



10th April 2024 Eid Mubarak

The **Appointments Button** is live - to make an appointment to see me, you can now book online. Thank you for your support. Abi Cuthbert, Head Teacher

New Clubs and Activities After School

	In school	Other providers - children NOT supervised by St Monica's staff
Monday	<p>Summer Sports Club with Mr Spencer 3.15 - 4.20pm Years 1, 2 & 3 only Booking form https://forms.gle/MzwVAJdJx8v7r81q6</p>	<p>Children's Art Club Cathays Library 3pm-5pm it is a drop in so anyone can join in at any time in those 2 hours. The group is also disability and SEN friendly - they have a disability pride arts exhibition running at Central Library in July and are hoping to feature some of this group's artwork if anyone would like theirs displayed.</p>
Tuesday	<p>Summer Film Club with Mrs Cuthbert 3.15 - 4.20pm Years 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 & 6 only Booking form https://forms.gle/8GCBvtjWSrtbwXaF8</p>	
Wednesday	<p>Summer Book Club with Mrs Meakins 3.15 - 4.20pm Years 3, 4, 5 & 6 only Booking form https://forms.gle/foTYtGvfsvekjUmB7</p>	
Thursday		<p>Y6 Youth Club Cathays Community Centre - see Mrs Meakins for details</p>

MMR Vaccinations

We are supporting Public Health Wales by opening up as a vaccination centre for all children (and staff) in St Monica's who are not currently vaccinated against Measles, Mumps or Rubella. This is **TOMORROW THURSDAY 11th April 3-5.30pm.**

It is very important that your child is vaccinated, measles in particular is a very dangerous and contagious illness. It is particularly dangerous for children. Anyone unvaccinated who comes into contact with **an infected person has to isolate for 30 days** - this is much longer than we previously had to do for COVID-19. The risk of measles is higher for pupils in our school as so many children are either unvaccinated or have not had any overseas vaccinations recorded with their GP. This means that any 'herd immunity' that might have been present a few years ago, is no longer sufficient to protect them.

Children have already been so severely affected by isolation and control measures from the pandemic, it would be awful to return to a similar, if not worse, situation.

If you are **unsure** about your child's vaccination status, please **contact your GP** surgery. If you know your child has had only 1 vaccination, or not had any MMR vaccinations then they can receive the vaccination in school on Thursday 11th April. I have been told that it isn't a problem if someone ends up having 3 vaccinations.

Your child will **not be vaccinated unless full parental permission** has been given, the session is for after school so parents can also be present. We will be directly phoning all families of children identified as not having had the vaccination so they are able to make a fully informed decision about taking up the offer of vaccination.

If you have not had a phone call but know your child has not had their MMR vaccinations, or has had them in another country and you are not sure if they are of the right variety, please contact us in school.

If you would like your child to receive the vaccination, please click the link to the electronic consent form for you to complete and submit. <https://forms.office.com/e/cB1aBysuPM>

For further information please see <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/measles> and <https://phw.nhs.wales/topics/immunisation-and-vaccines/vaccination-information1/mmr/>

St Monica's University - SMU

After a considerable planning period, we are now ready to start our St Monica's University each Friday afternoon as a 4 week pilot project! The SMU will have a core focus on wider maths skills (from Big Maths) where the gaps each child currently has in their knowledge and understanding will be taught. Children will be in small mixed age groups and taught by teachers in very focused sessions. This week children are selecting from a menu of electives, which all have either a Health & Wellbeing or Expressive Arts focus. These will be taught by Teaching Assistants and/or (carefully selected, DBS checked) volunteers, again in mixed age groups.

SMU CORE	ELECTIVES
Shape explore & draw / 2D shapes / 3D shapes / position & direction	Singing with Mrs Bartlett Sewing with Miss Downs
Amounts of things distance / mass / money / space / temperature / time / turn	Art & Nature with Mrs Meakins PBuzz with Mrs Azad
Fractions of a whole / a set / counting / learn its / it's nothing new / calculation / percentages / ratio	Yoga & Mindfulness with Miss Driscoll 5 a-side Football with Miss Phillips
Explaining Data diagrams & tables / bar charts / averages / line graphs / pie charts / probability	Cooking with Mrs Roberts Dungeons & Dragons with Mr Rogan
Dangerous Maths pattern spotting / algebra / prove it!	Dog Mentoring with Mr Cuthbert, Bella & Buddy

I look forward to seeing how this pilot progresses and the (hopefully) positive impact it has on children's wider maths skills and their enjoyment and engagement with their learning.

If you would like to support the SMU in June, and can commit to all 4 Friday afternoons, and have ideas of an elective that you think children would enjoy, please do get in touch. It can take a little time for a DBS check to come back, so now would be the best time to apply for one - it doesn't cost us any money but is essential if you would like to help/volunteer in the school. The DBS is the Disclosure and Barring Service check, sometimes known as a Police check. This ensures that anyone coming into the school has had checks made into their background which gives us some reassurance that only the safest people come into contact with our children.

Year 6 Celebration

On **Friday 19th April, at 2.40pm** there will be a celebration/presentation for all children in **Year 6**, related to their successes in the Flourish Project with Mrs Meakins and Kate from The Table. <https://protonfoundation.com/flourish-project/> You will hear from Mrs Meakins and Kate about how the children have developed their confidence as they further develop a growth mindset and have learned about creating helpful thinking patterns. Our Year 6's have started to understand their potential, how they can realise future aspirations and set goals for the future. This celebration is always a joyous event and I hope as many Year 6 parents as possible are able to come.

Changes to the School Diary

There are some slight changes to dates/times in the school diary:

- **Praise and Celebration** will now be at 2.40pm each Friday - this allows for slightly longer session times in our new St Monica's University.
- **Talent Show** has been moved to TUESDAY 14th and WEDNESDAY 15th MAY

Universal Free School Meals

All children in Reception, Year 1, 2, 3 and 4 are now entitled to Universal Free School Meals. You must book meals using Parent Pay. Universal Free School Meals has now started for all children in Year 5. **Year 6 will be included from Monday 3rd June.** There has been a 10p price increase in school meals which will only affect Y6 pupils (and those in High School).

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:

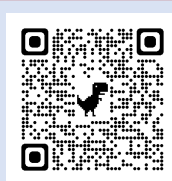
what your child is learning in school, PE days & home learning tasks

Step 1 Web Pages



Reception / Year 1

Step 2 Web Pages



Years 1, 2 & 3

Step 3 Web Pages



Years 4, 5 & 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](mailto: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>

			Thursday 11 th April	Friday 12 th April
			3pm - 5.30pm MMR Vaccination Clinic in school	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
	Primary (Reception) admissions offer day	CAW – Rev Caroline 3.20pm Step curriculum talks	4pm Full GB meeting	SMU - 1 2.40pm Praise and Celebration - all welcome Y6 Flourish Celebration
Monday 22 nd April	Tuesday 23 rd April	Wednesday 24 th April	Thursday 25 th April	Friday 26 th April
	CAW - Mr Akrill	CAW – Rev Caroline		SMU - 2 2.40pm 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	SMU - 3 2.40pm 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		SMU - 4 9am Helping Hands at The Table

				2.40pm 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
	NEW DATE: evening - Talent Show at The Table	CAW – Rev Caroline NEW DATE: evening - Talent Show at The Table		SMU - evaluation 2.40pm 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
		CAW – Rev Caroline		2.40pm 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...



www.stmonicasschool.co.uk