will be thinking about the life of Mary and the example she gives us of following God. The Year 6 worship leaders will be leading the children in collective worship devoted to Mary. We will also be sending home Mary Prayer bags which the children and families can use at home.



**SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMME:** We will celebrate First Holy Communion with our children on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> May @ 10am. The service will be at St Peter's and St Raphael's Church and all are welcome. I would like to thank Father Philip and Deacon Antony for their help with everything. Thank you to parents and families for their support and the parish and the prayer sponsors. I'm sure that this will be a lovely celebration for the children, their families and school and a day they will always remember.

**WILLOW WOOD BUNNY HOP:** A huge thank you for your generous donations in support of Our Lentern fundraising activity this year. The school raised an amazing £2,600 for Willow Wood Hospice. We have had a letter and certificate from Willow Wood thanking everyone for their amazing support.



**King Charles III Coronation:** The Coronation of King Charles takes place on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> May. We are celebrating in school and the children will be taking part in lots of activities in class and as a school. On **Friday, 5<sup>th</sup> May** the children will have a party in school and a picnic lunch. If possible the children could bring an old towel or picnic rug to sit on when we are on the field. Each child will receive a commemorative gift to celebrate this wonderful event in our history.

Friday is a non-uniform day and if the children have red, white or blue clothes they could wear those. We are hoping to create a garden to commemorate the Coronation. If you wanted to send a donation for this please put it in an envelope and send it in with

your child. Thank you for your support with this.

**Friday 5<sup>th</sup> May Year 1** will lead an assembly on the theme of the Coronation of King Charles. The assembly will begin at 9.05am and all are welcome.

Please note that **Monday, 8<sup>th</sup> May** is an additional Bank Holiday for the Coronation and school will be closed that day.

**SATS WEEK:** Year 6 SATS week commences Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> May and ends on Friday 12<sup>th</sup> May. Year 2 will complete their SATS tests this half term too.

May God's love shine in our lives as we care, share and learn together

**PHONIC SCREENING** for Year 1 will take place in June. The children are working hard and any reading or Lexia that they can do at home will help too.

**TIMES TABLES TEST** for Year 4 will take place in June. Again the children are working hard and any Times Tables Rockstars or other practice that they can do at home will help too.

All other classes are completing their class assessments this half term.

You will be made aware of your child's progress and attainment in their end of year reports which will go out in July. Results from SATS and other national tests will also be on the reports.

**CLASS MASSES:** Father Philip regularly comes to school to celebrate Mass on Thursday at 10.00am. The classes in KS 2 attend on a rota. All are welcome. Please see the Parish newsletter or ask if there is a Mass on a particular week.

**PARENTS' MEETING for new Reception and Nursery children:** On Wednesday July 5<sup>th</sup> at 6.00pm we are inviting parents and carers who have children starting in Nursery or Reception in September 2023 to a meeting. The purpose of this is to provide the opportunity for parents to meet the staff, share information and ask questions and to look around the setting. The children can also attend this meeting.

The Reception children will then attend from 9.00am on the morning of July 6<sup>th</sup> and will stay for lunch at school and be collected at 1.15pm. If your child is in nursery and stays in the afternoon then they will stay as normal for the afternoon session. Further details have been sent in a letter to parents. We are looking forward to welcoming new parents into school.

**YEAR 6 TRANSITION DAYS:** These will take place on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> and Friday 7<sup>th</sup> July. Details will be sent to parents from the school that their child is going to attend.

**SPORTS DAYS:** Please see the dates below for sports days for EYFS and Key Stages 1 and 2

**SWIMMING LESSONS:** Year 3 and Year 4 are currently enjoying swimming lessons each week during Summer Term 1 and Year 5 and Year 6 will begin swimming lessons in Summer Term 2 after the half term break. This is an important life skill for our pupils.

**UNIFORM:** The children have returned to school looking very smart. During summer term the uniform is:

#### **Summer Uniform**

- Grey skirt/pinafore/trousers or grey shorts
- Dress - Gingham Blue
- Blue short-sleeved polo shirt or school polo shirt (available from uniform suppliers with school badge)
- Footwear - Only sensible, black footwear may be worn. Boots and trainers are not allowed.

