



St. Mary's Catholic Academy

February 2026

Messenger



Dear Parents and carers,

I would like to thank you all for your support in ensuring that your children are in school everyday and on time. We are very proud of our attendance and last week we had 3 classes who all achieved 100% attendance. Well done to years 2, 4 and 6.

We are delighted to share that last month, St Mary's achieved asthma friendly school status. This recognition means that we meet key standards to support children with asthma, ensuring they feel safe, supported and confident whilst at school.

Next Monday marks the start of 'Children's Mental Health Week', where the theme of the week will be 'This is My Place'. The aim of this is to support the systems around children and young people to help them feel they belong. To know our place and really feel part of our environment is a basic human need. It can have powerful and long-lasting impacts in lots of areas of our lives, including our physical and mental health, education, employment and relationships. When we feel that we belong, it empowers us to contribute to the world and make a real difference. We are looking forward to celebrating Children's Mental Health Week next week as a school community. Please refer to the letter which was sent out for further information.

On Tuesday 10th February we will also be marking 'Safer Internet Day', with celebrations and learning based around the theme 'Smart tech, safe choices – Exploring the safe and responsible use of AI'. The children will explore the impact of AI on their lives, looking at how AI can be used for good, and giving advice and guidance that empowers people to use AI safely and responsibly. Please see the links below for further information on how to help keep your children safe online.

[St Mary's Catholic Academy - Online Safety \(stmarysstoke.co.uk\)](https://stmarysstoke.co.uk)

[Top Tips for parents and carers - UK Safer Internet Centre](#)

I do wish you all a lovely weekend!

Mrs Statham

Head of School



In this week's Gospel, we hear how our faith should impact our lives and the lives of those around us. We are reminded that we are the salt of the Earth, called to bring out the best in others through our words, actions and faith in Jesus.

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

Matthew 5:13

During this week where we are thinking about children's mental health, it is a reminder to us that we all have a co-responsibility to teach our children the importance of spending time with God to find peace and strength.

"THIS MORNING,
HE WAS WORRIED
ABOUT SCHOOL...
BUT LOOK AT HIM
NOW!"

MOMENTS
MATTER,
ATTENDANCE
COUNTS.



HM Government

Search the Education Hub to find out more



PLEASE UPDATE YOUR
CONTACT DETAILS

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

All you need to do is log into Arbor and
make the changes, we will receive a
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

Please ensure that medical and dental
appointments are booked outside of school hours
where possible.

If an appointment is unavoidable, please ensure
your child is absent for a minimal amount of time
from school.

Punctuality Prize Week



Well done to Theodore, who won Punctuality Prize Week! All pupils who achieved 100% attendance and arrived on time during the week commencing 12th January were entered into a prize draw. Theodore won a toy voucher, and his parents received a food voucher.

Being punctual for school everyday is important as it supports pupils' progress, wellbeing and achievement.

ATTENDANCE MATTERS



3
days lost



minutes late
per day



6.5
days lost



minutes late
per day

LOST MINUTES
=
LOST LEARNING!

10
days lost



minutes late
per day

13
days lost



minutes late
per day

19
days lost
EACH
YEAR!



minutes late
per day



Every school day counts BUT every minute is equally important!

VALENTINE DISCO
 11TH FEBRUARY
 ♥
 £3.00 PER TICKET
 (INCLUDES SNACK, CRISPS AND
 UNLIMITED JUICE/WATER)
 EYFS/KS1 5-6PM
 KS2 6.15-7.15PM
 HOTDOGS AVAILABLE FOR £1.50
 (VEGETARIAN OPTION ALSO)
 GLOW ITEMS £1



The children had an amazing night at the Young Voices Concert. They worked incredibly hard to rehearse all the songs and to take part in an unforgettable night.

Well done everyone!



Our school council met last month and gave 5 options to choose from to the school, for the 100% attendance trip. A vote was then held and the whole school voted on Drayton Manor Theme Park!!



Our next St Mary's family Mass is being held on Sunday 8th March at 10am. It will be lovely to see you there.

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.



We have pre-loved uniform available. All items are priced at £1. please click on the link below:
[Uniformd](https://www.uniformd.com)



School Masses will take place on a weekly rota basis— led by Whole school, EYFS, KS1 or KS2.

All Masses take place on a Wednesday morning at 9.25am (unless otherwise stated).

We encourage all parents, grandparents and members of the parish to support these Masses where possible.

All masses can be found on our website under the calendar tab;

[St Mary's Catholic Academy - Calendar \(stmarysstoke.co.uk\)](https://www.stmarysstoke.co.uk)



Save the date



Wednesday 11th February	Nursery-Y1 'Read with me 1:1 sessions' (time slots booked)
Thursday 12th February	English Information session 9-10am or 6-7pm
Friday 13th February	Non-Uniform Day – World Mental Health Day
Tuesday 24th February	Watch me learn – KS2 Reading /KS1 Phonics 9-10am
Tuesday 24th February	Nurs/Rec – Watch me learn phonics 2.30pm
Thursday 26th February	Y4 – River study
Friday 27th February	Y6 – Inspire Workshop
Tuesday 3rd Wednesday 4th March	Parent Target Meetings
Thursday 5th March	World Book Day
Friday 13th March	Mother's day breakfast



Awards/Celebrations



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

Year	Headteacher	Reading	Maths	Goldfinch
Nursery	Eliza	Lara	Harry	Lake
Reception	Summer	Elias	Aubree	Ovie
Year 1	Freya	George	Grace	Nathaniel
Year 2	Adha	James	Vivienne	Harriet D
Year 3	Eirene-Joy	Carter-Rose	Rosa	Olivia O
Year 4	Maggie	Earlene	Isaac	Isabelle
Year 5	Jan	Harvey	Eleanor	Dylan
Year 6	Sobia	Ada	Rocco	Lola

VALENTINE'S DAY With Pancakes

A 'Pizza' my heart served
with Criss Cross Chips &
'Sweet' corn

Or

Lovey Dovey Tomato
& Basil Pasta Bake
served with Garlic Bread

~
Pancakes served with a
selection of Sauces



Thursday 12th February