



St Mary's

NEWSLETTER

Ofsted Outstanding!

In our recent Ofsted Inspection, on the 12th and 13th September 2023, St Mary's was judged 'Outstanding' for overall effectiveness. We were also judged 'Outstanding' for all five sub-judgement areas: Quality of Education; Behaviour and Attitudes; Personal Development; Leadership and Management; and Sixth Form provision.

This is a tremendous achievement for everyone in our school community and is testament to our incredible students and our very dedicated teaching and support staff team. It was wonderful to see so much strong practice being recognised, in all areas of school life.

Most importantly, it was fantastic to see the inspection team clearly recognise the very warm and nurturing ethos in the school, with our Christian values at the heart of this ethos, and the ambition, care and support that we embed for every child, in a happy and safe school community.

A huge well done to our students and staff team for this superb achievement.

Biology Field Trip

Last week, Year 13 Biology students visited the Lake District where they carried out sampling for biodiversity in river and forest sites (photograph overleaf).

Well done to all students for representing the school so well.



Headteacher's Welcome

Dear Parents and Carers

We have had an excellent first half-term, with students demonstrating superb effort and hard work in lessons, as well as contributing wonderfully to the wider life of the school.

We have also enjoyed a really successful Ofsted Inspection and we are delighted that Parents and Carers have now been able to read the Ofsted Report. Thank you for your continued excellent support and another huge well done to our amazing students and staff team.

I wish you and your families a lovely and restful half-term break and we look forward to returning to school for the start of next half-term, on Monday 30th October.

Very best wishes,

Miss Patterson, Headteacher.

RAF training camp

Finnley Banforth Brown in Year 11 has been chosen to attend a 5 day MoD Camp at Queen Elizabeth Barracks in York as part of his RAF cadets training. This is an incredible achievement.

Finnley was promoted to Corporal in the cadets in the summer and had to pass a very rigorous process to get a place on this training camp. He plans to complete an Aerospace Engineering degree in the future and then join the RAF. Well done Finnley!



Engineering Society

Andrew Hunsley, Tomas Boothroyd and Joseph Hughes (all Year 13) have started an Engineering Society this year. The first session challenged students to build a bridge out of paper.

Northumbria University Campus Trip

This term, a number of our Year 13 students had the opportunity to visit the campus of Northumbria University in Newcastle city centre.

With UCAS applications in the process of being completed, the students had the chance to look around the different facilities around campus and get an insight into student life from the dedicated student recruitment team.





Christian Union

The Christian Union meets every Tuesday in G16. It is a place for anyone of any faith to come and play games, have fun, share ideas and develop their own relationship with God. Christian Union is led by Josh Sorensen (Year 12) and Joel Dyter (Year 13).

It is always a pleasure to hear how former St Mary's students are getting on after they leave us.

Over the past few weeks, lots of our students from Year 13 last year have been starting courses at different universities around the country.

This includes Mert Alacam and Laura Nicholson, who will be reading Law and English Language and Literature respectfully at the University of Oxford. You can see them here at their Matriculation.

We wish all of our former Year 13 students well, as they start their journey in life after St Mary's.

Good luck to all of our Year 13 students who left St Mary's in the summer





Year 7 Golf Festival

Several Year 7 students took part in the 'Golfways Skills Festival' in South Shields on Wednesday 27th September.

The students participated in a range of golf activities and games and were excellent ambassadors for the school.

They worked extremely hard and thoroughly enjoyed themselves too. Well done to Harry Berry, Amir Ibrahim, Suhaan Jabbar, George Kwok, Clement Brophy, Layla Moore, Jake Richardson, Anastasia Vunda, Tilly Wake and Rida Jane.

Upcoming dates and events ...

Wednesday 8th November: Year 7/12 Meet the Tutor Evening (in school)

Monday 11th December: Year 12/13 Parents' Evening (in school)

For Parents/Carers information, School holiday and term dates for 2024-2025 are on the next page (also on the school website)



St Mary's Catholic School

Term and Holiday dates for 2024-2025



SEPTEMBER 2024						
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NOVEMBER 2024						
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DECEMBER 2024						
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JANUARY 2025						
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JULY 2025						
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AUGUST 2025						
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Autumn Term	Spring Term	Summer Term	Bank Holiday	School Holiday	INSET Day
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