

St Mary's & St Patrick's Catholic Primary School

'We are a Catholic Family Learning Together.'
'Teulu Catholig ydym ni yn dysgu gyda'n gilydd.'



Prospectus 2020-2021

St Mary's & St Patrick's RC Primary

Monica Street, Maesteg, CF34 9AY

Telephone Number – 01656 815585

E Mail – admin.stmpprimary@bridgend.gov.uk

School Website: www.stmaryandstpatrick.co.uk

St Mary's & St Patrick's RC Primary School

'We are a Catholic Family Learning Together'
'*Teulu Catholig ydym ni yn dysgu gyda'n gilydd.*'

We are a Catholic Family in Action. We seek to provide a happy, welcoming, secure environment rooted in Gospel values and the love of Jesus Christ, the Holy Spirit and God our Father.

Pupils in our school are growing to be . . .

Grateful for their own gifts, for the gift of other people, and for the blessings of each day; and **generous** with their gifts, becoming men and women for others.

Attentive to their experience and to their vocation; and **discerning** about the choices they make and the effects of those choices.

Compassionate towards others, near and far, especially the less fortunate; and **loving** by their just actions and forgiving words.

Faith-filled in their beliefs and **hopeful** for the future.

Eloquent and **truthful** in what they say of themselves, the relations between people, and the world.

Learned, finding God in all things; and **wise** in the ways they use their learning for the common good.

Curious about everything; and **active** in their engagement with the world, changing what they can for the better.

Intentional in the way they live and use the resources of the earth, guided by conscience; and **prophetic** in the example they set to others

Our Values as a Catholic School in the Archdiocese of Cardiff, we have embraced the Catholic Schools' Pupil Profile, which teaches the children a set of eight pairs of virtues to be internalised and cultivated - enabling them to grow in wholeness as fully rounded individuals in the image of God.



"What can we say the kingdom of God is like? It is like a mustard seed which, at the time of its sowing in the soil, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; yet once it is sown, it grows into the biggest shrub of them all and puts out big branches so that the birds of the air can shelter in its shade."

Gospel of Mark 4:30-32

Welcome

Dear Parents,

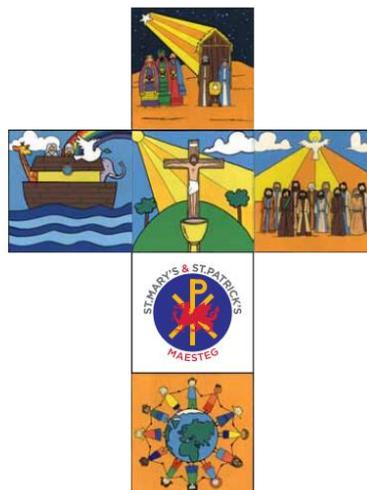
On behalf of myself, the Governors, the staff and the pupils of St Mary's and St Patrick's I would like to welcome you to our school family. Our School is a busy, happy, friendly community where Christ is at the centre of all that we do in our learning and play. All staff and members of the Governing Body are committed to providing the highest quality of education possible within a strong Catholic ethos.

St Mary's and St Patrick's is a lively, successful school with a great emphasis on learning, excellent standards of teaching and full of exciting activities that engage all our pupils. We work to develop and encourage each individual child to reach their full potential in all areas of the curriculum. We aim to do this within an atmosphere of love, trust and respect in partnership with you, the parent. Within our caring environment, based on the recognition of the dignity and worth of each child, high standards are expected. Social, emotional and spiritual development is emphasised and fostered along with the pursuit of academic excellence.

We hope that while reading our prospectus you feel the sense of achievement, enjoyment, excitement, hard work, love and care that the children at our school experience during their time here. We very much want to develop a partnership between home, school and Parish as it is through working together in an atmosphere of mutual respect and support that we can provide what is best for our children.

Thank you

Jackie Phillips
Headteacher





General Information for Parents

Contact Details

The school is a Voluntary Aided School and functions under the Trusteeship of the Archdiocese of Cardiff. It is co-educational and is designated as a Primary School (rising 3 years to 11+).

