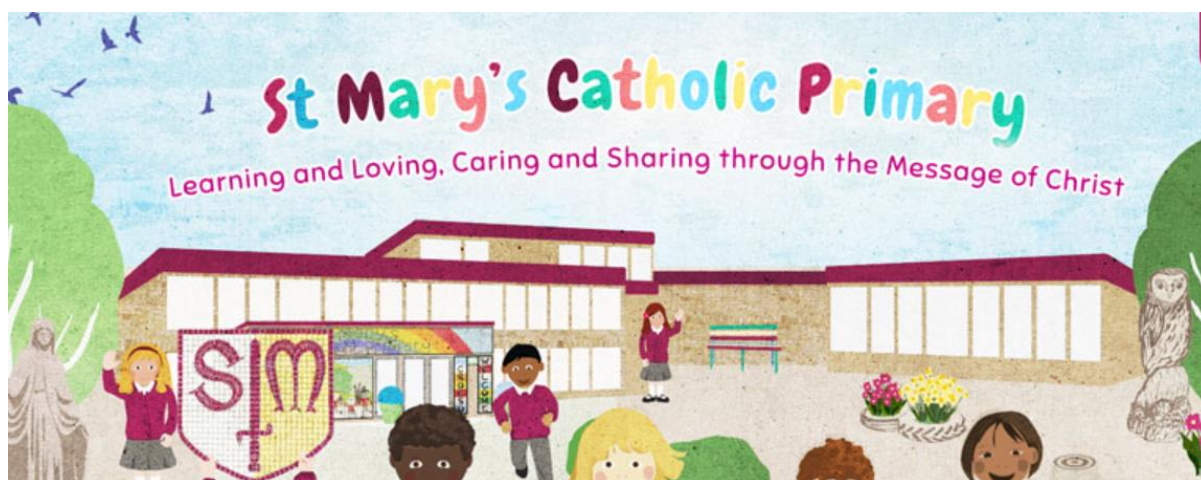


The Governors' Annual Report to Parents 2021-22



A message from your Chair

Dear Parents,

Throughout the last difficult 12 months, all of the staff have worked exceptionally hard to help and support all children and parents of our school during the Covid pandemic and most recently with the Cost of Living Crisis. They have supported CAFOD's work throughout the world, refugees from Ukraine and the Homeless of Wrexham with their Little Doves project.

They have also supported 3 families who have lost parents.

The Governors would like to pay tribute to the work of Mrs Acton and the whole school team.

Yours sincerely,
Liz Davies



Learning, Loving, Caring and Sharing through the Message of Christ

The Work of the Governing Body

The governors meet at least 3 times a year in school. More recently these meetings have been held via Microsoft Teams. This has meant a steep learning curve for some members. Meetings are held to support and challenge the work of the school. Governors work very closely with the headteacher to monitor the budget from Wrexham Council. They are responsible for what is taught in school alongside the headteacher. In a Catholic School, Foundation Governors are appointed by Bishop Peter.

There has still been some disruption due to Coronavirus this year due to staff and pupil absences. However, the school have continued to complete some pioneering work using different software platforms to allow for Blended Learning during the times of lockdown and periods of self-isolation.

The Governors have been guided through the implementation of the new Curriculum for Wales, which is statutory from September 2022 for primary schools. It has meant great strides in research for the staff to provide the children with a more personalised curriculum. As always, Mrs Acton and the Staff of St Mary's have accepted the challenge willingly.

The Premises committee have completed many discussions regarding the proposed relocation of St Mary's as part of the Welsh Government 21st Century schools building programme, while making sure that the present buildings are maintained to a good standard.

The Finance Committee meet regularly with Wrexham Council to ensure there is enough money in the school budget to employ sufficient staff for all our children.

The Staffing Committee has met to ensure that all vacancies are filled with correctly qualified staff.

