



St Mary's Catholic Primary School

Newsletter - Friday 06 February 2026

Message to parents from Ms Hampton

Dear Parent/Carers,

Welcome to issue 21 of our Newsletter.

Dear Parent/Carer,

I hope you have had a good week.



You will be aware that Parents Consultation Evenings are scheduled for next week. Please sign up if you haven't done so already. You will have the opportunity to discuss your child's progress with their class teacher, celebrate successes and consider next steps. Attendance at school is key. It is important that your child attends school regularly and is on time. We want to make sure that your child has the best life chances in the future and recent research from the DFE shows that missing school for even a day can mean a child is less likely to achieve well in the future.

Think about these questions:

1. If my child has time off at primary school, does it make that much difference?
2. They can catch up eventually, can't they?
3. So a couple of days off isn't that much work missed, is it?

If your child misses school, they miss lessons which may not be repeated. Being absent from school makes it hard to catch up with missed work and effects how well children do.

How much lesson time do they miss when they are off?

- Half day absent = 3 hours of lessons missed.
- 1 day absent = 5 hours of lessons missed.
- 1 week absent = 25 hours of lessons missed.

· 2 weeks absent = 50 hours of lessons missed.

The possible impact for your child.

- They might feel a bit left out.
- They may not know how to do the work.
- They may fall behind and find it difficult to catch up.
- They may have to make friends again.

Monitoring and Supporting Pupil Attendance

Therefore, unbroken attendance and punctuality at school is vitally important for learning.

However, we do recognise that there will be times when absence is unavoidable and acceptable. Please see the link to the school's Attendance and Punctuality policy for your information and as a reminder of the processes and policies in place. Please read it and together, we can ensure that our children can get the very best out of school life.

Thank you for your support.

Best Wishes for the weekend,

Ms Hampton



St Mary's Attendance Policy 2025-2026.pdf

Please click the attachment to access the Attendance and Punctuality policy.

[Download](#)

368.3 KB

Catholic Life and Mission of the school

Monday 2nd February the Catholic Church celebrated the Feast of Candlemas

On Monday 2nd February the Catholic Church celebrated the Feast of Candlemas, also known as the Feast of the Presentation of Jesus Christ, the Feast of the Purification of the Blessed Virgin Mary, or the Feast of the Holy Encounter. It is a Christian feast day commemorating the presentation of Jesus at the Temple by Joseph and Mary.



Year 1 children have been learning about this special feast. They invited Father Damian to lead a special liturgy focused on presentation of Jesus at the temple.



Our School Value for this half term is **Kindness** and the matching Catholic Social Teaching Principle is **Option for the Poor**. It is a core principle emphasizing a **preferential love and commitment to the needs of the poor and vulnerable**, seeing their plight as a challenge to the entire community, not just an individual problem, and calling for systemic change, empowerment, and justice, inspired by Jesus' own focus on the marginalized.



choose
Kindness

It involves actively taking up the cause of the poor, advocating for them, sharing resources, and working for economic systems and societal structures that respect human dignity and ensure everyone's basic needs are met, making them central to moral action.

Safeguarding Information

Safeguarding remains our highest priority, and we continue to work closely with staff, pupils and families to ensure that all children are safe, both in school and online.

As part of our commitment to online safety, we are subscribing to ***Wake Up Wednesday***. ***Wake up Wednesday*** is a national campaign by 'National Online Safety' which has been designed to inform and help parents understand the dangers and the attraction of different types of online activity. It covers everything from social media platforms, gaming and online gaming, mobile and iPad security and much more.

Online Safety Tips For Families



#WakeUpWednesday

Safeguarding remains our highest priority, and we continue to work closely with staff, pupils and families to ensure that all children are safe, both in school and online.

As shared in the previous Newsletters, part of our commitment to online safety, we are subscribing to ***Wake Up Wednesday***.

This week:

Tips on setting boundaries around gaming



Please click on the link below to read the #WakeUpWednesday guide on setting boundaries around gaming.

[Click here](#)

New Parental Control Videos

Internet Matters have uploaded 3 new short videos onto YouTube, each focussing on parental controls for YouTube, Roblox and TikTok, the links are:

- [YouTube parental controls top features.](#)
- [The top 3 parental controls to use on Roblox.](#)
- [The top 3 parental controls to use on TikTok.](#)

For more information on how to keep you child safe online, please click on the link to our website page.

[Click here](#)

We encourage families to engage with these resources and to work in partnership with us to promote safe, respectful and responsible online behaviour, in line with our Catholic values of care, dignity and responsibility.

