



St. Mary's Catholic Academy

March 2026

Messenger



St Gabriel
the Archangel
Catholic Multi-Academy Trust

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to a new half term - a very busy half term!

Lent is a very special and important time for both our school and the Church. We have begun a range of activities to help prepare the children for Easter. Our Lenten prayer services started this week and, as always, they offer a meaningful opportunity for reflection as we journey towards Easter. You are warmly invited to join us for these prayer services.

This Sunday (8th March), we will celebrate a whole-school Family Mass at 10:00am at St Mary's Church. We would be delighted to see as many of our children and families there as possible to support our parish community.

There will also be a whole-school Celebration Mass on Wednesday 11th March, led by Year 3. During this Mass, we will recognise Father John's birthday and thank him for the guidance and support he gives to our children, families and staff in their spiritual growth. We are truly fortunate to have him as part of our school and parish community. Everyone is very welcome to attend both celebrations.

The week before ½ term we celebrated Children's Mental Health Week. The children had a fantastic week taking part in many activities learning about what mental health is and ways in which we can improve our 'mental wealth'. We also raised £205.57 for the children's mental health charity 'Hello Yellow'. Thank you to everyone who supported this wonderful cause.

On Wednesday 11th February our events teams held their annual Valentines disco. The children had an amazing time and £569.35 was raised! Thank you to our wonderful Events Team for organising and running this. We are always on the lookout for more volunteers. If you are able to support the Events Team in any way (no regular commitment is required) please speak to either Mrs Ebrahimi / Mrs Brundrett or the school office, thank you.

Last week, the school underwent an HMI OFSTED inspection. This was a two-day thorough inspection, and we now await the report, we will share this with you once it has been published. The children were amazing and were a credit to our school! The inspectors commented how wonderful our children are and how much they care for one another. Thank you to all the parents who completed the questionnaire or who gave their time to speak to the inspectors. Your support, as always, is greatly appreciated.

Mrs Statham

Head of School



In this week's Gospel, the Samaritan woman experienced that Jesus' love is for everyone. In this time of prayer, we have an opportunity to accept the love Jesus offers and shares this love with others. This Lent, we can say 'Yes!' to Jesus' transforming love in our lives.

Jesus answered her, 'If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, "Give me a drink", you would have asked Him, and He would have given you living water.'

John 4:10



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.

"THIS MORNING, HE HAD A RUNNY NOSE... BUT LOOK AT HIM NOW!"



MOMENTS MATTER, ATTENDANCE COUNTS.



Search NHS school illness guidance to find out more.

Donations

On 13th February we took part in uniform day 'Dress to Express' We raised £205.57

All proceeds will be donated to 'Place 2 be' A children's charity for mental health.



On 11th February, our Events Team organised a Valentines Disco. It was lovely to see the children have so much fun!

They raised £569.35

Thank you for all the contributions, we really appreciate your support.

This term's curriculum has been uploaded to your child's class page under ½ termly curriculum.

Please click on the link below which will take you through to our website.

[St Mary's Catholic Academy - Class Pages \(stmarysstoke.co.uk\)](http://stmarysstoke.co.uk)

It has been lovely to see so many children represent St. Mary's over the last month.

Participating in a range of Competitions ranging from Potted Sports, Multi skills and Football.

Well done to you all.



We have limited places available for Mothers Day Breakfast on Friday 13th March.

If you would like to attend, please confirm your place on Arbor followed by boking your child/ren onto breakfast club.



Awards/Celebrations



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

Year	Headteacher	Reading	Maths	Goldfinch
Nursery	Rex	Arlo	Sara	Harrison
Reception	Colby	Ava-Mae	Ralph	Nico
Year 1	Ezra	Annabelle	Mia	Ava
Year 2	Bonnie	Reggie	Harriet	Theo



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

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

Please click on the link below for dates and times of our Lenten Prayer Reflections in preparation for Easter.

[Click here to view dates and times](#)

We have our Family Mass this Sunday, (8th March) at 10am, it would be lovely to see you all.

St Mary's Catholic Church Easter services

- Saturday 28th March 6pm
- Palm Sunday 29th March 10am
- Maundy Thursday 2nd April 7pm
- Good Friday 3rd April 3pm service
- Easter Vigil Saturday 4th April 7pm (no morning mass today)
- Easter Sunday 5th April 10am

