



Saint Mary's Catholic Voluntary Academy

Executive Headteacher - Mrs B Quirke
Head of School - Mrs S Rudd

Monday 11th September 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to the start of a new academic year in Valehouse! I am looking forward to coming to know the newest members of the class and I'm sure we will make a strong start with learning the routines and expectations in Year Three, guided by our wonderful Year Fours and teaching assistant Mrs Hollingworth. This letter serves as an introduction to new routines, alongside a brief reminder of current routines we have in place at Saint Marys.

Contact

If you need to contact me at any time, please telephone or email the school office (info@mgl.srscmat.co.uk) who will forward on any messages.

Drop off and Pick Up

Morning drop-off is from 8.40am – 8.55am at the school gates, with staff members present in case of any urgent messages. If your child arrives late (after 8.55 am), contact the school office by using the intercom and then sign them in using the Visitor Pod at the Main Office.

The end of the school day is 3:15pm pick up for all years, and Valehouse pupils are to be collected from the school playground.

Uniform

Please ensure your child's uniform conforms with our dress code (which can be found on our website), and all uniform including PE kit, hats, coats are labelled to help returning lost property.

Dinners, Drinks and Snacks

The school continues to run a flexible dining scheme, and school lunches can be ordered in school and paid for via ParentPay. Please ensure children bring in a water bottle for use during class time (which can be refilled at the water fountain) – a reminder that bottles must only contain water.

The Free Fruit and Vegetable scheme is only in place for KSI, so we encourage children to bring in a snack for their morning break – fruit or vegetables on Monday to Thursday and Friday a 'treat' such as crisps or cereal bars.

Reading

Please ensure your child reads every night after school - in Key Stage Two we recommend a minimum of 10 -15 minutes a night. Frequent reading at home with a parent is key to a child's success in reading, but also in many other areas of the curriculum. It is important that you comment in the reading diaries at least five times a week (with your child writing in daily when they have read). Please include the date and page number reached. Shared reading and discussion of the story are very helpful. Please encourage your child to read with expression, and to express opinions about the characters in the story, the plot, and what might happen next.



DIOCESE OF
NOTTINGHAM

Saint Mary's Catholic Voluntary Academy
Gladstone Street, Glossop, SK13 8NE
01457 854473
info@mgl.srscmat.co.uk
Company Number 7937154



St Ralph
Sherwin
Catholic Multi Academy Trust



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Homework and Spellings

Homework will be given on a Monday and to be completed and returned to school the following Monday. As always, please ensure work is dated and only pencil used to help with presentation. Any loose sheets are to be stuck in with glue or Sellotape.

Weekly spellings will be given out on a Friday to be tested the following Friday and these will include words that follow a spelling rule, and also commonly misspelt words per the Year 3/4 National Curriculum. Our first spelling test will start on Friday 15th September, and we continue to use the Spelling Shed website/app to help with spelling practice.

Multiplication Tables Check

In the summer term, Year 4 pupils will take the Multiplication Tables Check (MTC), which checks their times tables knowledge up to 12 x tables, so regular practice at home this year will be beneficial. A practice MTC test is available on Spelling Shed and a minimum of 2/3 times a week practice is highly recommended.

PE

This year, Valehouse will have swimming on a Friday morning, please ensure your child is wearing their swimming costume under their usual PE Kit (school hoodie, cardigan or jumper and jogging bottoms and trainers) and brings a towel and underwear in a bag to take to the pool. Please use a separate bag than their school bag so books etc do not become water damaged. Earrings cannot be worn for swimming or PE and should not be worn on those days.

Throughout the year, the pupils will have the opportunity for other PE curriculum areas, and we will continue our daily 1km in the afternoons.

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to get in touch via the School Office.

Many thanks,
Mrs Thorne-Marsh



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