The Chairperson of the School Governors is:

Mr Paul Donoghue
c/o St Mary's and St Patrick's Catholic School
Monica Street
Maesteg
CF34 9AY

The Clerk to the Governors is:

Miss Sarah Fear
c/o St Mary's and St Patrick's Catholic School

The District Education Office is:

Education and Leisure Services
Bridgend County Borough Council
Bridgend CBC
Telephone 01656642600

Caretaker: Mr Kevin Ballenger

Contact us

Address: Monica Street
Maesteg
CF34 9AY

Telephone: 01656 815585

E-mail: head.stm&pprimary@bridgend.gov.uk

School Office e-mail: admin.stmpp@bridgend.gov.uk

Website: www.stmaryandstpatrick.co.uk

Staff 2020 – 2021

Headteacher – Mrs Jackie Phillips

Deputy Headteacher – Mrs Nicola Kelly-Harris

Nursery

Teacher - Mrs Amanda Kehoe

Mrs Helen Donoghue, Mrs Hayley Williams, Miss Katie Jenkins

Reception

Teacher – Mrs Cath Morris

Miss Kayley Baker, Mrs Lana Evans

1:1 Ms Hannah O’Gorman, Mrs Rhian Sterio

Year 1

Teacher – Miss Rachel O’Sullivan, Mrs Kelly-Fisher

Miss Joanna Barry

Year 2

Teachers - Mrs Catherine Treharne, Miss Georgina Bullock

Mrs Cath Baitup

1:1 Miss Alex Lloyd

Year 3

Teacher – Miss Liesa Thomas

Lunchtime Team

Cook in Charge - Mrs E Neill

Year 4

Teacher – Mr Nathan Edwards

Mrs Paula Davies

Midday Supervisors

Alison Young

Becky Kehoe

Cheryl Edwards

Emma Bailey

Elise Rees

Janet Buttle

Year 5

Teacher – Miss Michelle Card

Mrs Kay Bevan

Year 6

Teachers - Mrs Cathy Sherwood, Miss Petty

Admin Officer - Miss Sarah Fear

Caretaker - Mr K Ballenger

Communication from School

There is a regular newsletter sharing school news and key upcoming dates. Individual letters go out separately regarding other matters such as school trips and special events. We operate a school texting system teachers2parents, this is used to provide up to date information for parents.

Our website includes a range of useful information about the school at www.stmaryandstpatrick.co.uk, newsletters are posted in the parents section on the site.

Social Media

We have a Facebook and Twitter page



@stmarypatrick

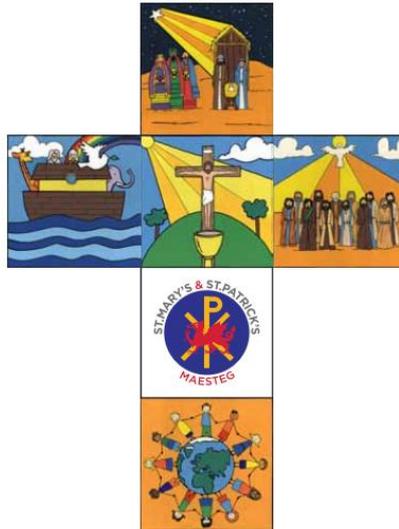


St Mary's & St Patrick's Catholic Primary School, Maesteg

Communication to school

If your child is absent please contact the school on the first morning of absence.

If you have any issues or specific problems please inform the school. We will do everything we can to help and support parents and families in difficult times.



Our Mission Statement

‘We are a Catholic Family Learning Together’
‘Teulu Catholig ydym ni yn dysgu gyda’n gilydd.’

Our aims are designed to allow us to live out our Mission Statement.

School Aims

Learning Together: We seek to provide a whole curriculum permeated with a Catholic ethos. We strive to identify, develop and share our God-given talents with one another so that the individual needs of unique persons are developed to the full.

- We aim to create a caring Christian environment of learning where all pupils are treated as unique individuals.
- We aim to share our Catholic Faith with one another and to guide pupils on their personal journey of faith.
- Using Christ as our model, we aim to promote high moral values and personal qualities of courtesy, good behaviour and respect for one another and for all God’s creation.
- By providing a living, relevant and holistic curriculum we aim to provide equal opportunities for all, so that pupils may strive for academic excellence and work to the best of their ability.
- We aim to provide a framework for living in an ever-changing world so that our pupils may take their place in society as caring, responsible and reliable Christians.