The Governing Body and its Clerk

Name	Type	Term of Office	Mobile
Rachel Acton	Headteacher	N/A	
Liz Davies Chair	Foundation	Sept 20-August 24	07892 406 338 c/o St Mary's Catholic Primary School, Lea Road, Wrexham
Ben Sidney Vice-Chair	LA Governor	Sept. 19-August 23	
Justine Barlow	Foundation	Sept 20-August 24	
Esther Bennington	Foundation Safeguarding and ALN governor	Sept 19-August 23	
Claire Davies	Foundation	Sept 20-August 24	
Fr. Nicholas Enzama	Foundation	Sept 21-August 25	
David Subacchi	Foundation	Sept 20-August 24	
Donna Tait	Foundation	Sept 18-August 22	
James Yoxall	Foundation	Sept 20-August 24	
Vacancy	Foundation		
Rachel Penman	LA	June 20 -July 24	
Vacancy	Community		
Laura Robertson	Teacher		
Gill Davies	Staff	Jan22- Jan 26	
Rebecca Hughes	Parent	June 22-August 26	
Ian Watson	Parent	Set 20-August 24	
John Droog	Clerk to the Governors	c/o St Mary's R.C. School, Lea Road, Wrexham	
Wendy White	Diocesan R.E. Adviser	C/o Bishop's House	

There were recent Parent Governor elections and Mrs Rebecca Hughes was appointed unopposed. The next election will be in September 2024.

Our Staff Team is:

Teachers		TAs
Rachel Acton	Headteacher	
Kevin O'Toole	Assistant Head	Gill Davies
Natalie Jones	Assistant Head	Mary-Anna O'Connell
Emma Wilkinson		Bea Talkowska
Siobhan Davies		Shirley Williams
Laura Robertson		Angela Hack
Clare Hall		Tina-Louise Wright
Karyn Wright		Nichola Trawally
Rachel Roberts		Sarah Hough
Zoe Maddock		Michelle Williams
Ruth Edwards		Bethan Hayward
Rachel Worsnip		Maria James
Marion Sinclair		Kazia Darbyshire
Elin Astbury		Sue Keighley
Hannah Gillett		
Ruth Williams		Cleaners
Natalia Lupaczewska		Angela Hack, Michelle Weir
Cindy Myers		Caretaker
		Sion Staziger
Admin	MDSA	Kitchen Staff
Beccy Pugh	Paula Kelly	Cook- Claire
Katherine Davies		Andrea Jones

School Term Dates

Autumn Term	2021-22	2022-23
Term opens	Wednesday 1 st September	Thursday 1 st September
Half Term close	Friday 22 nd October	Friday 28 th October
Half term Open	Monday 1 st November	Monday 7 th November
Term Closes	Wednesday 22 nd December	Friday 23 rd December
	2022	2023
Spring Term		
Term opens	Thursday 6 th January	Monday 9 th January
Half Term close	Friday 18 th February	Friday 17 th February
Half term Open	Monday 28 th February	Monday 27 th February
Term Closes	Friday 8 th April	Friday 31 st March
Summer Term		
Term opens	Monday 25 th April 22	Monday 17 th April 23
May day	Monday 2 nd May	Monday 1 st May
Half Term close	Friday 27 th May	Friday 26 th May
Half term Open	Monday 6 th June	Tuesday 6 th June
Common Transfer Day	Thursday 30 th June	Thursday 29 th June
Term Closes	Wednesday 20 th July	Thursday 20 th July
Training Days	Wednesday 1 st September 2021	Thursday 1 st September 2022
	Friday 22 nd October 2021	Friday 28 th October 2022
	Wednesday 22 December 2021	Friday 23 rd December 2022
	Monday 25 th April 2022	Monday 9 th January 2023
	Monday 6 th June 2022	Monday 17 th April 2023
	Wednesday 20 th July 2022	Additional date tbc
Additional holidays for the Queen's Jubilee	Jubilee Holiday in lieu of Bank Holiday Friday 26 th November 2021	
	Thursday 2 nd June 2022	
	Friday 3 rd June 2022	
Additional holidays for the King's Coronation		Monday 8 th May 2023

Covid-19

Many changes to working practices within the school took place due to Covid. The Staff have embraced a whole new way of working and are exceptionally proficient in using the on-line portals for Home and Remote Learning.

