

Saint Mary's Catholic Primary School

Celebration of the Year

2025-2026

Safe

Valued

Loved



Sporting events

Sport continues to be a real strength at Saint Mary's and we are incredibly proud of the opportunities our children have embraced this year. Pupils have represented the school in a wide range of sporting events, including **football, basketball, netball, dance, athletics, Town Sports and boccia**.

Throughout the year, our children have participated in competitions and festivals organised by **Congleton High School, Eaton Bank Academy and All Hallows Catholic College**, competing against schools from across the local area. In every event, our pupils have represented Saint Mary's with pride, demonstrating excellent sportsmanship, determination, teamwork and skill. We are delighted that many of our teams and individuals have enjoyed considerable success, bringing home medals, trophies and competition victories. Even when we haven't finished in first place, our children have always competed with enthusiasm and resilience, often giving other schools a real run for their money!

Most importantly, these events have provided our pupils with opportunities to develop confidence,

teamwork and a love of sport, creating memories and experiences that will stay with them for years to come. We look forward to building on these successes in the year ahead.



Masses

Throughout the year, we have come together as a school family to celebrate many special liturgies and Masses.

We began the academic year with a wonderful Welcome Mass, setting the tone for the months ahead. Since then,

we have gathered in faith for our **Harvest Mass, Holy Communion Enrolment Mass, Easter Mass, May Procession and the moving Leavers' Mass**.

In addition to these celebrations, we have marked important moments in the Church's calendar through our Advent Service and our Stations of the Cross liturgy, giving the children opportunities for prayer, reflection and spiritual growth. A particular highlight of the year was celebrating with those children who received the Sacrament of **First Holy Communion**. It was a joyous occasion for the children, their families and our parish community and we were proud to share in this important milestone of their faith journey.

We are also grateful to the many children who have generously given up their own time to support these Masses and liturgies, both in school and at Saint Mary's Church. Whether reading, serving, leading prayers or supporting worship in other ways, they have demonstrated a wonderful spirit of stewardship and service. Their commitment, reverence and willingness to contribute to the life of our school and parish community is greatly appreciated.

These opportunities to worship together have strengthened our sense of community, helped our children grow their understanding of the Catholic faith, deepening their relationship with God and encouraging them to live out Gospel values in their daily lives.



Trips and Visits

We have been fortunate to provide a wide range of educational visits and enrichment opportunities throughout the year, helping to bring learning to life and broaden the children's experiences beyond the classroom. All children have enjoyed visits to **Congleton Town Library**, developing their love of reading and helping them to engage with the wider community. Y4 visited **Congleton Town Hall**, learning more about local government and the history of our town. Y6 attended **Crucial Crew**, where they developed important life skills and learned how to stay safe in a variety of real-life situations. As part of their science learning, Y5 visited **Jodrell**



Bank, where they explored the wonders of space and deepened their understanding of the universe. Y3 visited **Chester**, Y1 and Y2 enjoyed an exciting visit to **Peak Wildlife Park**, providing valuable opportunities to learn about animals and their habitats. Meanwhile, our



youngest children in EYFS visited **Nixon's Farm**, where they experienced first-hand learning about farm animals and life on a working farm. These visits have provided memorable experiences for our children, enriched the curriculum and supported learning in a meaningful and engaging way. We are grateful to our staff, volunteers and families who have helped make these opportunities possible and ensured that all children could benefit from them. A special thank you goes to our PTA, whose fundraising and financial support have helped to subsidise transport costs, making these valuable experiences accessible to all. Their dedication and generosity continue to make a significant difference to the opportunities we can offer our pupils.



Residentials

Residential visits continue to be a highlight of school life, providing children with valuable opportunities to develop independence, resilience, teamwork and confidence while creating lasting memories with their classmates.



This year, our Y4 children enjoyed their first residential visit to **Tattenhall**. They had an amazing time taking part in a wide range of activities, challenging themselves, working together and embracing new experiences away from home. Y5 visited **Alton Castle**, where they enjoyed a variety of outdoor and adventurous activities. The trip provided opportunities for personal growth, team building and spiritual reflection, helping to strengthen friendships and build confidence. Y6 travelled to **Min-y-Don**, where they participated in a range of exciting outdoor activities. The residential was a wonderful way for our pupils to challenge themselves, develop new skills and celebrate their final year at Saint Mary's together.



These residential experiences play an important role in enriching our curriculum and supporting children's personal development. The enthusiasm, courage and positive attitudes shown by all of the children were a credit to themselves, their families and our school.



We are grateful to the staff who gave their time to make these visits possible and to the families whose support enabled their children to take part in these memorable experiences.

