

Weekly Newsletter

Safe
Valued
Loved



Friday 17th July 2026

Edition 39

'Other seeds fell on good soil and produced grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty.'

Matthew 13:8

Dear Parents and Carers,

In our final Celebration of the Word, the children learned about the 200th anniversary of Saint Mary's Church. They explored the rich history of our parish and reflected on the important role the church has played in the lives of so many people over the past two centuries.

The children enjoyed discovering more about our church's heritage and were reminded of the strong connection between Saint Mary's Church and Saint Mary's School.

It was a wonderful opportunity to celebrate our shared faith and community as we look forward to this very special milestone.



Goodbye Year 6

As another academic year draws to a close, we prepare to say goodbye to our wonderful Year 6 pupils. They have been an important part of the Saint Mary's family and will be greatly missed by both staff and pupils alike.

This week has been filled with special memories as we celebrated their time at our school. The children took part in a beautiful Leavers' Mass, reflecting on their journey and giving thanks for the friendships, experiences and achievements they have enjoyed during their time with us.

We were also treated to a fantastic Leavers' Assembly, where Year 6 shared memories, laughter and heartfelt reflections with parents, staff and fellow pupils. In addition, the children completed a First Aid course, including learning CPR and other valuable lifesaving skills, helping to prepare them for the next stage of their education and beyond.

Year 6 have been wonderful ambassadors for Saint Mary's and we are incredibly proud of the young people they have become.

We thank them for all they have contributed to our school community and wish them every happiness and success as they move on to their chosen high schools.



Remember, once part of the Saint Mary's family, always part of the Saint Mary's family.

Good luck, Year 6 – we know you will achieve great things!

To Our Year 6 Leavers

The time has come to spread your wings,
To chase your dreams and all life brings.
You've learnt, you've laughed,
You've grown so much,
And left your mark with every touch.

With faith and courage, step ahead,
Remember the paths that
Saint Mary's led.
Though now it's time to say goodbye,
Your future shines bright as the
summer sky.

We'll miss your smiles, your talents too,
And all the special things you do.
Wherever life may lead you on,
Know Saint Mary's will still be home.

Good luck, Year 6 – be brave, be kind,
And keep God's love within your mind.
We're proud of all you've come to be,
And all that lies ahead for thee.

—With love from everyone
at Saint Mary's



Summer reading challenge

A librarian from Congleton Library came to assembly this week to tell the children all about the Summer reading challenge.

All children were given a flier with the information, you can also sign up for free at your local library.

Children will earn stickers for reading over the summer and if they finish the challenge will get a medal and certificate AND ALSO a free swim voucher!

This annual challenge is a fun way to keep children reading through the summer holidays.

For more details, simply pop in to your local library to join in!

First Aid

Well done to Y6 for completing their First Aid training this week!

A huge thank you to the PTA for purchasing this!



EYFS Teddy Bear's Picnic

Our EYFS children had a wonderful time at their Teddy Bears' Picnic on Tuesday, joined by their families for a special afternoon of fun and celebration.

The children loved bringing their favourite teddy bears to school and enjoyed sharing a picnic with their friends and family members.

It was lovely to see everyone spending time together, enjoying the sunshine and chatting.

A huge thank you to all the families who joined us and helped make the event so special. The smiles on the children's faces said it all!



Penalties for unauthorised absence

Timeline	One child	Two children
Paid within 21 days	£80 per parent	£80 per child = £160 per parent
After 21 days and before 28 days	£160 per parent	£160 per child = £320 per parent
After 28 days	You will be summonsed to appear before the Magistrates' Court on the grounds you have failed to secure your child's regular attendance	You will be summonsed to appear before the Magistrates' Court on the grounds you have failed to secure your children's regular attendance

Attendance

Nursery	80.65%	Year 3	98.62%
Reception	88.18%	Year 4	89.17%
Year 1	84.5%	Year 5	95.5%
Year 2	94.62%	Year 6	96%



Whole school 95.9%

Dojo winners

Year 4



Taking Holidays during Term Time

Please remember that taking your child out of school without the school's authorisation may result in the school requesting the Local Authority to issue a fixed penalty notice to each parent / carer for each child. The penalties are shown above.

Thank you

As we come to the end of another wonderful school year, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our parents and carers for your continued support, encouragement and partnership. Your support plays a vital role in helping our children to thrive, and we are incredibly grateful for everything you do.

On a personal note, I have thoroughly enjoyed my first year as Headteacher of Saint Mary's. From the very beginning, I have been made to feel so welcome by the children, staff, families and parish community.

It has been a privilege to see our pupils learn, grow and flourish throughout the year.

As we look ahead, I am excited about the future of our school and all that we can achieve together. Saint Mary's is a very special place, and I am proud to be part of such a caring, supportive and ambitious community.

Thank you once again for your support throughout the year. I wish you all a happy, restful and safe summer break and I look forward to welcoming everyone back in September.

Eco Schools Green Flag Award



Green Flag 2026

School Name

Saint Mary's Catholic
Primary School

Award Level:
Distinction

We are delighted to have been awarded a Distinction for this award for the 10th year in a row!

May thanks to Mrs Pinto who has worked hard with the Eco council.

Bees needs week

This is Bees needs week, an annual event organised by DEFRA to raise awareness about how to support bees and other pollinators.

On Sunday 19th July, Mrs Pinto is holding an event in Congleton park from 2pm to 3pm. Please come along to the 'Just Bee' garden between the kids playground and the bowling green.



There will be a bee hive with live bees, Rotary plant stall and a bee hunt in the garden. Year 5 did this event in May and had a wonderful time.

End of year treat!

Thank you to our wonderful PTA for paying for ice creams and lollies for all children and staff yesterday. This end of term treat was very much appreciated in the sunshine!

We are thankful to our wonderful PTA who help to organise many events throughout the year. Could you help and join the PTA next year?



Without additional help from new parents, we may be without a PTA next academic year. If you would like to be part of our PTA, please get in touch with the office—so that events such as school discos, Christmas and Summer Fairs can continue.

Prayer

Loving God,

As we come to the end of another school year, we thank You for all the blessings You have given us.

Thank You for the friendships we have made, the lessons we have learned, the challenges we have overcome, and the happy memories we will cherish.

We pray for all the children, staff, parents and carers in our Saint Mary's family. Bless us during the summer holidays with rest, joy and time spent with those we love.

We pray especially for our Year 6 pupils as they begin a new chapter in their lives. Guide them with Your wisdom, fill them with confidence and courage, and help them to always know that You are with them wherever they go.

Keep us safe, help us to show kindness to others and bring us back together refreshed and ready for a new school year.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Dates for the Diary

Friday 17th—Finish for summer holiday

Tuesday 1st September—School closed for INSET DAY

Wednesday 2nd—All children back to school