During periods away from school, each class was set times twice a day to come together from home and see their friends and teachers on-line. They were given tasks to complete from home and were able to contact their teachers for support through the day. Parents were able to contact the staff through Seesaw and many expressed their appreciation to the staff.

Language

The main language of the school is English. The school community is made up of a very diverse group of nations, including Poland, the Philippines, Portugal, India, Nigeria, Lithuania as well as England and Wales.

Welsh Learners

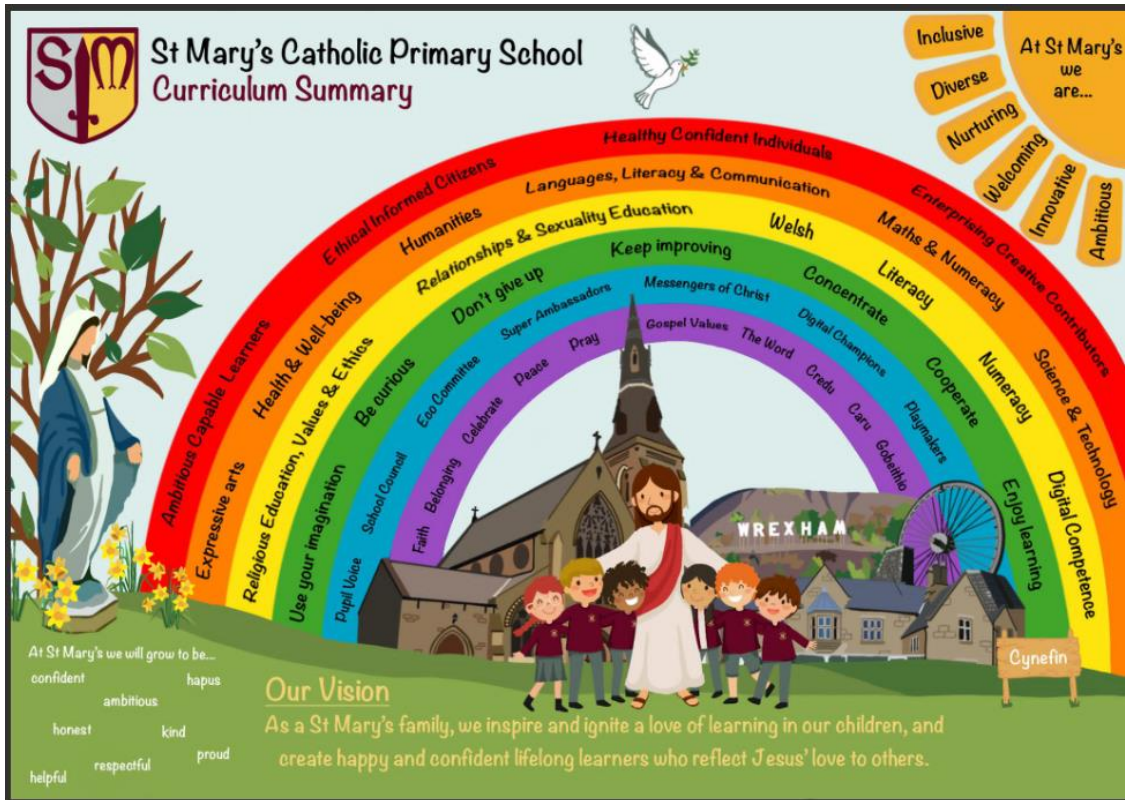
All children learn to speak Welsh throughout the school. Criw Cymraeg is a group of children supported by teachers who are helping to further encourage the development and use of Welsh across the school. All children in Key stage 2 usually have the opportunity to join the Urdd activities and competitions, however this has not been available this year due to the pandemic. There is a very active whole school Eisteddfod which is held in March each year and this year it was held in person once again. Children in Years 2-6 apply to become a member of the Criw Cymraeg and are interviewed by the Headteacher, Welsh Coordinators and a member of the governing body.

Their aim is to further improve the amount of Welsh used throughout our school, both within classes and around the school.