Celebrations

We are proud to celebrate a number of awards that recognise the hard work and achievements of our children and staff.

This year, we were delighted to achieve the **Gold School Games**



Award, recognising our commitment to sport and physical activity and the **Primary Languages Award**, celebrating our dedication to the teaching of Spanish.

We have also reapplied for the **Eco-Schools Green Flag Award**, recognising our ongoing commitment to caring for our environment and God's creation.

We are currently awaiting the outcome of this year's application.

These achievements reflect the

enthusiasm of our pupils and the dedication of

our staff in providing a rich and varied curriculum for all.



Primary Languages Development Award



Improvements

Throughout the year, staff have worked hard to continue improving our school environment and the opportunities available to our children. We are incredibly proud of our new **Reading Hub**, which provides a welcoming and inspiring space for children to develop a love of reading. We have also invested in a new reading scheme for Key Stage 2 and have spent time preparing resources to ensure a successful launch in September.



Our school environment has also seen many exciting improvements : There have been wonderful additions to the **EYFS outdoor area**, creating even more opportunities for exploration and learning through play.

Our **Orchard and Forest School areas** have both been refreshed, enhancing the outdoor experiences available to our children. Thanks to the generosity of our **PTA**, we have been able to purchase a new set of Chromebooks, helping to support children's learning and develop their digital skills. We have also installed new



curtains in the hall, improving our shared space for worship, performances and school events.

These improvements reflect our ongoing commitment to providing the very best learning environment for all of our children, and we are excited to continue building on this work in the year ahead.



PTA

Our PTA have created so many wonderful opportunities for our children this year. Through events such as **film nights, discos, the Christmas Fair and Summer Fair**, they have brought our community together while raising funds for the school. Their support has helped to subsidise trips, purchase Chromebooks, provide equipment for classrooms and Forest School and fund special experiences for our children. They have also provided **Mother's Day and Father's Day** gifts, helping to create lasting memories for our pupils. The PTA's generosity and dedication have made a huge difference to our school. Thank you, from the bottom of our hearts, for everything you do.



Visitors

We have welcomed many wonderful visitors into school this year, helping to enrich our curriculum and provide memorable experiences for our children.



Representatives from the **NSPCC** visited to teach children important messages about staying safe, while visiting gymnasts inspired pupils by sharing their experiences and passion for sport. **Zoo2U** brought a variety of animals into school, giving children a unique hands-on learning experience, and we were also delighted to welcome **the Mayor** to school.



We are incredibly grateful to all of our visitors, who have generously shared their time, knowledge and expertise with our children throughout the year.

We would also like to say a special thank you to our fantastic team of volunteers who come into school each week to listen to children read. Their commitment and support make a real difference to our pupils' confidence and progress, and we are extremely thankful for the time they dedicate to helping our children develop a love of reading.



Children as Leaders

We are incredibly proud of all our **Children as Leaders** groups and the positive impact they have had on our school this year.

Our **School Council, Reading Champions, GIFT Team, Eco Team, Mini Vinnies and Anti-Bullying**

Ambassadors have all worked hard to make a difference within our school and the wider community.

Through their leadership, dedication and commitment to

serving others, they have helped to promote our Catholic ethos, encourage positive change and ensure that pupil voice remains at the heart of school life.

They are wonderful role models for their peers and we are extremely grateful for all they do for Saint Mary's.



Theme Days

Throughout the year, we have enjoyed a range of themed days that have enriched our curriculum and made learning fun and memorable for everyone.



Events such as **World Book Day, Times Tables Rock Stars Day** and **British Values Day** provided exciting opportunities for pupils to deepen their learning, develop new skills and celebrate important aspects of school life.

These special days help to bring learning to life, inspire enthusiasm and create lasting memories for our children while supporting their academic and personal development.



Charity Work



Our children have shown great compassion and generosity with a range of charity events throughout the year. They have worked hard to raise money for a variety of worthy causes, supporting both international charities and those closer to home, including our local hospice.

These fundraising efforts have helped our children to live out our Catholic values of service, compassion and care for others. We are incredibly proud of their kindness and commitment to making a positive difference in the lives of others.



Thank You

Finally, a heartfelt thank you to all of our parents and carers for your continued support throughout the year.

We value our partnership with families and recognise the vital role you play in your children's education. Thank you for supporting school events, attending celebrations and joining us for activities such as **Stay and Play** and **Stay and Read**. Your involvement helps to strengthen our school community and enriches the experiences we provide for our children.

We are incredibly grateful for your encouragement, support and commitment to Saint Mary's.

By working together, we can ensure the very best outcomes for all of our children.



