



# St. Mary's Catholic Academy

## November 2025

### Messenger



Dear parents/carers,

Welcome back to a new half term. The children have all come back to school with great enthusiasm and a great attitude to learning, which is as always great to see.

As we returned to school this week, we return as a member of our extended family, St Gabriel the Archangel (Multi Academy Trust); a newly formed family of 64 Catholic schools in the Archdiocese of Birmingham, part of a wider community of MACs united in one mission:

***Forming pilgrims of hope with kind hearts, questioning minds, a thirst for knowledge and a hunger for justice.***

The month of November is a month of remembering all those we love who have died. On Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> November the Church celebrated the Solemnity of All Saints, and All Souls Day, when we remember the men and women of faith who have gone before us.

During the month of November school's from across the CMAT are running an initiative called 'Light in the Darkness'. The idea of this is that Christ will shine his light into the darkness of our lives. We are called to carry the Light of Christ wherever we go in Prayer and Hope – Especially thinking and praying for people who have died.

Throughout the month of November, we have made available a 'Remembrance Tree' for the children to offer their own prayers and thoughts to remember and pray for loved ones they have lost. If you would like to offer your own prayers during this month, please add your prayer to a luggage label for your child to bring in. Luggage labels are also available for children to collect from school.

Monday 10<sup>th</sup> November we will also begin our anti-bullying week. The national theme for the week this year is 'Power for Good. On Monday 10<sup>th</sup> November, we will take part in 'Odd Socks Day.' You will be receiving further communication about how we are marking this week as a school.

Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> November 2:30 – 3:30, Lauren Vernon from the Children's University will be hosting a drop in session in school for you to ask any questions about Children's University.

Monday 17<sup>th</sup> November 9:00, There will be a coffee morning in the school led Emily Machin, our school's mental health practitioner. This is an opportunity for you to find out about MHST and for you to discuss any concerns you may have about your children.

Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> November, 2pm and 5:30pm, we will be holding our prospective parents' session for the foundation stage. If your child will be 3 years old on the 1st September 2026, the applications can be made online via this link [School admissions | Stoke-on-Trent](#) (opens Monday 1<sup>st</sup> December). Similarly, the application process for the reception class is now open – this is for children who will be 4 on the 1st September 2026. Applications for the reception class need to be made directly through the authority and this closes on 15th January 2026.

Kind Regards,

Mrs Statham

Head of School



In this week's Gospel we will hear how Jesus likened His body to the holy Temple in Jerusalem to speak about His Resurrection. We will learn that each one of us is a unique Temple of the Holy Spirit and we are called to recognise and share God's presence with others.



Its important that we hold up to date information on our pupils.

Changes can be made by yourselves.

All you need to do is log into the account and make the changes, we will receive notification of those changes and approve.

### If your child is absent from school

Please telephone the school on 01782 234820, or email office@stmarysnewman.co.uk no later than 9.30am

### Trip reminder

Please ensure if you are required to give consent for an upcoming trip that you log into Arbor by the deadline date which appears on the letter.  
Thank you for your co-operation.

# DAILY LATENESS EQUATES TO...



## Awards/Celebrations



We would like to congratulate all of the children who have received awards

Year	Headteacher	Reading	Maths	Goldfinch
Reception	Ava-Grace Evie	Tavleen Eusef	Franco Myla	Layla Logan
Year 1	Evalyn Mia	Orefeolwu Kian	Eadfrid Oscar	Trixie Eadfrid
Year 2	Emmanuela Albie-Jack	Deborah Emilia	Jonah Maisie	Alexander Elijah



Celebration assembly dates can be found on our website, on the calendar tab.

## AUTUMN TERM

School closes Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December

[St Mary's Catholic Academy - Term Dates](http://stmarysstoke.co.uk)  
([stmarysstoke.co.uk](http://stmarysstoke.co.uk))



Did you know that you can subscribe to our calendar?

