



## St Mary and St Andrew's Newsletter - January 2026

*Guide us O God to be the best we can be: in every thought, in every word and every deed*

It has been a busy first month of 2026 in school with our children making many memories already. Can I please thank you for all of the kind words you have shared for Stephen and Mrs Wainright. It is comforting to know that they are both in your thoughts and prayers.

### Catholic Life:

We celebrated whole school mass on Tuesday 14th. Each of our classes will celebrate their own mass or liturgy with Canon Towers this term. Please check the dates attached—we would love for families to join us as we celebrate in church.

### Whitworth Art Gallery:

As part of our Art curriculum, we would like children to experience a real gallery. Children will take part in two different workshops linked to the art on display and then have a tour of the gallery. Children will need to wear full school uniform and bring a packed lunch. Due to traffic, the expected arrival time is after the school day ends 16:00. Payment can be made on Arbor.



### Attendance:

Thank you all for keeping our school attendance high. Please report an absence on ARBOR on the day (before 8:50am) or please contact the school office on 01772 862335 before 8:30am. Planned absences, i.e. dentist or doctors appointments, can be reported earlier using the online Pupil Absence Form.

**97%**

### Healthy Snacks:

Could we ask that parents continue to check what snacks and treats Key Stage 2 children are bringing into school? We have asked that children try to bring in a healthy snack at break time and then on Friday to swap this for a small treat.

### Pantomime:

Many thanks to our PTFA for paying for our Snow White pantomime this week by M & M Productions. The children had a great afternoon! It was so lovely to see them clapping, singing along and laughing at the show.



## Sport:

This month has been a great one for sport here at SMSA.

Our mini skills team from Year 4 came second in their inter-school competition.

Bikeability ran sessions with Years 3 and 4 and were very impressed with the standard of cycling. They even managed to get some of our non-cyclers cycling!

Years 5 and 6 have taken curling lessons at the Flower Bowl. In three sessions, they really have grasped the sport and are getting better each time.

A group of our Year 6s took part in an indoor curling competition against other schools and came first.

Our girl's football time did a great job in their matches with a win, draw and loss.



## Parking

Parking still remains such a tricky subject and we are always open to suggestions about how we can help families with this difficult problem. We please ask that you are considerate of others and our neighbours when parking. Please also do not park on the pavements so that our children remain safe as they leave school. Many thanks for your help with this.

## Robinwood

A reminder to our Year 5 and Year 6 parents that the payment for the trip is on Arbor. School has paid the deposits and has to complete payment for the full balance for those attending by the end of February. Could we also ask that you return the health forms to help us as we plan the details of the trip?



## Parent's Evening

Our parent meetings are a chance to meet the class teachers and find out how your child is at school, now that we are almost half way through the academic year. Robins' is on the 18th and the other classes are on the 25th March. If you have not done so already, please book your appointment using Arbor.

**SCHOOL TRENDS**  
GROWN OUT BEFORE WORN OUT

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**FLASH SALE!**

**15% OFF**

It's pay day weekend and we are offering you 15% off from today until midnight on Sunday 1st February. Simply use the code below at checkout and get your uniform topped up.

**USE CODE:**  
**FEB2615**





## St Mary and St Andrew's Spring Dates

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- 15/1: Curling Year 5 and Year 6 (Also 22./1, 29/1., 5/2)
- 4/2: Jays' Mass in Church 1:30pm (families welcome)
- 11/2: Year 3 and Year 4 visit to Whitworth Gallery (details on Arbor)
- 27/2: St David's (Yellow House) can wear yellow to school
- 4/3: Eagles' Mass in Church 1:30pm (families welcome)
- 5/3: World Book Day (dress as your favourite book character)
- 11/3: Wrens and Robins Liturgy in Church 1:30pm (families welcome)
- 17/3: St Patrick's (Green House) can wear green to school
- 18/3: Robins' Parent's Evening 1:30-6:00
- 19/3: Let's Go Sing Concert at Blackburn Ice Arena
- 23/3: Rock Steady Concert
- 25/3: Wrens', Owls', Jays' and Eagles' Parent's Evening 1:30-6:00
- 25/3: Owls' Liturgy in Church 1:30pm (families welcome)
- 26/3: Bunny Hop Day (all children come to school in PE kits)
- 30/3: Robin Wood Year 5 and Year 6 Three Day Residential
- 30/3: Wrens & Robins Psalm Sunday Assembly 9am (families welcome)
- 31/3: Owls Maundy Thursday Assembly 9am (families welcome)
- 1/4: Year 4 Good Friday Assembly 9am (families welcome)