St Mary's School, Kells

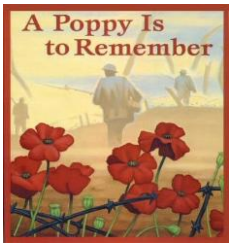
# NOVEMBER

**Term Dates -Wednesday 3rd September to Friday 19th December 2025**

Newsletter

## Prayer of the Month

Dear Lord,
We will wear a poppy on Remembrance Day,
And at eleven, we will stand and pray.
That the wreaths we put upon the graves,
Will help us remember our soldiers brave. Amen.




Mrs Starkie, our Headteacher, will be reducing her working hours after the February half term, as she begins a phased transition towards retirement. She will continue to be involved in school life on a part-time basis until the end of the summer term, when she will be retiring.

We will share more details about leadership arrangements closer to the time, and there will be opportunities later in the year to say goodbye and celebrate her time at St Mary's School.

## Samaritan's Purse – Shoe Box Appeal

Information leaflets have been sent home for the Operation Christmas Child Appeal and we would be grateful for either filled shoeboxes or donations of items, which we can use to fill boxes at school.
Completed shoeboxes need to be ready for collection from St Mary's School by **Friday 7th November**. Thank you for your help.

## Parent & Child After School Club

Parents are invited to join their children every Wednesday at school for a hot drink, games and crafts until 4.00 p.m. Everyone is welcome to come along, take part in the activities and save an hour's gas and electricity at home!

## Earrings

Children can wear earrings at school except on PE days, when they need to be removed at home. Only a small pair of studs are allowed, no hoops or anything that hang down below the ear.

## Remembrance

Items are on sale in school at the moment in aid of the Royal British Legion Poppy Fund. Please send money to school if you wish to make a donation to the charity by buying poppy products. Items are either 50p or £1 each.

## Wrap Around Care

Please use the QR code to book before or after school wrap around care places.
Breakfast Care provision is £3.50 per session. After School Care provision is £5.00 per session.
Charges include either breakfast or a teatime snack.
Bookings should be made by 3 p.m. on the Friday of the week prior to the sessions required and all payments need to be made in advance using a ParentPay account.

Newsletter

## CAR PARK

Now that the days are shorter, please walk/drive safely on the church car park.
We would be grateful if cars are only parked in the designated spaces. Please don't park in the disabled bays unless you hold a blue badge or in front of the school gate, no matter how busy or wet it is, as access is required.

## Parent Visits

**A big thank you to all the parents who have been 'Mystery Readers' this term, the children have really enjoyed listening to the stories and having you visit them.**
**Family members are also welcome to come in to school for our 'Mystery Job' sessions, where adults are invited to talk to the children about their work. Nothing too complicated - What things do you have to do in your job? Where do you work? Any special skills or qualifications? Do you enjoy your job?**
**If you would like to be a 'Mystery Reader' or talk about a 'Mystery Job' please contact a teacher or write a message on Seesaw or Tapestry.**

## Packed Lunches

Please remember that packets of nuts, cereal bars or chocolate such as Snickers should not be eaten in school and products containing peanut butter/ Nutella need to be avoided in packed lunches, due to pupils with food allergies.
We would also be grateful if parents could limit the number of biscuits/chocolate bars in packed lunches to one item per day. Thank you.

Some healthy packed lunches ideas can be found using this link:
https://www.schoolfoodmatters.org/sites/default/files/2023-03/Packed%20lunch%20guidance_0.pdf

## Collecting Children

Just a reminder that school staff need to be informed if children are going to be collected by someone other than the usual parent or guardian. If we have not been notified about a change, we need to contact a parent/guardian before allowing the child to be taken by someone else.
**Pupils attending after school clubs need to be collected promptly at 4 p.m. by an adult.**

## Uniform

**Please make sure that names are in all items of school uniform – clothes are being taken home by mistake and it's very difficult to return items if they haven't been labelled. Thank you.**

## Christmas Dates

**We will do our best not to make changes!**

| | |
|---|---|
| EYFS Nativity – | Thursday 11th December at 10 a.m. |
| | Friday 12th December at 10 a.m. |
| KS 1 Nativity – | Monday 15th December at 10 a.m. |
| | Tuesday 16th December at 2 p.m. |
| KS 2 Carol Service - | Monday 15th December at 2 p.m. |
| | Tuesday 16th December at 11 a.m. |
| Christmas Lunch - | Wednesday 17th December |
| Christmas Party Day - | Thursday 18th December |
| Christmas Jumper Day - | Friday 19th December |
| END OF TERM – | Friday 19th December at 1.10 p.m. |



**New Term Starts on Wednesday 7th January 2026**