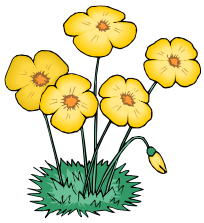
St Mary's School, Kells

May



Newsletter

Summer Term Dates **Monday 13th April – Friday 17th July 2026**

Bank Holiday Monday 4th May 2026

Half Term Monday 25th May to Friday 29th May 2026



We are very pleased to announce that the Governing Body has appointed Mrs Carley Miller as the new Headteacher of St Mary's Catholic Primary School.
She will take up her new role in September 2026 and we would like to send her our best wishes!

Holidays in Term Time

Head teachers are not allowed to authorise holidays during school term time, other than in exceptional circumstances, but school needs to know that children are safe if they are absent. Please notify us of the reason for any absence.
The school office can be contacted on 01946 66356 or 0742 791 7331 or e-mail admin@kells-stmarys.cumbria.sch.uk
Parents must notify school in writing if children are going to be taken on holiday during the term. Please download an absence form from the school website or request one from the office and return it to school before your holiday.

Attendance

Individual pupil attendance reports will be available for parents this half term and Mrs Scott will be contacting parents if their child's attendance is below 90%. This will be to offer support to and see if we can help to improve attendance in any



Celebration of Our Lady

On Tuesday 19th May will be celebrating Mary, the patron saint of our school and parish, with a service in church at 2.15 p.m. Everyone is welcome to join us.

Internet Safety

If your child has a mobile phone, please look at the messages, contacts and accounts regularly to check for inappropriate content. Phones should be handed in to the school office for safe keeping during the school day.
Please remember that the minimum legal age for using social media (Facebook, Instagram, What's app, Snap Chat and Tik Tok) is 13 years old.
The monthly online newsletters, which are e-mailed to parents and posted on our website, are full of useful information and tips to help with parental controls and safety settings.

Jewellery

Children are only allowed to wear SMALL stud earrings (no hoops or hanging styles) in school on days when they do not have PE. Necklaces and bracelets should not be worn and earrings need to be removed before leaving home, as first aid plasters cannot be used to cover them for PE lessons.

School will close on Friday 22nd May at 3.10 p.m. for half term

Newsletter

We are excited to be celebrating the 90th anniversary of our school building with a whole-school celebration on **Thursday 2nd and Friday 3rd July**. These special days will give us the chance to reflect on our school's history and enjoy the memories. **More details to follow soon**.

To support our celebrations, we would love your help in creating a historical display. If you have any photographs, memories, or items linked to the school (such as old class photos, events or uniforms), please consider sharing them with us. Items can be emailed to the school or brought to the office, clearly labelled with your child's name and class. All originals will be returned safely. Thank you for your support — we look forward to celebrating together!

Gold Award

Our school has been awarded Gold Standard by Cumbria Smile4Life. Well done to everyone involved and especially Mrs Sibbald for leading all the good work!

Egg Decorating Competition

We had an eggceptional number of entries for our Easter egg decorating competitions. Some of the designs were eggstraordinary and Anna, our cook, had an eggstremely difficult job choosing the winners. Well done to everyone who entered and our winners:

Nursery – Lottie Mae	*Reception* – Efrem	*Year 1* – Ruby	*Year 2*- Gianna
Year 3 – Elodie	*Year 4* – Ava	*Years 5*- Hanna	*Year 6* - Jude

Design Technology Challenge

Thank you to all the parents who helped their child with our Easter Vehicle Challenge. There were some amazing entries and the winners were as follows:

Rec & KS1:	*Furthest Distance* - **Atti**	*Best Design* - **Blanka**	*Innovative Construction* - **Phoebe**
KS2:	*Furthest Distance* - **Filip**	*Best Design* - **Amora**	*Innovative Construction* - **Lucas**

Wrap Around Care

Please book in advance using the QR code and make payment on ParentPay:

Before school from 7.30 a.m. to 8.40 a.m. £3.50 per day

After school (except Tuesdays) from 3.10 p.m. to 5.00 p.m. £5.00 per day

Sports Day

We are planning to hold our Sports Day on Friday 12th June. Parents, family and friends are welcome to join us from 1 p.m. and refreshments and programmes will be on sale during the afternoon. Please pray for nice weather, so that the school field is in good condition!

Uniform Orders for September

Please complete the green order form and return it to school with cash payment before Monday 18th May. This might seem quite early, but it will ensure that all uniform is available before the summer holiday. You can also buy online from either www.oneidentity.co.uk or www.myclothing.com

Second Hand Uniform

Parents are welcome to choose from our stock of pre-used uniform, which we will put outside when the weather is dry. If you have unwanted school uniform which is in good condition, please leave it in the front porch. Thank you.

P.E. Kits

The school outdoor P.E. uniform for Reception to Year 6 is a grey sweatshirt with or without a school logo, but without a hood, and plain black jogging trousers. Sweatshirts & joggers should not have brand logos or designs on them and please don't buy leggings, as they are not warm enough for outdoor PE sessions.