



THIS IS HOW WE DO IT HERE

17th May
2026



WELCOME FROM HEAD

Welcome to this edition of our newsletter.

Dear parents/carers,

As we reach the final week before the May half term, there is so much to celebrate across our school community. This newsletter is filled with the many trips, enrichment opportunities and achievements that have made this half term such a success.

GCSE examinations have also now begun and we are incredibly proud of the way our Year 11 pupils have approached this important time with maturity, resilience and determination.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support, and I hope you enjoy reading about all that our pupils have achieved.

Mrs Wilkinson
Headteacher



WHY IS MAY AN IMPORTANT MONTH FOR CATHOLICS?



For Catholics around the world, May is traditionally known as the Month of Mary. During this month, we give special honour to Mary, the mother of Jesus, and reflect on the example she gives to us through her faith, kindness, courage and love.

Mary is also the patron saint of our school community. As Our Lady, she is a special guide and protector for us, reminding us each day to live with compassion, humility and faith. Our school motto, mission and virtues are rooted in the belief that every person is known and loved by God, and Mary's example helps guide us in living this out.

Mary said "yes" to God with trust and humility, even when life was uncertain or difficult. Catholics look to Mary as a role model because she reminds us of the importance of prayer, service and caring for others.

Throughout May, many Catholics spend extra time praying the Rosary, taking part in Marian celebrations and asking Mary to pray for them and their families. In schools and parishes, statues of Mary are often decorated with flowers as a sign of love and devotion. As a Catholic school community, May gives us a wonderful opportunity to reflect on how we can follow Mary's example by showing kindness, hope and love in our daily lives.

A Prayer to Mary

Mary, Mother of Jesus and patron of our school,
Thank you for your love, care and example of faith.
Help us to show kindness to others,
to trust in God during difficult times,
and to bring peace wherever we go.

Watch over our families, our school and our community throughout this month of May.
Amen.



TRIPS AND ENRICHMENT

Hello World STEM Event

Our Year 9 girls enjoyed an incredible visit to the Teesside University Hello World event last week – an inspiring experience designed to encourage more young women to explore careers in computing, gaming and digital technologies.

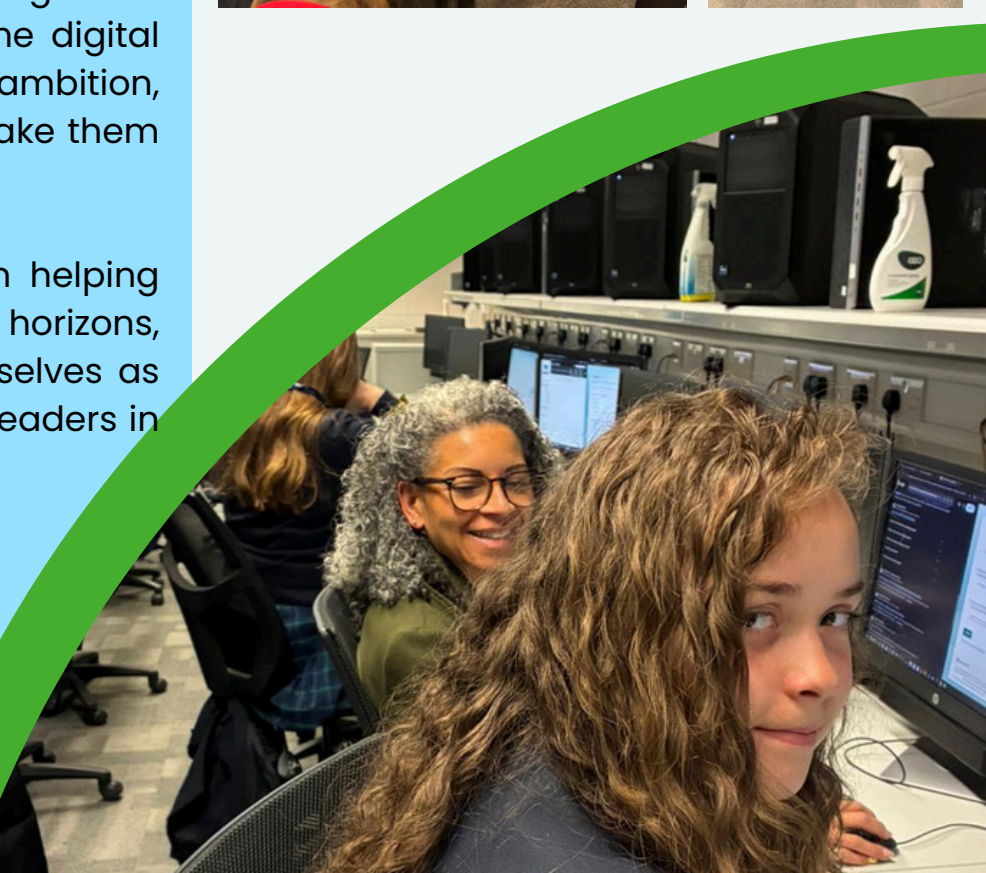
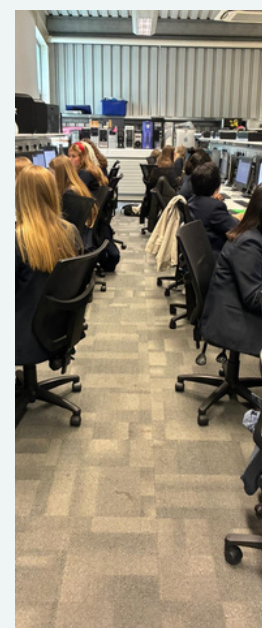
Throughout the day, pupils took part in exciting hands-on workshops including:

- Digital Forensics
- Performance Motion Capture

They also heard from an inspirational panel of women working at some of the world's leading digital and creative companies, including Industrial Light & Magic, Ubisoft, Creative Assembly and Visualsoft.

The event gave our pupils a brilliant insight into the huge range of opportunities available within the digital world and showed where ambition, creativity and digital skills can take them in the future.

Experiences like this are vital in helping our young people broaden their horizons, raise aspirations and see themselves as future innovators, creators and leaders in a rapidly changing world.



ATTENDANCE

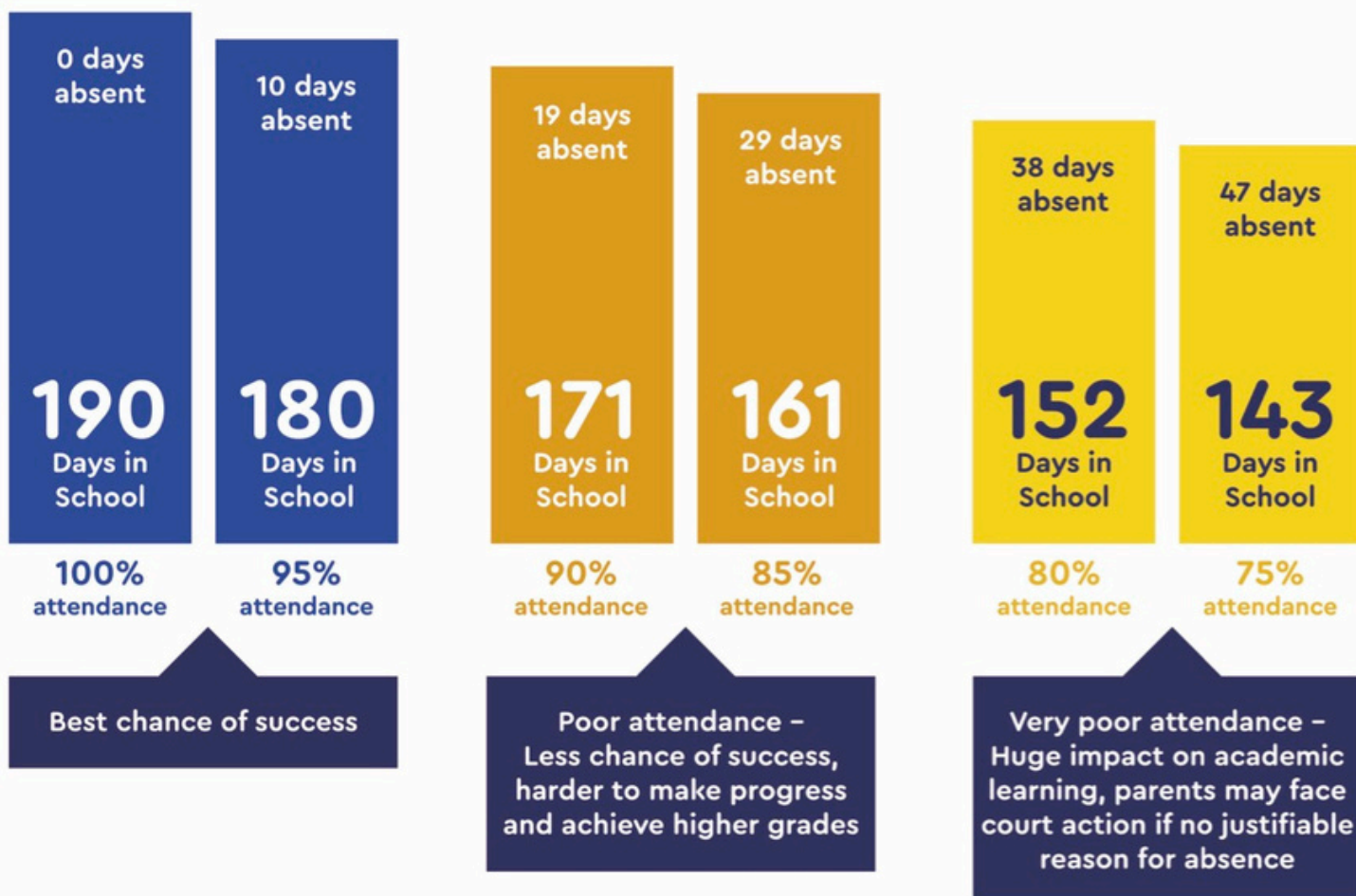
Every School Day Counts!