Governor's of St Mary's and St Patrick's

The Governing Body is the strategic body that helps the Headteacher and staff, move the school forward. They are made up of independent Governors as well as staff members. They meet regularly to help the school with its work and are the 'critical friend' to the Headteacher and the Senior Leadership Team.

We aim to provide quality learning experiences for our children - learning which is structured, balanced and relevant to the child.

We aim to provide a safe and secure environment in which your child feels happy, confident and stimulated to learn whilst having fun.

Catchment Area

Our catchment area is very large and covers all the Lynfi Valley. There are 2 school buses, one from Caerau and one from Llangynwyd.

Term Dates

Term Dates 2020-2021	Autumn Term 2020	Spring Term 2021	Summer Term 2021
Begins	Tuesday 1 st September 2020	Monday 4 th January 2021	Monday 12 th April 2021
Half Term	Monday 26 th October – Friday 30 th October 2020	Monday 15 th February – Friday 19 th February 2021	Monday 31 st May – Friday 4 th June 2021
Ends	Friday 18 th December 2020	Friday 26 th March 2021	Tuesday 20 th July 2021

Last day of term for children will be Friday July 16th 2021

Admissions

The governors are responsible for all admissions to St Mary's and St Patrick's. The full Admissions Policy can be found on our website.

Our School

Our school presently has approximately 220 children from Nursery to Year 6.

School Times – staggered due to COVID

Where Families is mentioned please use the entry point for your youngest child to drop off all your children.

ENTRY 1 -Top doors on the Yard will be;
8.45am – Families with youngest child in Y3 & Y4
8.50am – Families with youngest child in Y2
8.55am – Individual children from Y5

PICK UP -Top doors on the Yard will be;
3.00pm – Families with youngest children in Y3 & Y4
3.05pm – Individual children from Y3
3.10pm – Individual children from Y5

ENTRY 2 - Bottom doors on the Yard;
8.45am – Families with youngest child in Reception
9.00am – Individual children from Reception

PICK UP – Bottom doors on the Yard;
2.50pm – Individual children from Reception
3.00pm – Families with youngest child in Reception

ENTRY 3 – Hall doors;
8.50am – Individual children from Y3
8.55am – Families with youngest child in Y1
9.00am – Individual children from Y1

PICK UP – Hall doors
2.50pm – Individual children from Y1
3.00pm – Families with youngest child in Y1

ENTRY 4 – Main Entrance doors;
8.50am – Individual children from Y6
8.55am – Individual children from Y4

PICK UP – Main Entrance doors
3.00pm – Individual children from Y6
3.05pm – Individual children from Y4

ENTRY 5 – Year 2 doors
8.50am – Individual children from Y2

PICK-UP – Year 2 doors
2.50pm – Individual children from Y2
3.00pm – Families with youngest child in Y2

School Uniform

Our school uniform consists of:

Blue jumper/cardigan

White/Blue polo shirt

Grey trousers/skirt/pinafore dress

Blue & White striped/checked summer dress

Black school shoes



Our branded uniform (logo tops, coats, etc) are all available from Gwyn Richards & Euroschools in Maesteg.

All clothes need to be clearly labelled with your child's name to ensure that all items of clothing can be easily identified.

P.E. Kits:

House colour T-shirt

Black Shorts

Black Jogging Bottoms, leggings

Trainers/daps

Please send P.E. kits to school in a bag clearly labelled with your child's name.

Jewellery

Earrings in particular are dangerous at playtimes and during games/PE sessions.

Studs or sleepers are permitted but for obvious safety reasons, rings, hoops or dangling earrings are not. Other facial or body piercing are similarly not allowed. **The school cannot be held responsible for injury, accidents or losses as a result of children wearing jewellery.**

Absences

If your child is unable to attend school please inform us by telephone on the morning of an absence.

If your child becomes ill during school time- we must have up to date contact numbers so that we can contact you.