Each week, the Criw Cymraeg lead an assembly to introduce new Welsh language

They are currently supporting the whole school to achieve the Bronze Award in the Siarter Iaith Cymraeg Campus.

Each week the school newsletter includes a Welsh phrase of the week and language patterns to extend the use of Welsh at home.



Designing our Curriculum and School Vision

In line with the implementation of the new Curriculum for Wales from September 2022, the school staff have been working hard to develop and design their personalised, authentic and inclusive curriculum which has been approved at a recent governors' meeting and is published on the school's website.

The School Vision Statement was created following consultation with children, staff, parents and our parish community and reflects everything we want for our children during their time in St Mary's and beyond.

As a St. Mary's family, we inspire and ignite a love of learning in our children and create happy and confident lifelong learners who reflect Jesus' love to others.

Links with the Community

Due to the restrictions imposed by the pandemic, usual strong links with the community have been limited. Visits by the School Community Police Officer have continued on-line.

There have been a number of meetings between some Governors and our local County Councillors to strengthen our community links.

School Council

At the beginning of each new school year a new School Council committee is elected. Pupils from Year 1 to Year 6 have the opportunity to stand as School Council representatives for their respective year groups. Two pupils per year group are voted in during a 'Secret ballot' in a school 'polling office'.

School Council meetings take place once every half term. These meetings are attended and coordinated by the school School Council/ Pupil Voice Coordinators.

The School Council take an active role in planning and deciding how the school can be developed or enhanced. They make an annual action plan linked to the School Development Plan, and liaise with appropriate personnel including their peers, teachers and outside agencies, as appropriate and ongoing progress is provided by School Council representative at each Full Governors' Meeting.

The School Council committee organises fundraising events to raise money for their chosen charities each year and actively promote the school mission statement in their work. They are a very valued part of our school community.

The School Council sends its Senior members to meet the Governors at the start of their meetings. It has been very useful to hear reports reflecting the views of the children. Obviously this has not been possible this year due to Covid.

The Governors have missed this opportunity to reflect with the pupils and will resume this in September 2022.

Pupil Voice

The Pupil Voice is central to the development and implementation of the New Curriculum 2022 in St Mary's. Pupil Voice groups ensure that the pupil voice is heard clearly and responded to in St Mary's as the children take part in the School Council, The Messengers of Christ, the Eco Council as well as Criw Cymraeg, Super Ambassadors and Playmakers.

Children from each class are nominated to join these groups, which meet regularly throughout the year. They undertake work within both the school community and beyond.

The Messengers of Christ meet every Thursday lunchtime to discuss ways in which they can develop the Catholic life of the school. They also offer a weekly prayer group session which takes place on a Friday lunchtime. The prayer group session is open to all children and staff and is a wonderful voluntary opportunity for the school community to come together in prayer. Prayer sessions are planned and led by the Messengers of Christ and they offer a wide range of prayer opportunities both indoors and outdoors e.g. meditation, reflection, praying the Rosary, Stations of the Cross, traditional prayers.

Notable achievements this year being the opening of the Garden of Hope by Father Nicholas and the sending of clothes and goods to Ukraine.

Recently in order to improve the links with our Cathedral parish, the whole school were invited to take part in the parish Sunday Mass, where the Children took an active part. The children led the readings and Bidding Prayers and took up the Offertory gifts.

The Annual Leavers' Mass will be held in the Cathedral before the end of term and parents and families are invited to join.

The children leaving for high school will meet with their Diocesan peers for Mass in the cathedral as well. For the last two years this has been via Zoom and Teams.

Cool Kids' Club- Wrap around care

Cool Kids' Club continues to run on the school premises. Wrap around care sessions take place before, in the afternoon for nursery age children, after school and as a childcare facility during the school holidays.

Toilet Facilities

In each block of classrooms there are sufficient toilets for the children in that block. The toilets are cleaned every evening after school has finished. There is sufficient soap, water and toilet rolls for all children.

Hygiene measures have been further enhanced during and following the pandemic. Latest guidance on cleaning is followed i.e. more frequent cleaning of rooms, shared areas, frequently touched surfaces, maintaining separate toilets for different contact groups, where possible. Hand sanitiser is used before and after entering the toilets and toilets have been cleaned more regularly.

