

# Weekly Newsletter

Safe  
Valued  
Loved



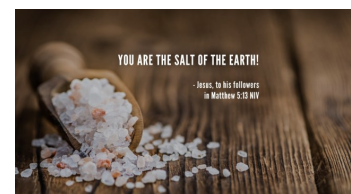
Friday 13th February 2026 Edition 21

Jesus said to His disciples, "You are the salt of the Earth".

**Matthew 5:13**

Dear Parents and Carers

The half term is here already! A huge well done to our fantastic pupils and dedicated staff for their hard work and enthusiasm this half term. We hope everyone enjoys a well-earned break—time to rest, recharge and make happy memories. We look forward to welcoming everyone back refreshed, smiling and ready for the next half term ahead as we journey through Lent together.



## Birds of Prey competition

Following on from the RSPB (Big schools Birdwatch), the Eco team are running a competition about 'Birds of Prey'. Children can create any piece of work they chose about their class bird. e.g. a poem, sketch, painting, story, fact file, history, habitat or collage.

**EYFS Owl, Y1 Kestrel, Y2 Kite, Y3 Harrier, Y4 Eagle, Y5 Buzzard, Y6 Hawk.**

We are really looking forward to judging their submissions after half term.

## Sporting Competitions

Well done to the Y5/6 boys that took part in a Football competition and Y3/4 who took part in Athletics this week.

All children were wonderful ambassadors for Saint Mary's and we are incredibly proud of them all for displaying such positivity, teamwork and determination!



## Roof works

The roof works are almost complete as I am sure you have noticed with the removal of the scaffolding! The final days work will be completed over the half term holidays to repair part of the kitchen roof in addition to new roofing that has already been installed. Many thanks for your understanding and patience whilst the works were taking place, it is greatly appreciated.

## Photography Challenge

Congleton Rotary are inviting children to take part in a photography challenge named 'The Wonders of Water'. Any digital camera or smartphone can be used. The digital photograph should be a minimum of 1500 pixels on the long side. The file size should be no more than 5MB. We need entries by **Friday 23rd February** so they can be sent to the Rotary. After the success of our Saint Mary's Photography Challenge why not give this one a go too!

## Nursery

We have Nursery places available—children are able to start Nursery the term after they are 3. If you are interested in registering a place for your child please call in to the office.

## Talking point

### **Individual Liberty – Talking About Feelings and Choices**

In school, children are encouraged to express their ideas, feelings and interests. At home, you can talk with your child about what they enjoy, what they find challenging and the choices they make.

Asking questions like "How did that make you feel?" helps children learn that it is okay to be themselves and to make safe choices.

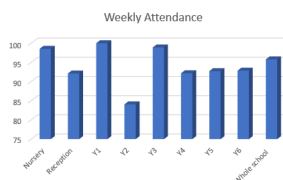
## EYFS Animal Day

As part of the children's learning about animals, EYFS children (and staff) dressed up as animals. They had a wonderful time and certainly got into character. Here are some pictures from the day for you to enjoy!



### Attendance

Nursery	98.54%	Year 4	92.17%
Reception	92.12%	Year 5	92.73%
Year 1	100%	Year 6	92.86%
Year 2	84.07%	Whole School	95.8%
Year 3	98.89%		



### Dates for your diary

Mon 23rd - Back to school and Y4 swimming  
 Wed 25th—Y4 Love Music Trust Strings lesson  
 Wed 25th—First Holy Communion classes 3.15pm—4pm  
 Thurs 26th—Y4 and Gift Team trip to Laudato Si Centre  
 Thurs 26th—Y6 Forest School and Y5/6 Netball at CHS  
 Fri 27th—Zoo2U visit in school for Nursery and Reception  
 Fri 27th—Y5 Love Music Trust Brass lesson  
 Mon 22nd March - Y4 swimming  
 Tues 3rd March—Y2 attend Mass in Church and Y1 & 2 Parent's Phonics meeting 3.15pm

### PTA Disco

A huge thank you to our PTA for organising our school disco and to all the families who supported the event.

Together you have raised an amazing **£591.69!**

### The Wizard of Oz

All Hallows invite you to watch their production of The Wizard of Oz.

Tuesday 10th—Friday 13th March, tickets from £12.

### GIFT team

Well done to the GIFT team who spent time with children in Reception this week to share their knowledge of Catholic Social Teaching.

We definitely have some potential teachers within the

GIFT team.

Great work!



**3 MARCH**

## Phonics MEETING

Meeting for Year 1 and 2 parents/carers regarding the Phonics Screener in the Summer Term

in \_\_\_\_\_

at \_\_\_\_\_

beg \_\_\_\_\_

rm \_\_\_\_\_

AT SCHOOL  
3:15PM - 4PM

## Stars of the Week and Gospel Values

Nursery	Thomas	For being such a lovely member of Nursery
	Isabella	For always having a smile on her face
Reception	Felicity	For excellent effort in Phonics lessons
	William	For showing kindness to his friends
Year 1	Faith	For amazing independent writing
	Konrad	For helping to keep the classroom tidy
Year 2	Bodi	For working hard in his Phonics
	Siena	For fantastic persistence in all her work
Year 3	Anvika	For fantastic effort and attitude in all of her learning this week
	Zak	For always showing respect, love and kindness to others
Year 4	Rome	For always putting 100% effort in to his learning
	Freya	For always being extremely helpful and thoughtful towards her friends and teachers
Year 5	Ellie & Jake	For making a fantastic start at St Mary's - Well done!
	Finley	For great skills and interaction teaching rebounders to the Nursery children
Year 6	Molly	For fantastic effort in Maths
	Thomas	For being a great help around the classroom

### Dojo winners

#### Year 1



**ClassDojo**

### Mother's Day Event

Please can all children bring in a small gift for Mother's Day by Friday 6th March, along with a £1 donation (donations can also be made online on Arbor under 'shop')

On Friday 13th March, children will be able to choose from a selection of gifts and these will be wrapped ready for them to bring home in time for Mother's Day on Sunday 15th March.

Volunteers would be much appreciated to help wrap gifts on Friday 13<sup>th</sup>, so please come along after drop-off if you are available.

### Wellbeing Week

This week we have celebrated Children's mental health week by taking part in the 5 ways to wellbeing; Connect, Be Active, Keep Learning, Take Notice and Give. There are been lots of wonderful activities taking place in school.

### World Book Day

World Book Day is **Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March**, we have lots of exciting activities planned! We invite children to dress up as their favourite book character, if they so wish. An email has been sent with all the details of activities to do during half term.

### School Buildings fund

As a Catholic Academy, 10% of the cost of building works and major repairs must be met by the Diocese instead of public funding. The Diocese relies on contributions from our parishes and school communities. Every year, we ask for contribution towards the school buildings fund in order to support the Diocese in keeping the Catholic school well maintained. A £5 contribution per child is suggested, but you are free to give more or less than this. Please visit your Arbor system, under 'Shop', School Buildings to donate.

### Internet Safety Day

Children learned how to keep safe online this week, focusing particularly on AI in our ever changing world. Continue to discuss online safety with your children as well as why particular songs and films are not appropriate to listen to and watch until they are much older.

### Prayer

Loving God,  
Thank you for this half term break—a time to rest, play and be together.  
Keep our children, families and staff safe and happy during the holidays and bring us back refreshed, thankful and ready to learn and grow.  
Amen.