Diary Dates

February 2026	
Tuesday 10 th February	Parent Consultation Meetings
Wednesday 11 th February	Parent Consultation Meetings
Thursday 12 th February	Y2 Class Assembly
Monday 16th Feb – Friday 20th Feb Half Term	
W/c 23 rd February	Scholastic Book Fair (date tbc)
March 2026	
Thursday 5 th March	World Book Day
Thursday 12 th March	Whole school Lenten Mass in church 9.30am
Thursday 19 th	Y5 Class Assembly
W/c 23 rd March	Shakespeare Week
Easter Holidays Monday 30th March to Friday 10th April	

New diary dates will be provided weekly

We would like to share some important dates for the Autumn Term with you. We will also be adding some more dates and will share them with you soon, so please keep checking the Newsletter and the Parents' Information Board on the front gate.

PE Days

PE Days:

Please remember that children can come to school in their PE kits on PE days. Please refer to our guidance on school uniform and ensure your child has the correct PE kit. If for any reason they are not able to come in the correct kit, we require an email or phone call from home to explain the circumstances.

Unfortunately, we had to change the PE days and swap two year groups: Year 3 and Year 6. Please, find below the final PE days:

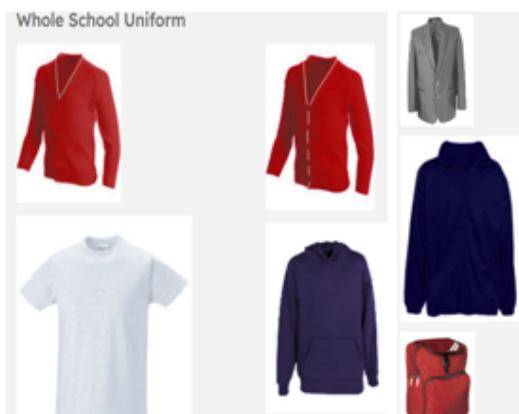
Mondays – **Year 3 and Year 5**

Thursdays – **EYFS, Year 1, Year 2, Year 4 and Year 6**

PE KIT



Whole School Uniform



Nursery

Sweatshirt - Crew neck	Embroidered - With School Badge	Cotton/Polyester
Sweatshirt - Crew neck	Embroidered - With School Badge	Cotton/Polyester
T-Shirt	Embroidered - With School Badge	100% Cotton
Infant Backpack	Embroidered - With School Badge	Polyester

Whole School

Knitted Jumper	Embroidered - With School Badge	V-neck.
Knitted Cardigan	Embroidered - With School Badge	Colour matched
Blazer	Embroidered - With School Badge	Phone and internal zipped pockets. Teflon coated Polyester buttons. Courtelle
Hooded Sweatshirt	Embroidered - With School Badge	Cotton/Polyester
Jogpants	Plain	2 pockets. Elasticated waistband. Cotton/Polyester
T-Shirt	Embroidered - With School Badge	100% Cotton
Reversible Jacket	Embroidered - With School Badge	Concealed hood. Reflective tape. Polyester
Infant Backpack - Reception to Year 2	Embroidered - With School Badge	Polyester
Junior Backpack - Year 3 - 6 Only	Embroidered - With School Badge	Polyester
Gym Bag - Reception - Year 6	Embroidered - With School Badge	Rucksack style. Zipped pocket. Name display pocket. Polyester
Tie	Plain	Broad Stripe design. Polyester Clip on also available

Look what we have been doing -Key Stage 2

Year 3 worked really hard this and last week to prepare for their class assembly on Jesus Healing the Leper. It was a great success and we are very proud of their efforts!

Year 3



What a wonderful assembly Year 4 produced last week! Each child contributed brilliantly to a fantastic team effort. As I am sure you were, I was exceptionally proud of them and so should they be. We explained, through drama, hymns and exposition, how Jesus showed he was the Messiah including by ensuring that God's Kingdom includes those who are excluded by society.

Year 4

We concluded by drawing parallels with the CST Principle for this term of Preferential option for the Poor - we share what we have so that everyone gets some; we make sure the people who have the least get served first. We can do this through kindness, honesty, helping those in need and following Jesus every day.



Matthew 11:1-15



Matthew 16:13-20



We looked at why Predictions was important in our reading Lessons.

We looked through a selections of books and made sure we didn't already know the story!

We made Predictions based on the cover of the book and compared our findings.

Year 5



This week, year 6 have completed their writing piece using Charles Dickens' 'A Christmas Carol' for inspiration. We shared our work with the wider class to celebrate the improvements we have made on our writing journey so far this year.

Year 6

The children have also learned about the significance of Bletchley Park during the war as well as the significant strides made in computing by Alan Turing. In mathematics, the class have moved from ratio to in-depth decimal knowledge and are applying it in a range of contexts to support a deeper understanding.



