

Weekly Newsletter

Safe
Valued
Loved



Friday 10th July 2026

Edition 38

"Come to me, all who labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest."

Matthew 11:28

Dear Parents and Carers,

In this week's Celebration of the Word, we reflected on the importance of rest as we approach the end of another busy school year. The children explored how rest helps us to restore our bodies and minds, as well as nurture our spiritual wellbeing. We discussed the importance of taking time to pause, talk to Jesus about our worries and concerns and trust Him to help us find peace. The children were reminded that true rest allows us to recharge, be thankful for all we have achieved and prepare for the exciting opportunities ahead.



Summer Fair

A huge thank you to our incredible PTA for organising such a fantastic Summer Fair. The event was a tremendous success and simply would not have been possible without the hard work, dedication and enthusiasm of all the volunteers who gave up their time to plan, prepare and run the stalls and activities. A huge **£1,479.08** was raised!

We would also like to thank all of our families, friends and members of the wider community who attended and supported the event. It was wonderful to see so many people coming together to enjoy the afternoon and celebrate our school community. Your generosity and support are greatly appreciated and the funds raised will help provide even more opportunities for our children.

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



Rotary Art Winners

Well done to the winners of the Congleton Rotary Art competition—we are so proud of you!



New Curtains

We have new curtains fitted in the hall and they look fantastic, we are sure you will agree when you see them!

200 year celebration of Saint Mary's Church

We are incredibly proud of all the children who have been involved in the celebrations marking the 200th anniversary of Saint Mary's Church. Whether singing in the choir, proclaiming a reading, participating in the offertory, or supporting the Masses in other ways, they have represented our school community with reverence, confidence and pride. In the weeks leading up to these special celebrations, the children have been learning about the rich history and significance of Saint Mary's Church.

As part of this, every child has created a pledge or promise, with the aim of collecting 200 pledges and promises to commemorate this important milestone. These have been beautifully brought together in a special commemorative book, creating a lasting reminder of the children's faith, hopes and commitment to living out our school values. Thank you to everyone involved in making this such a meaningful and memorable celebration for our parish and school community.

Stars of the Week and Gospel Values

Nursery	Jacob	For doing so well in Sports Day
	Olivia	For persevering with Sports Day activities
Reception	Lilly H	For being a helpful member of the class
	Spencer	For always showing kindness towards others
Year 1	Archie	For showing great cutting and juicing skills in DT making a smoothie
	Isabelle	For always working hard
Year 2	Bodi	For great clay structure
	Indi	For being a great friend
Year 3	Lottie	For amazing attitude and team spirit during Sports Day
	Katie	For showing kindness and respect to others
Year 4	Lilly	For excellent progress in her handwriting this year
	Max	For having the strength to keep trying and succeeding
Year 5	Lucy	For super progress and attainment in reading
	Ellie	For offering to lead celebration of the word and always being willing to help
Year 6	Harry	For being an all-round wonderful member of Saint Mary's who is polite and kind
	Sebastian	For helping out others without expecting anything in return

Dojo

winners

Year 4



Cricket

Well done to the 8 children from Y3 & Y4 who took part in the Cricket event at Congleton Cricket Club this week.

The children played four matches against other local schools.

All members really enjoyed the morning and showed great resilience and communication skills.

Nixon's Farm

On Thursday, our EYFS children enjoyed a fantastic end-of-year trip to Nixon Farm. The visit linked to their learning about farm animals and gave the children the opportunity to meet and learn about a variety of animals up close.

They had a wonderful time exploring the farm and deepening their understanding of how animals are cared for. The children also enjoyed an end-of-term play session, where they were able to have fun with their friends and celebrate all they have achieved this year. It was a lovely day filled with learning, laughter and memorable experiences for all involved.

Attendance

We strive for excellent attendance at Saint Mary's.

If your child is unwell and they are need to rest and recover at home we completely understand, but the table below shows the impact of a lower attendance.

Children will miss valuable learning time and typically will not as much progress as their peers who are in school every day.

Attendance during one school year	Equivalent Days	Equivalent Sessions	Equivalent Weeks	Equivalent Lessons Missed
95%	9 Days	18 Sessions	1.4 Weeks	45 Lessons
90%	19 Days	38 Sessions	3.4 Weeks	95 Lessons
85%	29 Days	58 Sessions	5.4 Weeks	145 Lessons
80%	36 Days	72 Sessions	7.1 Weeks	180 Lessons
75%	48 Days	96 Sessions	9.3 Weeks	240 Lessons



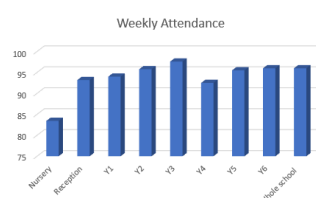
Wheelbarrow entries

Our entries for the Back to Back gardens are great!
Well done EYFS and gardening club.



Attendance

Nursery	83.44%	Year 3	97.59%
Reception	93.18%	Year 4	92.5%
Year 1	94%	Year 5	95.5%
Year 2	95.77%	Year 6	96%
Whole school		96%	



Sports Day

Despite the extremely hot weather, we were able to enjoy a successful Sports Day. Following careful consideration and to ensure the safety and wellbeing of all children, we made the decision to shorten the event. We would like to thank parents and carers for their understanding and support.

The children were fantastic throughout the morning, demonstrating excellent teamwork, determination and sportsmanship in every event. It was wonderful to see them encouraging one another and taking part with such enthusiasm.

A huge thank you to our staff for organising the day and to all the family members who came along to support. Most importantly, well done to all of our children for their effort, resilience and positive attitude – you should all be very proud of yourselves!

Year 4 visit to the Town Hall



Year 4 enjoyed a fantastic visit to Congleton Town Hall this week. The children loved learning about the history of Congleton and exploring the beautiful Town Hall building. They were fascinated by the many artefacts and treasures on display and enjoyed discovering more about their local area.

It was a wonderful experience that brought their learning to life and helped them gain a greater appreciation of Congleton's rich heritage. 'This was the best trip ever!'



Orchard Makeover

On Thursday, we were delighted to welcome volunteers from **AstraZeneca** to school to help revamp our orchard.



The team worked incredibly hard throughout the day, dedicating their time and skills to transforming the area into a fantastic outdoor space for our children to enjoy.

The results are truly amazing, and the orchard has been given a wonderful new lease of life. We are extremely grateful to everyone involved for their hard work, generosity and support.

Dates for the Diary

Mon 13th—Whole School new class transitions, Y5 trip to Library and New Reception class taster session

Tues 14th—Y6 First Aid session, New Nursery class taster session and EYFS Teddy Bears picnic 1.30pm

Wed 15th—Y6 leavers Mass 1.30pm

Thurs 16th—Rocky Steady concert 9.15am and Y5 Forest School

Fri 17th—Y6 Leavers Assembly 9am and School closes for Summer

Tues 1st September—INSET day

Wed 2nd September—Back to school

Prayer

Loving God,

As we approach the end of another busy school year, we thank You for all the opportunities, achievements and happy memories we have shared together.

Thank You for our families, friends, teachers and all those who help and care for us each day. Help us to continue to show kindness, respect and compassion to those around us.

Bless all of our children as they prepare for new challenges and new beginnings. Fill them with confidence, joy and courage as they take their next steps on their learning journey.

May we always remember that You are with us, guiding us in all that we do.

Amen.

