



# St Mary & St John Catholic Primary School

## February 2026 Newsletter

*In the light of Jesus, we learn to shine.*



### Diary Dates this term so far..

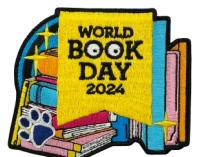
Monday 2nd February—SATS parent meeting—3:30pm  
Thursday 5th February—Halle Orchestra workshop—Y5/Y6  
Thursday 5th February—Sportshall athletics competition—Y5/Y6  
Thursday 5th February—Swimming gala competition—KS2  
Monday 9th February—Seatbelt safety—Y1  
Tuesday 10th February—Safe Internet Day  
Tuesday 10th February—'Disability to Possibility'—Bart Gee assembly and workshops in school.  
Wednesday 11th February—Break the rules day!  
Wednesday 11th February—Friday 13th February—Architect workshops in school  
Thursday 12th February—Y3 swimming sessions begin  
Thursday 12th February—Y5 parent meeting after school re: Anderton Centre trip  
Friday 13th February—Y3 'Horrible Histories' theatre trip  
Monday 16th February—Friday 20th February—Half term  
Tuesday 24th February—Mad Science Assembly  
Friday 27th February—Reception 'first touch' PE sessions begin.  
Tuesday 3rd March —Mad Science Assembly  
Tuesday 3rd March—Y5/Y6 trip to Bridgewater Hall—Halle Orchestra  
Friday 6th March—World Book Day in school  
Monday 9th March—Wonderdome experience in school  
Tuesday 10th March, Wednesday 11th March—Parents evening  
Thursday 12th March—Cross country competition—Y5/Y6  
Friday 13th March, Monday 16th March—Book fair in school  
Wednesday 25th March—Friday 27th March—Y5 trip to Anderton Centre  
Monday 30th March—KS2 Lenten Mass at St John's Church  
Wednesday 1st April—Share the Learning  
Thursday 2nd April—Big Lent Walk to Haigh Hall/Mesnes Park

### WORLD BOOK DAY celebration - Friday 6th March 2026

(NB. National World Book Day is Thursday 5th March)

The children are looking forward to celebrating World Book Day—this year pupils can come to school dressed as their favourite book character and bring in a book to share and a £1 for the privilege!

Money raised will support the purchase of new literacy resources. We can't wait to see you all!



There are lots of resources available on the website.

<https://www.worldbookday.com/>

Dear parents and carers,

We have made it to the end of a long and rainy January, but there has been lots going on in school to brighten everyone's spirits! Last week, we held a 'Disconnect to Reconnect' day in school, involving no screens and no lights in lessons to show our care for the world as stewards. Pupils and staff highlighted how calm the day was and how much they enjoyed it! It may have provided an insight for pupils that they can survive without screens! January also highlighted our monthly value of 'empathy' with pupils working hard to understand the feelings of others—a huge congratulations to all of our empathy winners. February will see school focus on 'friendship', as we (alongside our parents) support pupils as they grow into socially aware, kind and responsible citizens of the world.

Our school council and Eco-council members in Y5 and Y6 teamed up with members from Mabs Cross Primary School to hold a meeting with local counsellors about improving the area around school, where they highlighted issues such as safety concerns around cars at peak times, environmental improvements such as litter and green spaces as well as heritage considerations. Our pupils were amazing and gave passionate speeches about changes they would like to see happen in our area. They represented our school brilliantly and will be meeting further members of the local authority in the coming weeks.

Last week also saw the beginning of our 'Stay and Pray' sessions with parents being invited to reflect and participate in our Worships in school. Pupils are growing as leaders of prayer and it is great to showcase their reverence and understanding of the Word with you all.

We have 2 very busy weeks left in school before half-term, filled with sporting competitions, visitors, trips and another 'Break the Rules' day! Lots of excitement to come to support the learning and well-being of all pupils in school.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support,

*Mr Atherton*

### Attendance

Thank you to all pupils for the great start to the new year in terms of attendance. Our current average attendance is **95.5%**. We are still aiming for our attendance goal of **97%**. We have had lots of weekly class winners of our attendance awards. Remember Can anyone catch Y5 this term?

Rec—94.6%	Y4—95.0%
Y1—95.0%	Y5—97.6%
Y2—95.1%	Y6—95.1%
Y3—96.3%	

Regular attendance helps children feel confident, connected and ready to learn. Every day in school builds important routines, friendships and skills that support their success. Thank you for your continued efforts to have your child arrive on time each day—we truly appreciate your partnership!

### CAFOD Lenten Prayer

God of growth, in the beginning you planted a garden and walked with us, your beloved creation. Teach us to tread lightly as we care for all you made.

God the Sower, you plant seeds of your Kingdom in the soil of our hearts. Water them with your Word and weed out fear and selfishness. Cultivate in us your compassion, so we may truly love our neighbours.

God of Gethsemane, you chose the tree of suffering which would bring us new life. May its roots grow deep within us, inspiring us to seek justice, so all people may flourish in the garden of your grace.

Amen.



### TenTen Newsletter

Please find a link to the TenTen Parent Newsletter for the month of February:  
[Parent Newsletter – Ten Ten Resources](https://www.tentenresources.co.uk/parent-newsletter/)