School CLUBS



Breakfast Club

Breakfast Club runs from 8am and will cost **£4** per child, per day for children from Reception to Y6. Before your child/ren attends Breakfast Club, please ensure you book the sessions and make the required payments first.!

This provision is only available to children from Reception to Year 6.

www.schoolgateway.com

Avenue Youth Project Primary AfterSchool Provision

You can now sign up to the Avenue Youth Project for Afterschool Provision, they also provide a walking Bus Service.



ROUTE DETAILS
The walking bus journey begins at St Mary's Primary School main entrance, where children assemble at 8:15 AM. The route takes approximately 10 minutes, with arrival at The Avenues by 8:30. The journey includes four key crossing points, featuring a small crossing on East Row, another by the park on Keanal Road, followed by a zebra crossing which takes you to the bridge, providing access to Harrow Road. At Harrow Road, the group will cross at the traffic lights and cross again onto Third Avenue.
[See Route Here](#)

A WALKING BUS SERVICE
To establish a safe and supervised walking bus service connecting St Mary's Primary School, St Charles Primary School, and The Avenues Youth Project. The walking bus will ensure students in Years 3-6 can access quality after-school activities through reliable, supervised walking routes between the schools and after-school service.

The walking bus addresses the current financial barrier of £15 per day afterschool club costs which has limited student participation. The service will incorporate road safety education as an important part of the daily journey.

The walking bus builds on the existing relationship between St Mary's and the Avenues while expanding the reach to include St Charles Primary. Through this coordinated approach, the walking bus will transform access to the Avenues after school activities, making them easily accessible to all students regardless of their families' employment status.

For more info go to our webpage: www.avenues.org.uk/zonelclubs

TERM TIME

WHAT'S ON FOR JUNIORS

Zone Clubs is a unique youth program for kids ages 8-11 that runs every Monday to Wednesday from 15:30 to 18:00.

WHAT WE OFFER
Our primary provision is for 8-11 year olds. Years 3-6.

HOLIDAYS

SPRING TERM **SUMMER TERM** **AUTUMN TERM**

SCHOOL HOLIDAYS **WEEKEND - FRIDAY** **WEEKEND - SATURDAY**

www.avenues.org.uk

Akvita Wraparound Care

Aktiva Camps After School Club hosted at the Ark Brunel Hub!

Aktiva has created a safe, fun, and friendly environment for our children.



Club Information: Aktiva After School Club will run from the end of the school day until 6:00 PM. The children will be collected from their classes at the end of the school day and brought over to the Ark Brunel hub by walking bus by 3.40pm where they will be

registered into our after-school club. There are 2 sessions available to book - Early session 3.30pm-4.30pm and a full session 3.30pm-6pm

Contact Information: Aktiva's Ark Brunel contact number: 07776657491 - only available during service (3.30pm - 6pm). For all queries regrading bookings please email bookings@aktivacamps.com or call our parent enquiry number on **0203 551 8909**.

Booking Aktiva Services:

Single Sessions: Book until 1 PM on the same day for After School Club. This flexibility allows parents to use our services as needed. Places are subject to availability and strict cutoffs.

Booking and Pricing: Please visit www.aktivacamps.com to register yourself and your child/children and select the required service.



Star of the Week

Congratulations to all the pupils who have received **Star of the Week - Friday 6th February 2026**

Star of the Term:

Reception - Ivy

Y1 - Joshua

Y2 - Torrah-Leigh

Y3 - Whole Class/Luna.T

Y4 - Savannah

Y5 -Oliva .Q

Y6 - Isaiah

Star Reader:

Y1 - Jahmiel

Y2 - Ethan

Y3 - Kadie

Y4 - Fatima

Y5 - Nathaniel

Y6 - Ana-Clara

Term Dates 2025- 2026

Term Dates 2025-2026

Spring Term - 2026

First Half Term

Staff Training – Monday 5th January – INSET Day

First Day of School – Tuesday 6th January

Last Day of School – Friday 13th February

Half Term – Monday 16th – Friday 20th February

Second Half Term

First Day of School – Monday 23rd February

Last Day of School – Friday 27th March – **School closes at 1.30pm**

Easter Holiday – Monday 30th March – Friday 10th April

Summer Term – 2026

First Half Term

First Day of School – Monday 13th April

Bank Holiday – Monday 4th May

Last Day of School – Friday 22nd May

Half Term – Monday 25th May – Friday 29th May

Second Half Term

Staff Training – Monday 1st June – INSET Day

First Day of School – Monday 1st June

Last Day of School – Friday 17th July – **School closes at 1.30pm**

Staff Training – Monday 20th July – INSET Day

FACEBOOK

INSTAGRAM

TWITTER



St Mary's Catholic Primary School

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Charles Mary

Charles is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters