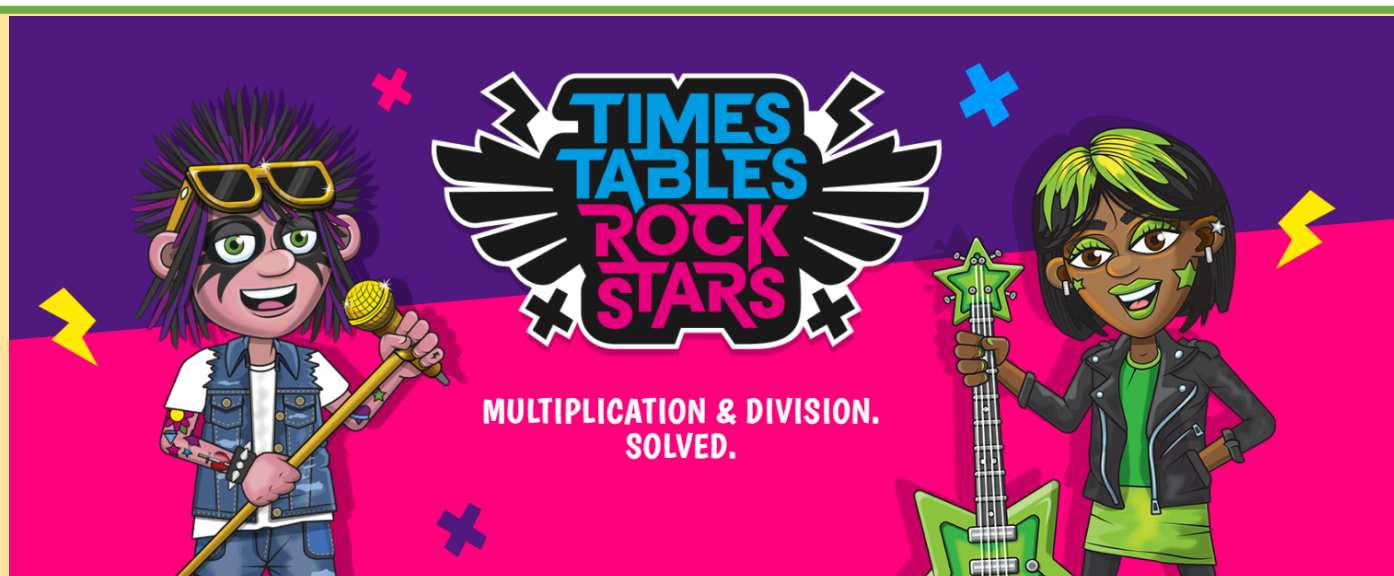




# 6th February 2024

## Ending the half term with lifelong memories!



Our children are truly amazing - children in Steps 2 and 3 took part in the TTRS NSPCC ROCKS UK Competition on Friday 2nd February. We have found that practising our 'Learn Its' through TTRS has really helped our children's very quick recall of essential maths facts. This then helps them to grapple with the maths processes needed.

**Wales results** - 119 schools took part, there were 613 classes with 7813 children. The children were absolutely incredible and, once again, we were the top school in Cardiff! In fact, **as a whole school we came 4th in Wales. Mrs Irwin's maths class coming 3rd in Wales.**

Two of our Year 5 boys did exceptionally well, **Muhammed Mahad came in at number 30 and Daniel Asmelash at number 37 in Wales!**

**UK results** - 3793 schools took part, there were 22,268 classes with 277,522 children. **As a school we came 50th in the UK. Mrs Irwin's class came in at a very respectable 45.**

Check out our [X \(Twitter\) feed](#) to see lovely photos and videos of our children who are certainly out and about - exploring Wales by train no less. 36 of our children are currently in [Longtown](#) - and 32 children visited Barry Island only yesterday.

Mrs Meakins and Mr Thomas led a great internet safety workshop for parents and children at the end of the day last week. All of the resources from all workshops can be found on the [school website](#). There are some useful parent guides and aids with some helpful hints and tips about '[internet safety](#)' and gnarly issues such as '**How much screen time is appropriate for my child?**'

I couldn't be prouder of the children and staff in St Monica's. The learning that goes on inside and outside of our building is staggering and it's so lovely to see everyone SHINE as they take on new responsibilities and new opportunities for learning.

Thank you for your support. Abi Cuthbert (Head Teacher)

## Upcoming events

### Prayer Spaces Day

We wish to celebrate the coming down of the scaffolding, and the unveiling of our wonderful building and our overwhelming feelings of grateful abundance, by holding a **Prayer Spaces Day on Friday 23rd February**. If you would like to help on that day, either with the set up beforehand on the Thursday evening (making lovely cosy spaces for reflection across the school) or by helping out on the day (by supporting an activity) or by participating (joining in with some of the activities), please let either Helping Hands or the school office know. We will be having a whole school picnic that day too - the school kitchen will be serving packed lunches on Friday 23rd, bookable on Parent Pay, or children can bring their own from home.

### Messy Easter

CRAFT  
SONG

All  
welcome!