Punctuality and attendance are very important and we will contact you if either are a concern. If your child is late for school, they must enter via the main entrance and report to the school office so that they can be marked on the register and their lunch preference logged.

Charging

Parents will be requested to make a contribution towards any school organised function where a fee is charged to the school. If insufficient contributions are forthcoming, indicating that a deficit may arise which will have to be met by the school, then the school reserves the right to cancel the function. With the exception of non-returnable deposits, all paid monies will be returned in full.

Parents

We have an open door policy, but if you are planning on visiting the school, or wish to discuss matters with your child's teacher, please telephone to make an appointment with either a class teacher or a member of the senior team.

Friends of STMP (formally PTFA)

We have a very active, enthusiastic and committed Friends of STMP group. Everyone is welcome to join. There are termly meetings and many fun events. Please request to join the Facebook page for more information at Friends of STMP.

School Meals

Our meals are cooked on the premises and are **enjoyed by children and staff alike**. The meals are varied and follow guidelines on healthy eating. Children with **special diets** are catered for too.

School meals cost £2.20 per day.

Free school meals can be claimed too...come and see us for the appropriate form.

All payments are made using the BCBC website

Packed Lunch

As a school, we would ask that if you are providing your child with a packed lunch, that it is as healthy as possible, keeping in line with the Welsh Governments "Appetite for Life" agenda.

FOR A HEALTHY LUNCHBOX **PICK & MIX**
SOMETHING FROM EACH GROUP 1-6!



Nursery



When your child starts school we will allocate the intake so that the children start in small groups. We are prepared for some tears, but will encourage the children to join in activities to divert their attention and become part of our family.

Daily Routine

On arrival at nursery, the team will greet the children at the door. After the first day the children will have a named peg with their photograph in the cloakroom to hang their coats on. We have to close and lock the door at the beginning of the session - this is for the safety of all.

There will be structured group work and continuous/enhanced provision throughout the session. We encourage children to become as independent as possible. We will ask them to tidy up and encourage the children to put their own shoes and coats on. We use our outdoor area every day, so please ensure your child has a warm, waterproof coat with a hood.

Please try to be punctual at both dropping off and picking up times as small children can become distressed very quickly if left for even a short amount of time. It is essential that a responsible adult collects your child from nursery. The staff will become familiar with parents but will need to be informed of changes to home time arrangements.

In the interest of safety and security Nursery and Foundation Phase children will only be released to parents, or to adults known to the school and where a prior arrangement has been made. These children will not be handed over to older brothers or sisters from our school or to children, family or friends, under the age of 16 years, unless prior arrangements have been made.

Snack Time

We endeavour to provide the children with a range of healthy snacks. However, on occasions some parents may send in treats for a child's birthday for them to share with the rest of the class. Snacks will be £1 per week. Please send this in an envelope marked with your child's name. You may pay weekly or termly.

All children currently use an **antibacterial hand foam or gel** to clean their hands before snack time.

The Foundation Phase

“Today’s children are tomorrow’s citizens, its leaders, thinkers, policy makers, innovators and entrepreneurs.”

We, at St Mary’s & St Patrick’s are committed to this way of teaching and understand how it will benefit the children. The Foundation Phase at St Mary’s & St Patrick’s covers Nursery, Reception, Year One and Two. The emphasis is on learning by doing, understanding how things work and finding different ways to solve problems. Children will be supported to develop speaking and listening skills to encourage them to read and write.

The Foundation Phase curriculum puts children and play at its heart. It focuses on outdoor activities and first hand experiences to develop children. The intention is to enhance children’s disposition to learning and to make them lifelong learners.

The Foundation Phase **aims** to provide: Skills and understanding.

Personal, social, emotional, physical and intellectual well-being so as to develop the child as a whole. Positive attitudes to learning so that they enjoy it and will want to continue with their education for longer.

Self-esteem and self-confidence to experiment, investigate, learn new things and form new relationships. Creative, expressive and observational skills to encourage their development as individuals, with different ways of responding to experiences. Activities in the outdoors, with first-hand experience of solving real problems and learning about conservation and sustainability.

These will be introduced through the eight areas of learning which are:

- Religious Education
- Personal and social development, well - being and cultural diversity
- Language, literacy and communication skills
- Mathematical development
- Bilingualism - Welsh
- Knowledge and understanding of the world
- Physical development
- Creative development

Although our curriculum is creative, we still ensure a **strong emphasis** on basic education such as **reading, writing** and **maths**.

The Outdoor Classroom



The development and use of the outdoors as a learning environment is very important for the development of all children. In the outdoor area, the children will gain first hand experience to develop an understanding of themselves and the world around them. They will be able to practice and consolidate their learning, solve problems and make decisions, individually and in groups. Children will be able to play with ideas, experiment and learn to take risks. Other benefits include developing a love of nature and improving health and fitness levels.

As with any construction, you need to get the base or foundations right, and the same is true with this curriculum. The Foundation Phase will encourage children to be actively involved in their own learning. Children will be given more opportunities to gain first hand experiences through play and active involvement.

For further information visit the Welsh Assembly Government's website on <http://wales.gov.uk>.

The Curriculum

At St Mary's and St Patrick's, children are given the opportunity to become;

ambitious, capable learners, ready to learn throughout their lives and achieve to their full potential.

enterprising, creative contributors, ready to play a full part in life and work, drawing on their resourcefulness.

ethical, informed citizens, ready to be citizens of Wales and its world with a secure understanding of their culture and heritage.

healthy, confident individuals, ready to lead fulfilling lives as valued members of society with a knowledge of mental and physical wellbeing.

Religious Education (RE)



We follow the 'Come and See' programme for our learning in RE. We aim to encourage our children to learn about the Catholic faith and to reflect on ways to put it into practice for the good of others. We also study other major world faiths and we encourage respect for them all.

Language and Literacy

This is a thread which runs through all teaching and learning. Staff have a strong track record of developing pupils' skills rapidly. We ask that parents spend time every day, if possible, in reading with and to their children; this makes a real difference to how well children do. This area includes the Welsh language (see below for details).

Mathematics and Numeracy

Basic skills are taught in Maths lessons. They are applied throughout the curriculum using practical methodologies. Children are encouraged to use a variety of resources to develop their understanding before moving onto pictorial and abstract recordings. Children are given many opportunities to apply their skills practically and to apply their mathematical reasoning. Again, we ask parents to support their children's progress in the basics, including times tables.



Science and Technology

Many opportunities exist for pupils to develop their 'finding out' and making skills. We encourage the development of curiosity and scientific rigour simultaneously.

Expressive Arts

Ample opportunities exist for pupils to develop their creativity during their learning. A wide range of skills in Art, for example, are developed and the school has a rich musical life. All pupils have the opportunity to learn to play an instrument, we have a school choir and singing generally features strongly.



Humanities

Learning is cross-curricular throughout the school and many links are made. These studies involve finding out about the world in which we live in both a geographical and historical sense. Pupils increasingly learn to research independently as they progress through the school, therefore, skill levels by the time they are in Year Six are high.



Welsh

Welsh is taught in all classes throughout the school. This covers the three profile components of speaking and listening, reading and writing. Our emphasis will always be on oracy.

The purpose of Welsh in the curriculum is:

- to develop bi-lingualism within the classroom
- for the children to enjoy using the language
- cultural enrichment
- to achieve competence in the skills of listening, speaking, reading and writing to develop a positive attitude towards the Welsh language.

We aim to give children access to the cultural and linguistic heritage of Wales in both its spoken and written forms.



Eisteddfod

The school is divided into three houses, Caerau (Red); Coegnant (Blue) and Cwmdu (Green). Your child will be allocated a 'House' when they enter school.

The School Eisteddfod is held annually in early March. Children have the opportunity to write poems, paint pictures, recite, sing and play instruments. Children work very hard and the standard is high. St Mary's & St Patrick's uses opportunities as they arise to enrich the children's cultural heritage of Wales. Indeed multi-culturalism is part of an area of learning at Foundation Phase and even though we are proud of our own culture of Wales we also celebrate the diversity of the other cultures which make our society.



Data – there is no data available this year due to Covid.