



1st March 2024

Happy St David's Day!



A round up of the first two weeks of term

Our X Feed (Twitter) has photos & videos of many of these events

Our term started last Monday with an INSET day - INSET days are training days for staff. We looked in detail at our curriculum offering for the rest of this academic year, as well as planning ahead for major calendar events for next academic year and how we think we might start to prepare the children for the school relocation. The day was helped considerably by a **wonderful pizza lunch**, bought for us by some parents - thank you so much!

We only have 1 more INSET day to take, this will be on 22nd July 2024, therefore, children will break up for the Summer break on Friday 19th July.

So far this term our children have:

- been to **Cardiff Castle - Steps 1, 2 & 3**, to support their artwork in readiness for St David's Day today,
- Chatted with a teacher from Radyr Primary all about their **Big Maths and TT Rock Stars** successes - this has meant that there are now children in Radyr Primary School that have joined TTRS too - some more children with whom we can 'battle' online,
- **South Wales Fire Service** came in to speak with children Step 3 about fire safety,
- Year 6 have had some wonderful **dance and music workshops at Cathays Community Centre**, with many children choosing to go to the **Youth Club on a Thursday evening** too. We plan to grow these links with the Community Centre, the activities they offer our children give them access to resources we can only dream of!
- The whole school had the most amazing **Prayer Spaces Day**, supported by parents, governors and members of the congregation from St Michael's and All Angels Church, showing their thankfulness for the newly felt sense of abundance we feel in our de-cloaked building (now the scaffolding has finally come down),
- All **children had 1:1 appointments with their class teachers** to discuss ways in which they SHINE in school, this was then shared with parents during the very well attended **parent consultations** on Monday,

Attendance by parents during parent consultations this week

1V = 75%, 2W attendance = 75%, 2H = 75%, 3T = 81%, 3I = 76%

- celebrated **St David's Day** by doing craft activities, making bunting for the Hoffi Coffi Cafe, made Welsh cakes and done some Welsh country dancing.

Thank you for helping your child at home with their Welsh homework activities, I have seen some super examples being brought into school over the last few days. They will all be displayed in the school hall at the end of the day today, for people to enjoy in the **Hoffi Coffi Cafe**.

The Longtown trip videos can be accessed here:

[Monday](#) [Tuesday](#) [Wednesday](#) [Thursday](#) [Friday](#)

Short Town trip photos can be accessed here:

[☐ Barry Island Trip 06.02.24](#)

Please do not share any of these images on social media. Thank you

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

Hoffi Coffi Cafe

Year 6 will open the doors of the **Hoffi Coffi Cafe** at **3.15pm today.**

Menu

Welsh cakes **50p**
Tea / Coffee / Hot Chocolate **50p**

Year 6 are raising money to go towards their Y6 Leavers Treat in the Summer Term.



Fruit - Good News **TESCO**

We are delighted to say that we were successful with our Tesco bid - Fresh Fruit for All, in fact, we came 1st!!! Thank you to everyone who picked up blue tokens, it has made a huge difference. The money will be used to subsidise the fruit we buy for the children each day. We will still be asking for a donation of £1 per week, in order that the winnings can last as long as possible, hopefully into next academic year.

Crossing Patrol



I was saddened to hear that Dawn, our Crossing Patrol, was not able to work at the moment due to ill health. Please keep her in your thoughts, also remind your children to think on the advice and guidance she gives when crossing one of the most congested junctions in Cardiff! I am unsure when she will return or whether there will be someone to replace her in the interim period.

Messy Easter

CRAFT
SONG

All
welcome!

STORY
FOOD

Good Friday 29 March
10.30am - 12.30pm



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



High School Applications

Our Year 6's find out today which High Schools they have been offered...

My advice to parents is to accept the school you have been offered, if you were hoping for a different school then appeal the decision, your child's application will then be looked at again by the LA or Admissions Committee (if appealing for a church school place). Your appeal won't be impacted detrimentally by accepting another place first.

At the moment - this is where I think our Year 6's will be going...

St Teilo's CW High School (x5)

Cathays High School (x5)

Bishop of Llandaff CW High School (x4)

The Cathedral School (x1)

Howells GDST School (x1)

Mary Immaculate RC High School (x1)

Cantonian High School (x1)

Cardiff High School (x1)

Whitchurch High School (x1)

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	16/2/24
School Office	10	10	10	9.86	10
Staffroom	9.25	10	9.9	9.85	9.85
Step 1	9.5	9.85	9.85	9.7	9.9
Step 2	9.4	10	9.85	9.85	9.75
Step 3	9.7	10	9.85	9.85	10

	23/2/24	1/3/24	8/3/24	15/3/24	22/3/24
School Office	10				
Staffroom	9.85				
Step 1	9.9				
Step 2	9.75				
Step 3	10				

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:

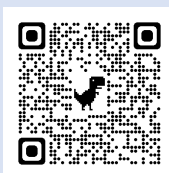
what your child is learning in school, PE days & home learning tasks

Step 1 Web Pages



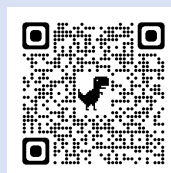
Reception / Year 1

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

To make an appointment to speak directly with (or see) the Head Teacher contact Miss Williams:

Debra.williams@cardiff.gov.uk

To email the Head Teacher: Mrs Cuthbert

To email the Deputy Head Teacher: mrsmeakins@stmonicasschool.co.uk

To email the Additional Needs Co-ordinator: mrsogorman@stmonicasschool.co.uk

To email any teacher:

Step 1 Mrs Vaughan: mrsvaughan@stmonicasschool.co.uk

Step 2 Mr Wycherley: mrwycherley@stmonicasschool.co.uk

Miss Hampson: misshampson@stmonicasschool.co.uk

Step 3 Mr Thomas: mrthomas@stmonicasschool.co.uk

Mrs Irwin: 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>

Monday 4th March	Tuesday 5th March	Wednesday 6th March	Thursday 7th March	Friday 8th March
		CAW – Rev Caroline PCSO visit to Y6	9.10 Admissions Panel	2.30pm Praise and Celebration - all welcome
Monday 11th March	Tuesday 12th March	Wednesday 13th Mar	Thursday 14th March	Friday 15th March
Step 3 to Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama for workshops	9.30 Y3 Bumbles of Honeywood CAW - Jo Deeley - Highfields	CAW – Rev Caroline	10am Step 3 - Vue Cinema	2.30pm Praise and Celebration - all welcome
Monday 18th March	Tuesday 19th March	Wednesday 20th Mar	Thursday 21st March	Friday 22nd March
	am Y3 - All Nations Church - PBuzz	CAW – Rev Caroline 6pm Y3 - Cathays High Spring Concert -	4pm Finance, Premises & H+S GB meeting	2.30pm Praise and Celebration - all welcome

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

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...