STORY  
FOOD

**Good Friday 29 March**  
**10.30am - 12.30pm**



**ST MICHAEL AND ALL  
ANGELS  
WHITCHURCH ROAD,  
CARDIFF**



**OUR NEXT INSET DAY IS MONDAY 19TH FEBRUARY  
THIS MEANS THERE IS NO SCHOOL FOR CHILDREN ON THIS DAY**

All staff will be taking part in training linked to the Curriculum for Wales, Additional Learning Needs and Safeguarding (Child Protection)

**The last INSET day after this we have is on 22nd July 2024, therefore, children will break up for the Summer break on Friday 19th July.**

**Our recycling competition!**

There is a new law coming into force across Wales regarding the disposal of waste. To help us prepare, and stop any more fines from Cardiff Waste Management, we have a competition in school to help us all learn which bin we should use for which waste. There are 4 bins to choose from, food waste, general waste, metal & plastic and paper & card... Mrs Cuthbert will buy Easter Eggs for the winning team by the end of the Spring term. Here are the results so far.. **well done to the School Office. The staffroom has improved too!**

	19/1/24	26/1/24	2/2/24	9/2/24	23/2/24
School Office	<b>10</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>10</b>		
Staffroom	9.25	<b>10</b>	<b>9.9</b>		
Step 1	9.5	9.85	9.85		
Step 2	9.4	<b>10</b>	9.85		
Step 3	<b>9.7</b>	<b>10</b>	9.85		

**Next in the newsletter - our usual information**

Links to Step webpages                      Contact details for staff  
 Dates for the diary - **if it is highlighted yellow - family can attend too**  
 Parent Pay links                                  Donation button

**Links to the School Website**

For up to date information about:

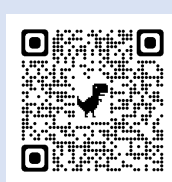
**what your child is learning in school, PE days & home learning tasks**

**Step 1 Web Pages**



Reception / Year 1

**Step 2 Web Pages**



Year 2 / Year 3

**Step 3 Web Pages**



Year 4 / Year 5 / Year 6

**Contact details for staff**

**We MUCH prefer a face-to-face chat rather than an email, however, we know that for some parents, getting hold of us at the right time can be tricky.**

For questions about Parent Pay or music lessons contact Mrs Fedorova:

[Jozefina.fedorova@cardiff.gov.uk](mailto:Jozefina.fedorova@cardiff.gov.uk)



To make an appointment to speak directly with (or see) the Head Teacher contact Miss Williams:  
[Debra.williams@cardiff.gov.uk](mailto:Debra.williams@cardiff.gov.uk)

To email the Head Teacher: [Mrs Cuthbert](mailto:Mrs.Cuthbert)

To email the Deputy Head Teacher: [mrsmeakins@stmonicasschool.co.uk](mailto:mrsmeakins@stmonicasschool.co.uk)

To email the Additional Needs Co-ordinator: [mrsogorman@stmonicasschool.co.uk](mailto:mrsogorman@stmonicasschool.co.uk)

To email any teacher:

Step 1 Mrs Vaughan: [mrsvaughan@stmonicasschool.co.uk](mailto:mrsvaughan@stmonicasschool.co.uk)

Step 2 Mr Wycherley: [mrwycherley@stmonicasschool.co.uk](mailto:mrwycherley@stmonicasschool.co.uk)  
 Miss Hampson: [misshampson@stmonicasschool.co.uk](mailto:misshampson@stmonicasschool.co.uk)

Step 3 Mr Thomas: [mrthomas@stmonicasschool.co.uk](mailto:mrthomas@stmonicasschool.co.uk)  
 Mrs Irwin: [mrsirwin@stmonicasschool.co.uk](mailto:mrsirwin@stmonicasschool.co.uk)

We try to answer all emails within 24 hours, if your query is really urgent please phone the school 029 2023 3925. **To help preserve the family life of teachers, I have asked them not to respond to any emails outside of the normal working day or at weekends.** Most parents find asking the parent WhatsApp group for their child's year group really helpful too.

## Dates for your diary

I am not able to authorise any absence for term time holiday or any extended time away from school. Please do not be tempted to take your child out of school during term time.

<https://www.cardiff.gov.uk/ENG/resident/Schools-and-learning/Schools/School-term-dates/Pages/default.aspx>

