



October 2025

What a fantastic first month of the school year. It's great to see our children so settled in their new classes especially our younger children who are already following our school rules!

- Do your Best
- Show Respect
- Use Friendly Language
- Choose Safe Behaviour
- Be in the Right Place at the Right Time

Our prefects and pupil leaders are supporting all of our children by helping and being great role models. Keep up the good work team!

Democracy Day

In September we celebrated Democracy Day with class voting taking place for our special school leadership teams. A huge congratulations for those children voted onto School Council, Laudato Si, Well-Being Ambassadors and Caritas Ambassadors. We look forward to listening to your plans to improve our school this year.



Parents' Survey

At this time of year we would like to hear your views that you may have on school life. You will be emailed shortly to complete our survey. We will consider your views and respond. For example, the introduction of our wraparound care came from the last survey. Your views are important to us!

Attendance Reminder

Good attendance means better outcomes. Strong attendance throughout the year gives your child the best chance to succeed both in and out of the classroom.

Every child should aim to achieve an overall attendance of at least 97 % each academic year.

Tips to promote good attendance:

- Contact school on the morning of each absence to avoid your child receiving an unauthorised mark.
- Holidays during the school term will not be authorised.
- Schedule non urgent medical/dental appointments outside of school hours whenever possible. Tell school in advance, of any medical appointments and bring in appointment cards/letters.
- Do not take time off school for minor illnesses or other non-essential reasons.
- Ensure your child attends school on time. If your child is late to school 30 minutes or more this will result in an unauthorised mark.

Unauthorised absences of 10 sessions, over a 10 week period, consecutive or not, can result in a Penalty Notice being issued by the Local Authority.

If you and your child are experiencing difficulties with school attendance please talk to our attendance officer Mrs Birch as a first step so we can help! The attendance policy is available on the school website.



After School Clubs

Our teacher led after school clubs will begin again in the next half term. They will run until 4pm at a cost of £3 per session paid at the start of the half term. The list for next half term will be available on **Monday 20th October**.

McMillan Coffee Morning

Many thanks to our Y3 children along with our fantastic PTA for organising the recent coffee morning. It was a great success. The morning raised a grand total of £450 for Cancer Research UK. A big thank you for your generosity in supporting this important cause.



Each year group adopts a charity to support. Our charities this year are:

Nursey:	Caritas Ukraine
Reception:	Failsworth Fridge
Year 1:	Breaking Waves
Year 2:	Wood Street Mission
Year 3:	Cancer Research/McMillan
Year 4:	CAFOD
Year 5:	Salvation Army
Year 6:	Barnardos

Good luck to all with your plans for fund raising!

Easy Fund Raising App

You can further support our PTA by downloading the Easy Fund Raising App where your shopping will contribute to our funds.



Arbor App

We have started to use the App 'Arbor' for the majority of the school's communications. We kindly ask you to download this and connect with the school before the 24th October. If you are having trouble getting the App, please come in to school and we will gladly help. All payments, text messages and bookings will be made through Arbor and we do need all parents to have access to it. Emails will be used on some occasions but most details will be shared on the App. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.



Year 6 Robinwood Residential Trip

Our Year 6 children have survived their first school residential with a three day trip to Robinwood Activity Centre where activities included trapeze, zip wire, high swing and the terrifying piranha pool. Luckily they all made it back in one piece. Thanks to all staff who gave up their family time to accompany them on their amazing experience. Look out for the Year 5 letter coming soon for next year's trip.

Foodbank Friday

Our children last year set up a foodbank which we would love to continue. Our pupil chaplains have taken this on and each Friday will be 'Food Bank Friday' They will collect donations from each class and set up the food bank in our school entrance. Please give what you can sending donations into class. All donations need to be nonperishable and are much appreciated!



Wrap Around Care Provision

Our wrap around care provision has started offering a school led breakfast and after school care facility for our working families from 7.45am to 5.30pm Monday to Friday for a reasonable charge. We still have places so please do contact our office if you feel that you would benefit from the provision.

Safeguarding

Safeguarding at school is everyone's responsibility. We have several Safeguarding Officers here at school and their job is to ensure that policies are being followed, incidents are being logged, staff are following protocols and ultimately ALL children are safe, secure and cared for. Safeguarding is a collective responsibility for the protection of children, young people and adults. It is different from child protection, which focuses on responding to harm, while safeguarding is a proactive approach to preventing it. We have regular training and updates in school to ensure our practices are robust. Our Designated Safeguarding Leads are:

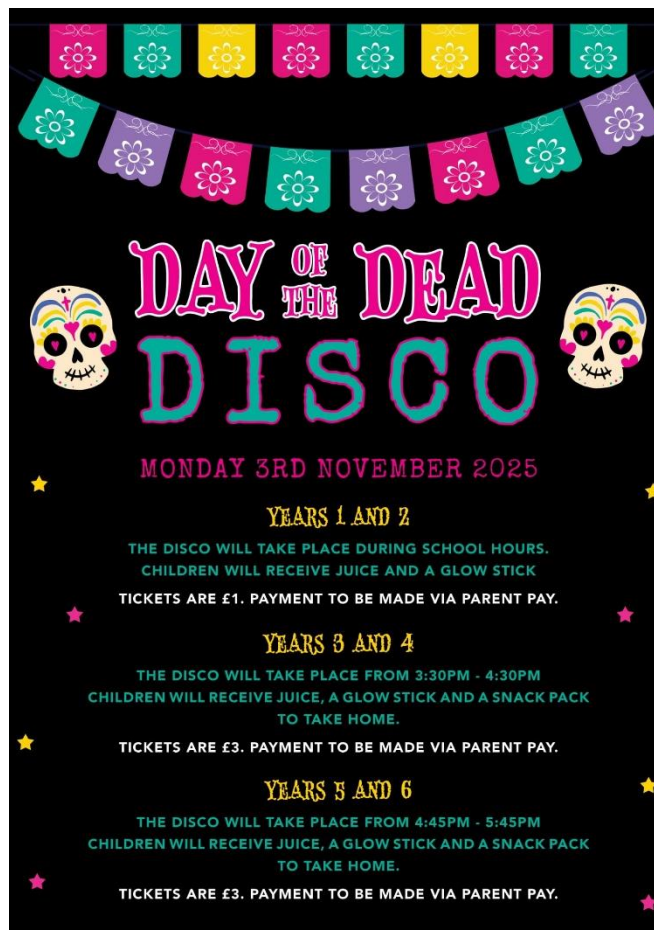
Mrs Clerkin (**DSL - Designated Safeguarding Lead**)
Mrs Morgan (**DDSL - Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead**)

Mrs Birch (**DDSL**)
Mrs Peck (**DDSL**)
Ms Rowan (**DDSL**)



PTA News

If you have unwanted gifts that you would like to donate to the PTA as they start to collect for the 'Secret Room' in December, please send them in with your child. All donations are much appreciated.
Don't forget to come to the PTA Day of the Dead Disco!



Y6 High School Applications Reminder

If your child is due to start high school in September 2026 you need to complete the online application at www.oldham.gov.uk/admissions. If you do not live in Oldham, you will need to make your application to the LA where you pay your council tax. The closing date for all applications is 31 October 2025 at 5pm



Primary School Applications Reminder

If your child is due to start primary school in September 2026, everybody needs to apply even if your child is in a school nursery, you will need to complete the online application at www.oldham.gov.uk/admissions. If you do not live in Oldham, you will need to make your application to the LA where you pay your council tax. The closing date for all applications is 15 January 2026 at 5pm.

Key Dates for Your Diary: Autumn Term 2025

Please note changes from the September newsletter are in red

	Autumn 1 2025
01.10.25	Black History Month Begins
03.10.25	Performance Poetry Assembly
06.10.25	Assembly to Celebrate Black History
10.10.25	World Mental Health Day
13.10.25	Assessment Week
19.10.25	Y3 Sacramental Programme Meeting after Sunday Mass (cancelled see 05.11.25)
22.10.25	Reception Traditional Tales Day
22.10.25	Y1 Coronation Party Details to Follow
24.10.25	Y4 Harvest Assembly for Parents
24.10.25	School Closes for Half Term
	Autumn 2 2025
03.11.25	Day of the Dead and PTA Discos for KS1/2: Details to follow
05.11.25	Y3 Sacramental Programme meeting in school at 3.30pm (new date added)
06.11.25	New to school EYFS open evening
07.11.25	Year 6 Class Mass 9.30am in church (new date added)
11.11.25	Remembrance Day Silence Observed
12.11.25	Parents Evening
14.11.25	Y3 Presentation Mass 9.30am in church
21.11.25	PTA Own Clothes Day (Chocolate Donation)
25.11.25	KS1 Pantomime Middleton Arena
27.11.25	KS2 Pantomime Middleton Arena
28.11.25	Y5 Class Mass in 9.30am in Church (new date added)
29.11.25	Parish Christmas Fair 12.00pm-3.00pm in School
03.12.25	EYFS Pantomime in School
05.12.25	Parish Feast Day Mass and Celebrations
09.12.25	EYFS Nativity: Details to Follow
10.12.25	EYFS Nativity: Details to Follow
11.12.25	KS1 Nativity: Details to Follow
11.12.25	KS2 Carol Concert in Church 7.00pm
12.12.25	KS1 Nativity: Details to Follow

15.12.25	KS1 Christmas Jumper Day
15.12.25	KS2 Secret Room
15.12.25	Nursery Craft Morning 9.00am
16.12.25	KS2 Christmas Jumper Day
17.12.25	Nursery/Reception Year 5/6 Christmas Parties
18.12.25	Reception Craft Morning 9.00am
18.12.25	Year 1/2/3/4 Christmas Parties
19.12.25	School Closes 1.30pm

We strive to keep parents/carers informed about school events as early as possible. If a new event is added to the list, we will inform through text message and included in the next newsletter.

Class Assemblies

Please see our remaining class assembly dates. Assemblies start at approximately 9.15am to allow time for the children to be registered and ready for the performance.

Year 4	24.10.25
Year 3	30.01.26
Year 5	27.03.26
Year 2	22.05.26
Year 1	26.06.26
Year 6B	15.07.26
Year 6M	16.07.26

October: The Month of the Holy Rosary



The Rosary is a prayer that reflects upon the life, ministry, and death of Jesus and also on his mother, Mary. We repeat the familiar prayers, and allow our minds to think about the lives of

Jesus and Mary here on earth. There are four parts to the rosary, known as 'mysteries':

**The Luminous Mysteries
The Sorrowful Mysteries
The Glorious Mysteries
The Joyful Mysteries**

Each mystery represents a 'snapshot' of the lives of Jesus and Mary. Each snapshot taken from Scripture is an opportunity to reflect and pray. To respond, we pray a set of prayers, which together with the reflection is called a 'decade'. The prayers we say as part of this set begin with one Our Father, followed by ten Hail Marys and one Glory Be to finish. We use the beads of the Rosary to keep track of our prayers!

During October, we invite our children to bring in their own rosary beads to place on their class altars and to lead class prayers

Twitter (X) - @StMarysRCFW

School Website - <https://stmarysrc-primaryschool.co.uk/>



Our School Prayer

Please use our school prayer in your family prayer time at home.

Father in Heaven,

***We are called to love in all we do,
To learn with joy and to follow You.
To care and share in unity,
And grow in faith as a family.***

***Help us forgive and speak what's true,
Respect each one like You would do.
With honest hearts, we work and play,
Please bless our school each happy day.***

Amen.

St Mary, our Mother.... Pray for Us



Don't Forget!

Keep up to date with events in the new school year by checking in on our school website and our Twitter (X) account Marys.