



Calling all knitters!

We are embarking on a new project called Angels of Love to run alongside our Advent Angel project in December. The idea is that each child will be presented with a handmade, knitted angel which they will take out into the community to share with someone to remind them of God's love and joy. We would like to organise a team of knitters who would help us make 200 angels before December. If you are interested in sharing your talent with us, please contact Mrs Mercer in our school office to collect the pattern for the angel and resources.

School Lunches

Please log into your Arbor Portal account to make your school lunch selections or if you need to make any changes. Remember that due to changes within the Arbor system you will need to manually choose the dinner choices for your child no later than 4 days before the beginning of the week to place their dinner choices. Please remember to regularly check your child's meals balance on your Arbor Parent Portal to prevent from accruing a debt.

Connect MHST

Many thanks to the Parents & Carers who attended our Anxiety & Worries Workshop on Thursday morning, we hope you found this informative and useful. January's parent support session topic will be *'The teenage brain – supporting and understanding the changes occurring during adolescence and the impact on emotions'* on Wednesday 28th January 2026 at 6pm. To book your place click [here](#)

Sarah's Star

Sarah's Star are looking for runners to help keep the charity and Sarah's memory alive since her death last month. They have places on 115 half marathons including Paris, Berlin and London but also the Newcastle Inflatable 5km kids run on 22nd August. If you'd like to fundraise for the charity they will pay your joining fee up to £100 (minimum sponsorship £100 for kids runs and £500 for adults). Please get in touch via info@sarahs-star.org for more info and the sign up link. Sarah's Star was the chosen charity for our Parish's Social Group and their fundraising events including quiz nights, beetle drives and their Christmas Raffle raised a wonderful £480!

SVP Ozanam Camp at Holy Island

This summer camp has been running on Holy Island every summer since 1954 and the aim of the camp is to provide a safe and enjoyable week away in a unique location, where children can engage in a variety of mainly outdoor activities, make new friends and get some much needed time away from screens! The 'camp' is a purpose-built hostel, with dormitories containing bunk beds for eight children. The maximum capacity is 64 per week (a slight reduction from previous years), and we are usually full up! Several of our St Mary's pupils have visited the camp and had the most amazing time. Please see the attached leaflet for details.

Dates for Diary

Friday 30th January – Year 5 & 6 Theatre Visit

Thursday 5th February – PTA Valentine's Disco

Friday 6th February – Year 1 Class Assembly

Monday 9th February – Children's Mental Health Week

Tuesday 10th February - Year 3 at Durham University

Tuesday 10th February – Parent Online Safety Workshop

House of the Week is St Oswald's

Next week is MONKEY week on the school lunch menu

Don't forget to visit our school website for further school information

www.stmarysonline.co.uk