		Wednesday 7 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Thursday 8 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> Feb
		CAW – Rev Caroline LONGTOWN RESIDENTIAL TRIP MON-WED (Y4/5/6) MON – FRI (Y5/6)		9am Deadline for Admissions consultation Step 3 - PANTO trip 2.30pm Praise and Celebration - all welcome
<b>HALF TERM BREAK – NO SCHOOL FOR 1 WEEK</b> Half Term Home Learning Task linked to St David's Day Competitions				
Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Tuesday 20 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Wednesday 21 <sup>st</sup> Feb	Thursday 22 <sup>nd</sup> Feb	Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> Feb
<b>INSET DAY - no school for children</b>	CAW - Becky Harris Toothbrushing - Step 1 & Y1 & Y2	CAW – Rev Caroline Step 3 - Fire Service	Prayer Spaces set up from 3.20pm	Prayer Spaces Day - all welcome
Monday 26 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Tuesday 27 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Wednesday 28 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Thursday 29 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> March
<b>Parent Consultations</b>		CAW – Rev Caroline	2pm Step 3 Parish Eucharist 4pm Full Governing Body meeting	<b>St David's Day Celebrations - everyone wear RED</b> Hoffi Coffi - pop up cafe after school
Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> March	Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> March	Wednesday 6 <sup>th</sup> March	Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> March	Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> March
		CAW – Rev Caroline		2.30pm Praise and Celebration - all welcome
Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> March	Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> March	Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> Mar	Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> March	Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> March
	9.30 Y3 Bumbles of Honeywood	CAW – Rev Caroline	10am Step 3 - Vue Cinema	2.30pm Praise and Celebration - all welcome
Monday 18 <sup>th</sup> March	Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> March	Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> Mar	Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> March	Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> March

	am Y3 - All Nations Church - PBuzz	CAW – Rev Caroline evening Y3 - Cathays High Spring Concert - PBuzz	4pm Finance, Premises & H+S GB meeting	2.30pm Praise and Celebration - all welcome
<b>EASTER BREAK – NO SCHOOL FOR 2 WEEKS</b>				
<b>MESSY EASTER FRIDAY 29TH MARCH - 10.30 AT ST MICHAEL'S CHURCH, FOOD PROVIDED</b>				
<b>Children return on Monday 8th April</b>				
<b>Monday 8<sup>th</sup> April</b>	<b>Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> April</b>	<b>Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> April</b>	<b>Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> April</b>	<b>Friday 12<sup>th</sup> April</b>
		CAW – Rev Caroline		9am Helping Hands at The Table  2.30pm Praise and Celebration - all welcome
<b>Monday 15<sup>th</sup> April</b>	<b>Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> April</b>	<b>Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> April</b>	<b>Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> April</b>	<b>Friday 19<sup>th</sup> April</b>
		CAW – Rev Caroline 3.20pm Step curriculum talks	4pm Finance, Premises & H+S GB meeting	2.30pm Praise and Celebration - all welcome
<b>Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> April</b>	<b>Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> April</b>	<b>Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> April</b>	<b>Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> April</b>	<b>Friday 26<sup>th</sup> April</b>
		CAW – Rev Caroline		2.30pm Praise and Celebration - all welcome
<b>Monday 29<sup>th</sup> April</b>	<b>Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> April</b>	<b>Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> May</b>	<b>Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> May</b>	<b>Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> May</b>
		CAW – Rev Caroline 3.20pm Emotional Health & Wellbeing talk for parents	4pm Full GB meeting	2.30pm Praise and Celebration - all welcome
<b>Monday 6<sup>th</sup> May</b> <b>BANK HOLIDAY</b> <b>NO SCHOOL</b>	<b>Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> May</b>	<b>Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> May</b>	<b>Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> May</b>	<b>Friday 10<sup>th</sup> May</b>
		CAW – Rev Caroline		9am Helping Hands at The Table 2.30pm Praise and Celebration - all welcome
<b>Monday 13<sup>th</sup> May</b>	<b>Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> May</b>	<b>Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> May</b>	<b>Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> May</b>	<b>Friday 17<sup>th</sup> May</b>
		CAW – Rev Caroline		2.30pm Praise and Celebration - all welcome
<b>Monday 20<sup>th</sup> May</b>	<b>Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> May</b>	<b>Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> May</b>	<b>Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> May</b>	<b>Friday 24<sup>th</sup> May</b>
	evening - Talent Show at The Table	CAW – Rev Caroline evening - Talent Show at The Table		2.30pm Praise and Celebration - all welcome
<b>HALF TERM BREAK – NO SCHOOL FOR 1 WEEK</b>				

## Booking Lunches

Please could parents **book lunch for their child the day before they need it** – it takes up a huge amount of time each day for teachers to ask each child what they would like.

Parents are able to book lunches and make menu choices a week in advance.

**Please do this using Parent Pay.** <https://app.parentpay.com/public/client/security/v2/#/login>



**Booking your child's meal is essential!**

## How to donate to St Monica's

There are many ways you could help in school, the first step is to either:

- come to the monthly Helping Hands meetings at The Table, or
- join the Helping Hands WhatsApp group, or

- join the online Parent Space meetings held at 9pm once per month

We welcome any donations, whether they be:

- **donations of time** (become a regular walker for trips to the park, listen to children read, help with fundraising events)
- **donations of resources** (Step webpages will have resource lists of things they may need to help with a particular learning context or with things needed for Christmas plays)
- **donations of money** (to help support trips or special events in school)

If you would like to donate money – you can do this in several ways, either in an envelope into the school office, via our donate button on Parent Pay or by doing a sponsored event – just like Miss Meyer...

### **Donations Greatly Received!!!**



Our donation button is active on Parent Pay – thank you to those people who have found it. Our new target is to ensure that every child can access educational trips. You can get to the link by clicking on the picture below, or by visiting the school website...