Prospectus

The prospectus is updated annually in line with guidance and it is hoped that for September 2022 we will have a new digital prospectus with thanks to the assistance of one of the governors. The prospectus is available in the school website.

Policies

All policies have been reviewed in line with the planned list either annually or in a four yearly cycle. All are available on the school's website.

Sports and Visits

During this year, many of the usual internal and inter-schools' sporting activities have not been possible due to Covid restrictions. Recently the children took part in the Annual Sports days held in Belle Vue Park; occasions greatly enjoyed by children and their families, always well supported, showing how much they have been missed.

Many school trips have resumed during the year with children having a range of experiences including Park Hall Farm, Wrexham Museum, and Liverpool World Museum. Year 6 leavers enjoyed a weekend residential trip to Cardiff at the end of the year.

Attendance

Due to the pandemic, attendance targets and data were not reported on in 2020-21.

Additional Learning Needs

St Mary's is a fully inclusive school where children 'thrive harmoniously together.' We recognise the uniqueness of every individual and the contribution that each individual brings to our school community – we are God's special children growing together in faith, love, knowledge and understanding.

We work together with children and their parents to ensure that regardless of

any difference or difficulty all children receive the best quality education.

Whole school 'Universal Provision', excellent teaching strategies, classroom organisation and differentiation are in place to deliver a broad and balanced curriculum.

Many children will make significant progress with this provision in place.

Occasionally, it may be necessary for children to receive additional support to make sufficient progress in their learning. Children may receive additional support in a range of areas under the term 'Universal Targeted Provision'.

"Small steps targets" will be agreed by all involved in the child's learning and regular monitoring of these targets will be conducted in a child centred way.

The school staff work very closely with a variety of outside agencies such as the Speech and Language Service, Inclusion Service, Educational Psychologist Department, CAMHS and others to support and seek guidance where required. If a child does not appear to be making progress, then Additional Learning Provision (ALP) may be required. These children will require an Individual Development Plan (IDP). The IDP will be created through collaboration with all involved in the child's learning and will detail what has been identified for the child's needs to progress.

A description of their needs, how they can best be supported and what is important to and for them will be detailed. It will describe how St Mary's will aim to support the child's Additional Learning Needs (ALN).

Charities

Many charities have been supported by the pupils last year including Cafod, Children in Need, Poppy day appeal and Nightingale House Hospice.

Budget/ Finance

Summary Financial Expenditure Statement

B	C	D	E
MDP436 - ST MARYS V.A. WREXHAM			
<u>SUMMARY FINANCIAL EXPENDITURE STATEMENT 2021/2022</u>			
Financial Year 1st April 2021 - 31st March 2022.			
BUDGET HEADING	EXPENDITURE/ (INCOME) ACTUAL	EXPENDITURE/ (INCOME) PLANNED BUDGET	BALANCE
STAFFING	1,381,860	1,310,060	-71,800
PREMISES	90,984	90,006	-978
TRANSPORT	0	150	150
SUPPLIES & SERVICES	48,336	48,766	430
EDUCATION SUPPORT SERVICES	102,066	102,129	63
CONTINGENCY FUND	0	63,079	63,079
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	1,623,246	1,614,190	-9,056
OTHER INCOME	-383,424	-174,480	208,944
Opening Balance 1st April 2021	-181,588	-181,588	0
TOTAL NET EXPENDITURE	1,058,235	1,258,122	199,887

School Fund

For the period 1st April 2021 to 31st March 2022

<u>RECEIPTS</u>	£	<u>PAYMENTS</u>	£
<u>Balance b/fwd</u>		<u>Expenditure</u>	
Bank (Current A/c)	14115.93	Bank	8492.29
Bank (Deposit A/c)		Cash	_____
Cash	_____		
<u>Income</u>		<u>Balance c/fwd</u>	
Bank	11627.95	Bank (Current A/c)	17251.59
Cash		Bank (Deposit A/c)	
	_____	Cash	_____
	<u>25743.88</u>		<u>25743.88</u>

