



Monday 11th May 2026

Dear Families,

It's been a busy start to the summer term and we are looking forward to the coming weeks, with lots of exciting things planned across school.

Opal Play

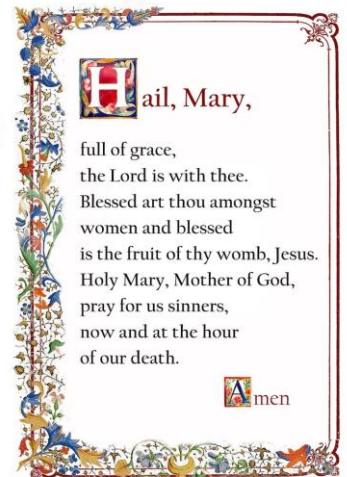
We have been working on developing the outdoor provision through Opal Play and the children have enjoyed exploring the new areas and using the new equipment on a lunch time and play time. The wiggle boards have been a great addition to the wheel area. Each week, one child will win the Welly Award with Opal Play, for following school rules outside on the yard.

Live Simply Award

Our Mini Vinnies, Eco Warriors and Cafod Club have been working towards our Live Simply Award with Cafod. The children have been leading on developing the new prayer garden on the school field and next they will be looking at a festival of cultures within our school.

St Mary's Mass

May is dedicated to Mary to celebrate her as the Mother of God, bringing new life to the world, much like springtime. We will be holding a mass for Mary on **Friday 22nd May at 10am**. Everyone is welcome.



MADD STEM Week

The children will be taking part in a range of activities throughout MADD STEAM week with a focus on curiosity and looking at 'what is your question?' Science buddies will be joining us throughout the week for an assembly and to complete lessons within the class. On Friday, children will all take part in the 'Engineering Day Earthquake Tower Challenge.'

Celebration of the Word

Class celebrations of the Word for this term are:

- **Year 2** – Friday 12th June 2026
- **Year 1** – Thursday 18th June 2026
- **Reception** – Wednesday 8th July 2026

All parents/carers are welcome, please see the amended summer dates



**Better Health
at Work Award**
Continuing Excellence



Artsmark
Silver Award
Awarded by Arts
Council England



Building
stronger
families



Our breakfast club is
supported by the charity
**magic
breakfast**
fuel for learning





St. Mary's Catholic Primary School

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Head of School Mrs J Colley

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Parking

As our school is located within a residential area, we kindly ask all parents and carers to park considerately at drop-off and pick-up times. Please be mindful of our neighbours and how we speak to them; by avoiding driveways, keeping clear of junctions, and not blocking pavements or access routes. By working together and showing respect for the local community, we can help keep everyone safe, thank you for your continued support.

Please also see information below from South Tyneside Council:

<p><i>Warm Homes North East</i></p>	<p>North East Warm Homes is available to homes across South Tyneside to help reduce energy bills and provide free and impartial advice on installing energy saving home improvements.</p> <p>To find out more information, call for free on 0808 175 9345 or visit: northeast-warmhomes.co.uk</p>	
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End of Year Mass

Due to unforeseen circumstances Fr Saji has had to change the date of the End of the year mass. This will now be on Friday 10th July at 10am.

Year 6 SATs

We would like to wish all our Year 6 children the very best of luck as they take their SATs this week. They have worked incredibly hard over the year, showing determination, maturity and resilience, and we are immensely proud of them. We are confident they will approach the tests calmly and do their very best. We will be reminding the children that the SATs are just one small part of their learning journey, and that we value each and every one of them for who they are. Good luck — you've got this!

Thank you for your continued support,

Mrs Colley

