



MARTYRS NEWS

Through Christ we believe, inspire, achieve



Reading Champions showing the Reading Ninja belt certificates



Have you been reading this week? From speaking with many of our children, I know that lots of you have; which is a magnificent start to our Year of Reading pledge - **keep it up!**

In the top left hand corner you can see a number **8** - this is the current maximum number of reads that your child could have achieved so far if you've read 10 minutes every day since we started the Reading Ninja challenge. Each newsletter will keep a track of this as well as celebrating the numbers of children who achieve the certificates.

In our newsletter today you can read about all of the wonderful learning that has been taking place across school this week.

Next week is **National Storytelling Week**

([Literacy Trust website](#)) where we celebrate story telling, linked to the Year of Reading.

Finally, we have wished Miss May good luck as she starts her maternity leave! We hope that all goes smoothly for her and the family!



Be safe, be happy, have fun! Events:

Date:	Time:	Event:
10th Feb	9.00am	End of Tops Assembly Nur/Rec Reception parent invited.
11th Feb	9.00am	End of Top Assembly Yr1/2 Yr1 parents invited.
11th Feb	3.30-5.30pm	Open Evening (book via Arbor app)
12th Feb	9.00am	End of Top Assembly Yr3/4 Yr4 parents invited.
12th Feb	3.30-7.30pm	Open Evening (book via Arbor app)
13th Feb	All Day	Pyjama Day (PTA donation - £1)



Attendance Matters!

Our school target is **95%+** and we are currently at **95.3%** so far this year, which is really positive!

Fabulous
FRIDAY FIVE

Class Attendance:
1st 2A - 98.7%
2nd 4B - 98.4%
3rd 1A - 98.3%

World Gifts:

A massive thank you to all the children and their families for helping to raise a total of **£713.50** for CAFOD world gifts. We have been able to support their Water World project. This life-saving gift can provide families with a steady supply of clean, safe water for drinking and cooking. A clean water tank means families can access safe drinking water, keeping everyone free from infection. **Thanks for your support!**



Nursery

By Mrs McIntyre & Mrs Garvey

This half term in PE, the children are practising moving and travelling in a space. This week they imagined a journey to a castle where they had to hop, skip, crawl and jump through a magical forest. They also practised balancing and jumping on and off a bench.



Reception

By Mrs Morris & Mrs McMeakin

This week the children have been investigating objects to see if they float or sink in a bowl of water. They were very excited to see if their predictions were correct or not!



Year 1

By Mrs Halsall & Mrs Blackledge

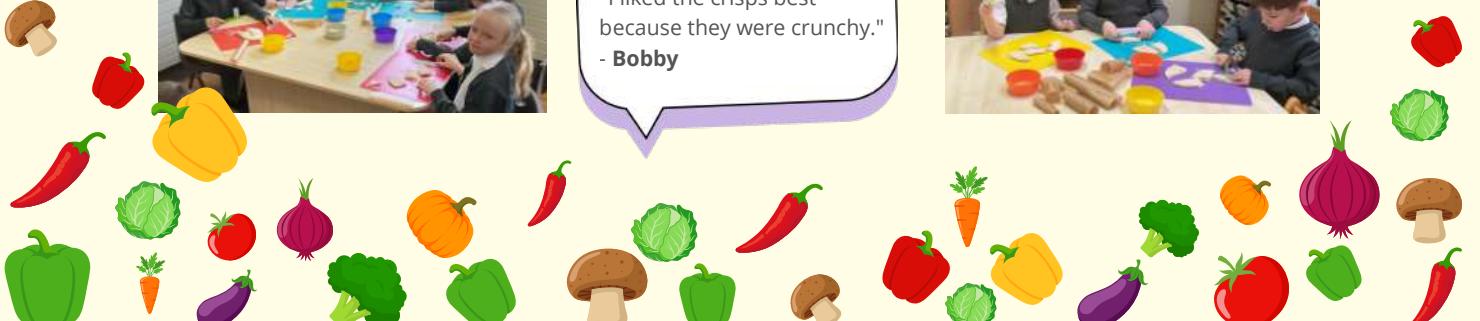
We have been looking at different materials this afternoon to see which ones are waterproof and not. We looked at the following materials to carry out our experiment- kitchen roll, tin foil, fabric, plastic bag and toilet paper.



Year 2

By Mrs Sothern & Miss Drinkall

As part of their Design and Technology work on Food and Nutrition Year Two have been busy making lots of healthy snacks. They have made a Jam Jar Salad, Tortilla Quiche and last week they made Pitta Crisps. The children have been developing their cutting, peeling, chopping and grating skills.



MARTYRS NEWS

Year 3

By Mrs Dooley & Mr Roach

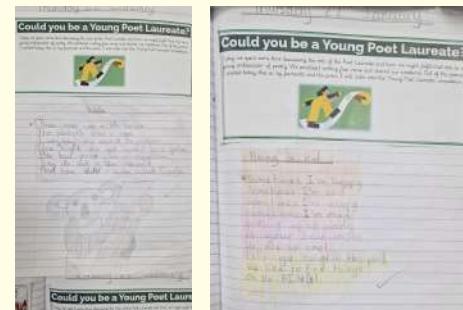
Y3 have been enjoying working with the gymnastic coach. We have been exploring the different gymnastic shapes and working on improving our balance, rolls and jumps.



Year 4

By Miss Tierney & Miss May

This week Year 4 children wrote some free verse poetry and a personal statement explaining why they would make a fantastic Poet Laureate for their region. Well done Year 4!



Year 5

By Mr Buckton & Miss Gray

We continued our traitor games but this time with arithmetic practice. The children worked well in groups even with the traitors trying to influence answers.



Year 6

By Ms Goulbourne, Mrs Lowe, Mrs Naisbett, Mrs Boylan & Miss Hey

Year Six have collated their D T work in a display that can be found at the top of Year Six stairs. All children have commented on the food created and reflected on how they would improve the recipes if they were to cook the dishes again. Come along and have a look during Open Week!



Class Blogs

Have a look at what we have been doing in class. Don't forget to check out our class blogs on the school website.

www.englishmartyrs.co.uk



MARTYRS NEWS

STAR OF THE WEEK

Friday 21st Jan 2026

Nursery All Day	Olivia
Nursery AM	George
RA	Archie
RB	Penelope
1A	Reggie
1B	Jacob
2A	Pixie
2B	Henry
3A	Nevaeh
3B	Gabriella
4A	Thea
4B	Ella
5A	Caleb
5B	Olivia
6A	Alfie
6B	Jacob

Friday 30th Jan 2026

Nursery All Day	Margo
Nursery AM	Teddy
RA	Halle
RB	Lexie
1A	Darcie
1B	Albie
2A	Amelia
2B	Shaye
3A	Jessica
3B	Katie
4A	Mila
4B	Hope
5A	Annabel
5B	Elliot
6A	Heidi
6B	Bobby

Sporting Superstars!

Year 6 girls and boys team represented Sefton in the Pokemon County Cup finals. The standard of football was excellent and we were unlucky not to qualify. Well played everyone.

Well Done Everyone!

MARTYRS NEWS

Creative Writing Competition

Mrs O'Connell

As a part of our commitment to encourage active travel to school and our drive to promote road safety, Sam Turner our Active Travel Officer will be running a creative writing competition with the top prizes being 2 brand new Micro Scooters. All children at school are invited to take part by creating a poem or short story around the theme of active travel or road safety. All entries must be given to **Mrs O'Connell by Friday the 13th of February** with the winners being announced after half term.

Parking in the Local Area

Mr Dinsdale

We have received details of people parking in private residential car park spaces at the end of the day. It is appreciated that the start and end of day is busy in the local area, but you are reminder NOT to park in these spaces or block driveways. Furthermore, aggressive or abusive behaviour to our neighbours will not be tolerated. We are advising residents to inform the local police if they encounter such behaviour. Please be respectful.

Safer Internet Day 2026

Smart tech, safe choices.

Exploring the safe and responsible use of AI.

By Mr Roach and the Digital Leaders

AI technology is increasingly part of all our lives, so this **Safer Internet Day** we are starting a conversation about how to use it safely and responsibly. Our Digital Leaders are planning assemblies for KS1 and KS2 and information for parents will follow. In the meantime, please use these top tips to help keep you and your loved ones safe online:

Top Tips for parents and carers:

- Enjoy going online together and talk regularly about your family's online lives
- Understand where AI technology is being used and the impact it can have
- Recognise what safe and responsible use of technology looks like
- Stay informed with free resources
- Know where to go for help if something goes wrong

Follow the link here for more detailed information about these topics above:

<https://saferinternet.org.uk/safer-internet-day/safer-internet-day-2026/top-tips-for-parents-and-carers>

**Safer
Internet
Day 2026** Tuesday
10 February

Coordinated by the UK Safer Internet Centre

saferinternetday.org.uk

GOOD NEWS!



Well Done Everyone!



Term Dates 2025-26

Through Christ we Believe, Inspire, Achieve.

Autumn Term 2025 - (73 Days)

Term Starts:

Wednesday 3rd September

Half-term Holiday:

Monday 27th Oct - Friday 31st Oct

Term Ends:

Friday 19th December, 2pm.

Spring Term 2026 - (55 Days)

Term Starts:

Monday 5th January

Half-term Holiday

Monday 16th Feb - Friday 20th Feb

Term Ends:

Friday 27th March, 2pm.

Summer Term 2026 - (62 Days)

Term Starts:

Monday 13th April

Half-term Holiday

Monday 25th May - Friday 29th May

Term Ends:

Thursday 16th July, 2pm.

Total Days:

190 Pupil days

195 Teacher days

Bank Holiday:

Monday 4th May

Inset Days:

Autumn 2025:

Monday 1st September

Tuesday 2nd September

Summer 2026:

Monday 1st June

Friday 17th July

Monday 20th July

Wrap Around Care Offer

Breakfast Club:

Contact number: 0151 928 5601

We run Breakfast Club for children aged 3-11 on site by our own staff from **8am-8.45am** daily Monday to Friday.

Our Infant (**Nursery to Y2**) provision is based in the main hall (*enter via the Main School Entrance*).

Our Junior (**Y3 to Y6**) provision is based in the dining hall (*enter via the separate gate on School Lane*).

To check availability and book a place, please use the [Contact Form](#) or call the number above.



Fun4Kidz - After School Club:

Contact number: 0151 932 9218

Fun4Kidz operates on site from **3.15pm to 6.00pm** daily Monday to Friday.

Fun4Kidz works with our youngest pupils from **Nursery to Year 2**.

The sessions are **£11.15** first child (and **£10.15** for siblings) daily and include snacks (*hot snacks when applicable*).

The sessions must be paid for in advance and are non-refundable if the child doesn't attend.

Children can be collected from any time before **6.00pm**.

Email: fun4kidzclubs@hotmail.com

L30 Community Centre, Stonyfield, Netherton, Merseyside, L30 0QS.

Need to know about funding?

If you want to find out more about what funding is available to you in terms of tax free credits and childcare vouchers, please follow the link at the bottom of the page, which will take you to our Wrap Around Care page on the school website with more information and links to follow.

For the latest info, see the page below:

<https://www.englishmartyrs.co.uk/parents/wrap-around-care>



Useful Info

swaca Sefton Women's & Childrens Aid

Contact number: 0151 394 1400

SWACA provide holistic services to women, young people and children affected by Domestic Abuse offering both effective crisis intervention and early intervention and preventative services.

Venus Centre Charity

Contact number: 0151 474 4744

VENUS provide service to empower, promote and support women, and their children in developing their potential, recognising their choices and achieving their goals and challenging injustice.

The Trussell Trust

Contact number: 0151 933 1300

The trust supports a nationwide network of food banks and together they provide emergency food and support to people locked in poverty, and campaign for change to end the need for food banks in the UK.

In Your Shoes

Contact number: 0151 345 9611

Located at 100 Moss Lane the charity supports our local community.

Litherland Wellbeing Centre

Contact number: 0151 288 6661

Family Well-being Centres provide joined up support for children and young people aged 0-19 years to make family life that little bit easier.

Sefton Council

One Stop Shop: 0345 140 0845

Affordable Warmth Service: 0151 934 2222

Free School Meals: 0151 934 3263

Emergency Limited Assistance: 0151 934 3377

Sefton at Work: 0151 934 2610

For further details visit Sefton Council's website:

<https://www.sefton.gov.uk/advice-benefits/cost-of-living/>

If you are struggling and would like support please do not hesitate to contact one of the above or the school office who will assist in any way they can.