**Jewellery:** is not permitted at any time. (except a watch-not a smartwatch), this covers earrings or retainers and includes those covered by plasters.

**Hair:** Long hair should be tied up, no extreme hairstyles are allowed, e.g., bleach, tramlines, highlights, spikes etc.

**CONTACT DETAILS:** Please ensure that school has the correct contact details for you at all times. If there are any changes to your mobile numbers and/or email addresses, please inform us as soon as possible to ensure we have the correct contact information on our systems and we can keep in touch with you.

**SCHOOL MEALS:** Please could we remind parents of the system for paying for School Meals. Parents are emailed the half termly [School Meals letter](#), at the start of each half term and provides information on payments for the half term. All Pupils in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 receive a free meal as part of the UIFSM initiative. Pupils in

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Nursery, Year 3,4,5 and 6 pay for school meals unless they are eligible for benefits related free school meals, information regarding which can be found [here](#).

Please be aware that the school kitchen require 2 weeks notice if parents want their child to change from packed lunches to school dinners or from school dinners to packed lunches. This is to allow for the correct orders of food to be completed.

**SCHOOL MONEY:** St Raphael's School is cashless uses an online payment portal to collect payment form parents. Further information is available in the half termly letter [here](#). Should you have any problems accessing your SchoolMoney account please email [admin@st-raphaels.tameside.sch.uk](mailto:admin@st-raphaels.tameside.sch.uk) stating 'SchoolMoney' in the subject. Payments for SchoolMeals are not collected via SchoolMoney as the income is collected by Tameside Council.

**SCHOOL COMMUNICATIONS & SEPARATED PARENTS:** Where children live between 2 households we ask that the pupil's home address be the address at which they legally reside, additionally we ask the pupils' parents to determine which parent will receive the text messages and agree a method of communicating with each other outside of school. Our system only allows us to have one contact per pupil for text messages.

Both parents will be listed as contacts on the school's database and can both receive emails. The parent nominated to receive text messages will be the one used for your child's SchoolMoney account but pay point barcodes can be issued to other parents who wish to make payments. We signpost parents to the [separated parents' policy](#) in relation to school matters and ask that parents contact school if they do need to inform us of any information or wish to request separate parents evening appointments and progress reports.

*Mrs L. Lakner*

Thank you, as always for your support. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Mrs Lynn Lakner

## Dates for the Diary

MAY 2023		
Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> May	Bank Holiday School Closed	
Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> May	Celebrations for King Charles III Coronation including Year 1 assembly	9.05am
Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> May	Bank Holiday School Closed	
Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup> May-Friday 12 <sup>th</sup>	Year 6 SATS week	All week
Saturday 13 <sup>th</sup> May	First Holy Communion @ 10am St Peter's and St Raphael's Church, Stalybridge	10am
Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> May	Feast of the Ascension	
Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> May	School closes for half term	3.15pm
JUNE 2023		
Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> June	School opens for Summer Term 2	8.45am
Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 4 Multiplication Tests this week	
Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> June	Phonic screening tests begin Year 1	
Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 3 assembly	9.05am
Tuesday 27 <sup>th</sup> June	KS1 Sports Day	1.30pm
Wednesday 29 <sup>th</sup> June	Feast of St Peter and St Paul	
Friday 30 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 4 assembly	9.05am
JULY 2023		
Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> July	Freddy Fit Day	All day
Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup> July	KS 2 Sports Day	9.30pm
Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup> July	Nursery and Reception (Admissions Sept 2023) Parents' Meeting in school	6.00pm
Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> July	Reception children for Sept 2023 Taster morning	9.00am-1.15pm
Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> Friday 7 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 6 Transition Days at their high schools	All day
Friday 7 <sup>th</sup> July	Reception Class Assembly	9.05am
Tuesday 11 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 6 Production	1.30pm and 6.30pm
Wednesday 12 <sup>th</sup> July	EYFS Sports Day	9.15am
Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 6 Rock and River Trip	All Day
Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> July	Leavers' Mass in school	6.00pm
Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup> July	Summer starts here - Details to follow	All day
Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> July	Leavers' Assembly	9.05am
Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> July	School closes for Summer	1.30pm

Mrs Lynn Lakner (Headteacher)

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Next Newsletter: End of May 2023