



St Mary & St John Catholic Primary School

January 2026 Newsletter

In the light of Jesus, we learn to shine.

Happy New Year and a warm welcome back to all of our school families. The Autumn term finished with a flourish with the KS1 nativity and KS2 Advent performance showcasing the amazing talent that we have in our school. It was great to see so many happy smiles as pupils enjoyed festive activities in the build-up to the Christmas break. Now we are back, the Spring Term is in full flow and the classrooms are once again full of energy, enthusiasm and a real sense of purpose. We are very much looking forward to the term ahead. This term promises to be a busy and exciting one, with lots of opportunities for learning, enrichment and celebration. We are grateful, as ever, for your continued support and partnership, which plays such an important role in helping our pupils shine.

Diary Dates this term so far until half-term..

Wednesday 7th January—Y2 History visitor
 Thursday 8th January—Y6 History visitor
 Tuesday 13th January—Wigan Museum visitors in school
 Friday 16th January—Pupil champion meetings
 Monday 26th January—Altru theatre performance in school
 Wednesday 28th January—Thursday 5th February—Stay and Pray sessions (see below for further information)
 Thursday 5th February—Y5/6 Sportshall athletics competition
 Thursday 5th February—Swimming Gala
 Monday 9th February—Y1 seat belt safety workshop
 Tuesday 10th February—Visitor in school—'From disability to possibility'
 Wednesday 11th February—Break the Rules Day!
 Wednesday 11th-Friday 13th February—Architect workshops in school



Teaching Assistant Vacancy

We are seeking a caring and enthusiastic Teaching Assistant to join our school team on a temporary basis. The successful candidate will support pupils' learning and wellbeing and will be working closely with teachers in a positive and inclusive environment. If you are passionate about helping children thrive, we would love to hear from you. The application deadline is 22nd January 2026.

For more information and application details, please contact the school office.

Extra-curricular Clubs

Below are the clubs that will be on offer this half term:

Mondays—PE—KS1 dance after school club
 Wednesdays—Computing—Procreate lunch time club
 Wednesdays—DT - KS2 TinkerCad afterschool club
 Thursdays—Music—Choir lunch time club
 Thursdays—PE—KS2 Sports hall athletics after school club
 Fridays—RSHE—Mindful colouring lunch time club



Stay and Pray

Each class will be holding a 'Stay and Pray' prayer and liturgy session this half-term. We welcome our families to join our classes. See the dates and times below:

RECEPTION— Thursday 5th February 2:45pm
YEAR 1— Friday 30th January 2:45pm
YEAR 2 — Wednesday 4th February 2:45pm
YEAR 3 — Wednesday 4th February 2:45pm
YEAR 4 — Tuesday 3rd February 2:45pm
YEAR 5 — Thursday 29th January 2:45pm
YEAR 6— Wednesday 28th January 2:45pm



Reception Applications

A reminder that the applications should be made online and must be completed by the closing date of 15th January 2026. The Catholic School Supplementary Form must also be completed. Please hand in to the school office. Please call in for a copy or access the form from our school website. Do not hesitate to contact school if you have any questions.

Reindeer Ramble

A huge thank you to all of our families for supporting our 'Reindeer Ramble' in school. Pupils thoroughly enjoyed wearing their reindeer antlers and completing laps around our playgrounds. With your help we managed to raise a fantastic £807 to support Wigan and Leigh Hospice. Thank you all for your kind donations.



Parent Governor

School would like to offer huge congratulations to Jennifer Armstrong for her successful application to become our school governor. There were some amazing applications and candidates, showing the strong commitment to supporting school life from our families. Thank you again to all candidates and to all parents who voted in the school ballot.

Attendance

Thank you to all families for their continued support with our pupils' attendance and punctuality. The bout of illness that swept across school has affected our overall attendance but everyone has made a great start so far this term with multiple classes having 100% attendance in January. Our overall attendance stands at 95.3% and we are still aiming for our goal of 97%.

Rec— 94.1%	Y4—95.2%
Y1— 94.4%	Y5— 97.6%
Y2— 94.5%	Y6— 95.9%
Y3— 95.9%	



Swimming lessons promotion

Summer swimmers are made in winter.

Get the kids ready for the summer holidays with Be Well's Learn to Swim programme! Keep them active, happy, and healthy over the winter months as they build confidence, learn valuable life-skills and make friends. Use the following link [BeWell Wigan Offer](#) now to secure 50% off for your child's first 2 months membership.

Half term week starts on Monday 16th to Friday 20th February 2026
We break up for the Easter Holidays on Friday 3rd April 2026
Summer Term begins Monday 20th April 2026