All you need to do is click on the subscribe button.

celebration assemblies and masses will appear on the calendar of your selected device.

**In addition we have added christmas performance dates, sports day etc to the calendar.**



**This half term Year 4 and Year 6 will take part in Forest school.**

Please ensure appropriate outdoor clothing and footwear for wet/cold weather, is brought into school every Wednesday.



Our next St Mary's family Mass is being held on Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> November at 10am. It will be lovely to see you there.



This term's new menu is available to view on our website.

[St Mary's Catholic Academy - School Meals](#)



## #OddSocksDay

Get your odd socks on and support #AntiBullyingWeek

Monday 10<sup>th</sup> November

A polite reminder that we require all filled shoeboxes in no later than Monday 10<sup>th</sup> November.



## Our Voice counts....



We would like to introduce our school council for this academic year....

Year 2 - Noah & Evie  
Year 3 - Krishiv & Marlowe  
Year 4 - Ankiambom & Frank  
Year 5 - Phillipa & Ruby  
Year 6 - Darcy-Mae & Lola

**Be Bright  
Be Seen**





# Save the date



<b>Monday 10<sup>th</sup> November</b>	Odd socks day
<b>Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> November</b>	Math's information meeting 9am or 5pm
<b>Friday 14<sup>th</sup> November</b>	Y4 - Inspire parents workshop 1.30pm
<b>Mon 17<sup>th</sup>-Wed 19<sup>th</sup> November</b>	Y5 - Alton Castle
<b>Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> November</b>	Y1, Y3, Y5 and Y6 Math's watch me learn 9am
<b>Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> November</b>	Red Wednesday
<b>Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> November</b>	Y2 - Ancient High House
<b>Monday 24<sup>th</sup> November</b>	Nurs, Rec, Y2 and Y4 Math's watch me learn 2pm
<b>Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> November</b>	Y6 Height & Weight
<b>Friday 28<sup>th</sup> November</b>	Reception - Inspire parents workshop 1.30pm
<b>Monday 1<sup>st</sup> December</b>	School council - Parliament visit
<b>Friday 5<sup>th</sup> December</b>	Nursery - Amerton Farm
<b>Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> December</b>	Christmas concert FS 2pm and KS1 6pm
<b>Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> December</b>	Christmas concert KS1 2pm and FS 5.30pm
<b>Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> December</b>	Y1 - Gatehouse Theatre
<b>Friday 12<sup>th</sup> December</b>	Y3 - Inspire parents workshop 1.30pm
<b>Monday 15<sup>th</sup> December</b>	Reception - Amerton Farm
<b>Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> December</b>	Christmas dinner day/Christmas jumper day
<b>Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> December</b>	End of term assembly 1.45pm
<b>Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December</b>	Carol concert & KS2 Nativity in Church 9.30am

The people who walked  
in darkness have seen a  
great light; those who  
lived in a land of deep  
darkness—on them light  
has shined.

Isaiah 9:2



# Advent

## Reflection

Join us this Advent as we prepare for Christmas together with our class reflection's in December.

Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> December - Year 6  
Monday 8<sup>th</sup> December - Year 5  
Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> December - Year 4  
Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> December - Year 3  
Monday 15<sup>th</sup> December - Year 2  
Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> December - Year 1  
Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> December - Reception

All reflections will take place in the school hall at 9.05am.

# ST MARY'S CHURCH CHRISTMAS FAYRE



**Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> November**

**Approx 11am after our school  
family Mass**

Join us for a heartwarming community celebration at our annual Christmas Fayre, where festive fun and holiday cheer awaits!

**£1 Admission for adults (inc a drink)  
children are FREE**

## **Come along for...**

- Tombola stalls
- Reindeer food
- Toy stalls
- Facepainting
- Refreshments
- Hot food

**If you are able to volunteer your time  
with the set up or running a stall  
please speak to Mrs Massey**

**All proceeds will be donated to the  
Church & Pink lady charity.**