365 days in a calendar year
190 school days each year
175 non-term days each year

(All the time you need for shopping, holidays and appointments)

Good attendance means being in school at least 95% of the time or 180 to 190 days
 Please don't let your child miss out on the education they deserve



Attend **Today** = Achieve **Tomorrow!**

TRIPS AND ENRICHMENT

Attendance Rewards

What an amazing evening we had at the Metrocentre celebrating our students' fantastic attendance!

From shopping trips to food stops and lots of laughs along the way, it was a brilliant opportunity for students to relax, socialise, and enjoy a well-deserved reward for their hard work and commitment this term.

We are so proud of the dedication shown – it truly paid off with a great evening all round. Let's keep that momentum going... attendance matters!

Weekly Attendance Rewards

This half term, we have continued to recognise and reward pupils who have shown real improvement in their attendance through our attendance voucher initiative. Pupils across different year groups have received vouchers and rewards for making positive changes, improving routines and showing commitment to being in school every day.

Good attendance plays a vital role in a child's success, not only academically but also socially and emotionally. Every lesson matters, and regular attendance helps pupils build confidence, strengthen friendships, develop routines and fully engage in the wider life of the school, including trips, enrichment and leadership opportunities.



TRIPS AND ENRICHMENT

Show Racism the Red Card

Proud of our 8 Y9 and Y10 pupils who represented our school last week at the Middlesbrough FC Foundation's Show Racism the Red Card event at the Riverside Stadium.

Pupils took part in a range of powerful and thought-provoking workshops, enjoyed a behind-the-scenes stadium tour and listened to inspiring discussions around equality, inclusion and standing together against discrimination.

Events like this are incredibly important in helping our young people become compassionate, respectful and socially aware global citizens. As a Catholic school, we are proud to stand alongside others in promoting dignity, unity and respect for every person.

A fantastic opportunity for our pupils to learn, reflect and represent our school community with maturity and pride. Well done to all involved!



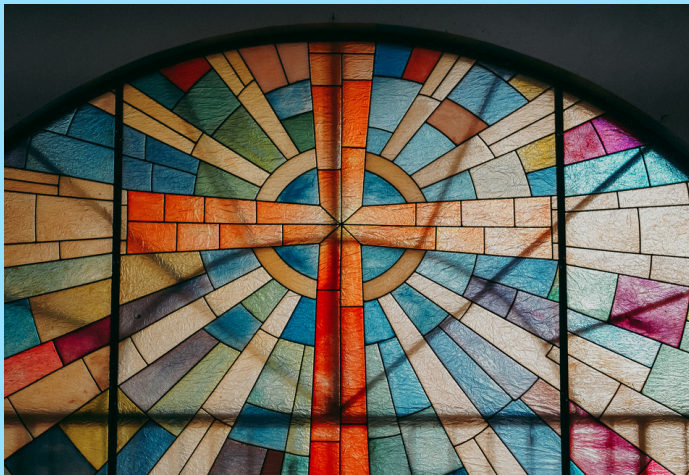
TRIPS AND ENRICHMENT

Good Shepherd Mass

Earlier this half term a group of our talented pupils had the privilege of leading the music at the Diocesan Good Shepherd Mass in Hartlepool.

What a proud moment for our school community! Our pupils sang beautifully throughout the Mass, showing great confidence, reverence and professionalism. They were a true credit to the school and represented our Catholic community with pride.

It was a real honour to be invited to lead the music at such an important diocesan celebration, and we are incredibly proud of every pupil involved. Thank you to all staff who supported and prepared them. "Sing to the Lord a new song."



TRIPS AND ENRICHMENT

Lumina Programme Raises Aspirations

Over the past two weeks, more than 100 pupils from Years 7–10 have taken part in inspiring visits to Stockton Sixth Form College as part of our Lumina Programme, designed to raise aspirations and broaden horizons beyond the classroom.

Year 9 and 10 pupils explored a carousel of engaging sessions including Law, Politics, Psychology, Philosophy and Global Opportunities, helping them encounter subjects and careers they may not previously have considered. The following week, 40 Year 7 and 8 pupils enjoyed the same experience, taking part in activities designed to challenge their thinking, build confidence and encourage ambition for the future.

The visits formed part of our wider commitment to helping pupils become global players – young people who are curious about the wider world, confident in their abilities and ambitious about what they can achieve. Staff at Stockton Sixth Form College were incredibly welcoming and inspiring throughout, and our pupils represented the school brilliantly.

We are also incredibly proud of our 13 Year 10 pupils who have now begun studying for an additional GCSE in Further Mathematics through the Lumina Programme. Delivered weekly at Stockton Sixth Form College, this opportunity is allowing pupils to further stretch their mathematical talents and prepare for future academic success.



IMPORTANT LINKS



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