



*“If you ever feel distressed during your day — call upon our Lady — just say this simple prayer: ‘Mary, Mother of Jesus, please be a mother to me now.’ I must admit — this prayer has never failed me.”*

St. Teresa of Calcutta

Dear parents/ carers

During the month of May, Catholics around the world spend time honouring Jesus’ mother – Mary. We too will be doing this in school.

### **Staffing:**

I am very sad to have to share with you the news that Mrs Parker will be leaving us on Friday. She has worked at the school for over 20 years and is loved by all who have had the opportunity to learn or work with her. She will be greatly missed by staff, children and – I’m sure – parents. I know you will all join with me wishing her luck in her next steps in life. She has promised us she will still come in and see us!

Happier news is that I hope you all saw the letter informing you about the new permanent headteacher – Mrs Stacey Carr – who will be joining the school full time in September. I know Mrs Carr is very excited about joining the school and does plan to visit as much as she can in the time between now and starting. I have known Mrs Carr for a while and know she will be a wonderful asset to the school and will continue to further improve the school.

In (slightly) unrelated news, Mrs Colette Carr in our EYFS class has changed her name she is known as in school to Miss Bokor.

### **SATs:**

For the first time since 2019, this year Year 6 and Year 2 will complete the statutory tests. For Year 2 these tests have already started and will be slowly completed over the month of May – they are very low key.

For Year 6, the tests are all next week – Monday to Thursday. It is essential that all children are on time to school. We will try to keep the week as clam as we can. Tests are on the following days:



St. Joseph's Catholic Voluntary Academy  
Chesterfield Road, Matlock, DE43FT  
[info@joe.srscmat.co.uk](mailto:info@joe.srscmat.co.uk)  
Company Number 7937154



**St Ralph  
Sherwin**  
Catholic Multi Academy Trust



Monday – Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar

Tuesday – Reading

Wednesday – Maths Arithmetic and Paper 1

Thursday – Maths Paper 2

Friday – Trip to Harry Potter World (not a test – but a wonderful treat!!)

***Trips:***

It is wonderful to see that visits/ trip and even residentials are starting again.... Year 5 today are very excited about their residential that they are leaving for later today! Trips are planned (or have already happened) before the end of the school year in every class as we are now able to get out and about!

***Assemblies:***

Likewise, parent attended assemblies are also back! Sadly, we do need to postpone the one planned this week for Miss Montgomery's class – new date tbc..

***Upcoming:***

Thursday May 19th 9:30am: Class Liturgy [Miss Doxey's class]

Thursday May 26th: May Procession [details to follow]

Thursday June 9th 9:30am: Class Liturgy [Mrs Barratt's class]

Thursday June 16th 9:30am: Class Liturgy [Miss Coxhead's class]

Wednesday June 22nd 9:30am: EYFS/KS1 School Mass [at school]

Thursday June 23rd 9:30am: Class Liturgy [Mrs Webster's class]

Wednesday June 29th 9:30 am: Whole School Mass [Celebration of 1st Holy Communion children who will have made their 1st Communion the previous weekend]

Friday July 22nd 10am: Whole School Mass [in church]



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### **School Day:**

The school day is currently....

Start of the day: Arrive 8:35 register at 8:55

End of the day: KS1 3:10 KS2 3:20

However, the government has decided that all schools need to be open for a minimum of 32.5 hours a week – we are slightly short. We will consult with parents about a slight change in the school day timings – to most likely start in September – soon.

Lots more going on here at St Joseph's in this final term of the school year as things all start to get more and more back to normal.

God bless

Mr Lobb