



# St Mary's RC Primary School

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School Newsletter January 2025

*'Forward Together In Christ; we can, we will , together*

*#Growth #Resilience #Community*

**Mission Statement:** At St Mary's we are dedicated to educating our young people in an inclusive, stimulating and challenging environment preparing them for life-long learning.

**Ethos & Values:** We will provide this in a secure, happy and welcoming environment where Christian and Catholic values are cherished and where staff, pupils and parents work in partnership to achieve common goals.

INTEGRITY

COURAGE

HUMILITY

COMPASSION

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**We celebrated all things Scottish this week as well as Chinese New year too—what a busy week! We heard the Skye boat song on the recorder, a rendition of Auld Lang Syne and the 'The World must be coming to an End' and we also had presentations about famous Scots and places —well done to all!**



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DIGITAL SCHOOLS  
AWARDS SCOTLAND



**P4s Interdisciplinary learning has a food technology focus bringing in maths too! To make their cranachan they had to accurately measure ingredients. They learned how to whisk cream to make it thick and also how to safely slice ingredients. It looked delicious!**



**P6s prepared a Burns Supper and made shortbread too! The Mini Vinnies group took some of the shortbread to the sisters in the convent along the road. They were delighted!**



**RIGHTS  
RESPECTING  
SCHOOL**



**Well done to Olivia, Giorgia, Erine, Anna, Evan, Alfie, Amelie, Shirley, Platon and Lonja our Equalities Reps who presented an assembly this month on the theme, 'Embrace Our Differences'. They asked the pupils to consider what if we were all the same, what would life be like as well as discussing what discrimination may look like in a school setting. They also reflected on what a wonderful diverse school community we have where we can learn all about different cultures and backgrounds and hear so many different languages.**



## Wider Achievement



**January: Stars of the Month:** for, 'going over and above', showing that extra effort with others or in class, or for doing things without having to be asked, well done to :

P1:Gemma	P2: Albie	P2/3: Gemma
P3: Florence	P4a: Anton	P4b: Alex
P5a: Honey	P5b: Zuzia	P6: Amelie
P6/7: Anna/Kamilya	P7: Luca M	



**January: Star Writers:**

P1:Dhruv	P2: Aleeza	P2/3:Kacper
P3:Antonio B	P4a: Emmeline	P4b: Annabelle
P5a:Gabriel	P5b: Effy	P6: Michas & Michal
P6/7:Niko	P7:Elena	

The winning house for January was St Ann's who will enjoy an extra break this week. Well done St Ann's!

**January: Star Mathematicians**

P1:Kenny	P2: Eva D	P2/3: Islay
P3: Dario	P4a: Hugo	P4b: Marcel
P5a: Johan	P5b: Malcolm	P6: Nikola
P6/7: Denis	P7: Elise	

### SHOUT OUTS!

Well done to:

- Eliza and Esme for taking part in a cubs sleepover
- Iris for donating some of her hair to charity
- Oliver for coming 3rd in a Minecraft competition with over 2000 other young people
- Attalia for presenting at the PFC meeting

**Well done to Alfie and Anna in P6 who were finalists in the Green Pencil Award Writing competition winning a £10 book token—a great achievement!**



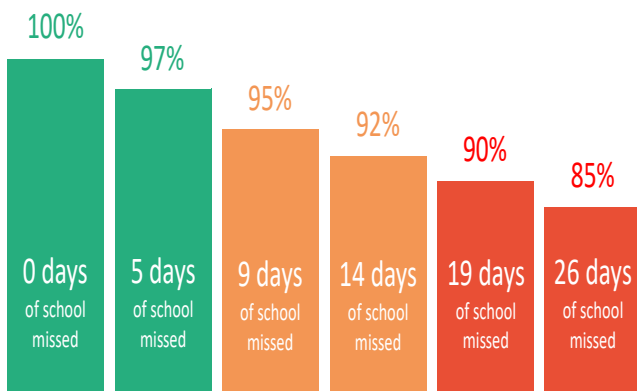
# School Attendance

## 'Every Day Counts'

## 'Every Minute Counts'

As you may know it is a national and local priority to improve attendance. Attendance at school is a key factor in children and young people's attainment, wellbeing and future life opportunities and every day counts and every minute counts. The more time children spend in school, the better they are likely to do in terms of learning and overall achievement: *UNCRC Article 28: the right to an education and Article 29: the right to let your talents shine.*

Ideally all pupils will have attendance of 95% or above. The graphics below illustrate the impact of missed days and missed minutes. Today you will receive a print out of your child's attendance % at the end of Term 1. You will also receive a print out at the end of Term 2 and then the end of year print out as per usual in June. Staff in school may be in touch to discuss your child's attendance if it falls below 90% and particularly if it falls below 85%. This is also when the Education Wellbeing Service may become involved. Parents and Carers will also now receive a text message when their child is late. All pupils should be in their class as soon after the door is opened at 0845. They are marked late if they are not in class by 0855 and they will already have missed instructions for the start of the day's task and any information about the day. Some of our classes begin P.E. at the very start of the day too. Some pupils may benefit from a slightly later, 'soft start' and this is arranged in discussion with school. It is really important that you let us know if your child is going to be absent as we need to know they are safe. Please do come and speak to us if you need any help or support.



## 'Every Day Counts'

## Every Minute Counts



Many thanks as always—N. Kehoe

