



St Mary's RC Primary School
Called to love as God Loves



January 2026

Welcome back to school and a Happy and New Year to you all. We hope that the Christmas break has left you well rested and ready for the new term. It was lovely to see the children on Monday to start the new spring 2026 term. We will celebrate the New Year and term by coming together for whole school mass in church at 9.30am on Tuesday 6th January 2026 for the feast day of the Epiphany. We would love you to join us if you can.

Baby News

Over the Christmas period, Mrs Taylor (Y1) and Miss Monks (Y4) welcomed the arrival of healthy boys Louis and Rory. Many congratulations to you both. We cannot wait for you both to bring your lovely new boys into school for a cuddle!



We welcome Miss Millership (Y1) and Miss Beswick (Y4). Both very experienced teachers who have joined us to cover these classes.

Behaviour Reset Week

At the beginning of every half term, we reset our expectations for behaviour as outlined in the Behaviour Curriculum and Policy published on the School Website. Our children will be explicitly taught and reminded about our

expectations for learning. Fantastic walking around school, correct uniform and PE kit, playground behaviour and our five school rules that underpin our school values.

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

A child will only receive a yellow or red warning if they make a wrong choice regarding these rules. Please do contact school to speak to a member of SLT if you would like to discuss further our expectations outlined in our Behaviour Curriculum. We are proud of all of our children and our curriculum supports their choices as they grow.



Poetry Performances

As this term commences, our children will be learning, practising and performing their second class poem. This greatly improves confidence, oracy and reading. The children will perform their two class poems for parents. We will inform you of the dates shortly.

Severe Weather Advice

Our winter term is always at risk of very cold and snowy weather. We know that in the months ahead there may be more severe weather to come. It is never our intention to close the school and we will strive to open under any circumstance. However, if circumstances are

such that we are in this position, parents/carers will receive a text message to inform promptly. Please be reassured this would only be in an extreme circumstance. We are fully aware of the importance of our children's education.



Foodbank Fridays

Our school foodbank continues to thrive and serve our school community. Every Friday it is situated at the school entrance with bags provided for those who would like to use this service. However, it has become depleted after the Christmas period. We welcome donations of any kind from your weekly shop to keep the foodbank stocked. If you would like to contribute, please send what you can in to school with your child and a big thank you in advance for your generosity at this time of year when we all feel a pinch to our finances.



School Snacks Reminder

Our health ambassadors would like to remind you that children in both KS1 and KS2 may bring in an extra piece of fruit and a bottle of water to help them keep the hunger at bay on these chilly mornings. Take care! Our health ambassadors will be checking that its fruit coming in and not sweet treats!

After School Clubs

Our new after school club schedule started promptly. Children continue to enjoy the wide range of activities on offer. Our next window to sign up for the second spring half term will open on **Monday 10th February 2026**. Book as soon as you can to avoid disappointment.

Parking Reminder

In response to the many parental concerns raised in our recent school survey regarding dangerous parking, we will be contacting parents directly who continue to park on the zigzags during morning and afternoon drop-off and collection. We all know how busy the school area becomes, but we kindly remind you not to park across residents' driveways or on the zigzags outside school, as these measures are in place to keep our children safe. Please use the church car park during these busy times.



Key Dates for Your Diary: Spring Term 2026

	Spring Half Term One
05.01.26	School re-opens
06.01.26	Whole School Mass in Church 9.30am
13.01.26	Parenting Workshop in Meeting Room (Details to Follow)
13.01.26	Multi-Skills Sports Event (Details to Follow)
14.01.26	Football League at Oldham Leisure Centre (Details to Follow)
15.01.26	Times Tables Rock Stars' Day Y2-6.
16.01.26	Y6 Class Mass 9.30am in Church
23.01.26	Y2 Class Mass 9.30am in Church
30.01.26	Pupil Chaplains' Visit to the Relics of St Carlos Acutis
30.01.26	Year 4 Class Mass 9.30am in Church
30.01.26	Year 3 Parents' Assembly
02.02.26	Mental Health Awareness Week
04.02.26	Y2 School Trip to Blackpool Zoo
06.02.26	Emmaus INSET Day. School Closed for Staff Training
12.02.25	PTA Event Wear Red and Pink Own Clothes Day and Valentine's Assembly.
12.02.26	School Closes for Half Term
13.02.26	Staff INSET Day

	Spring Half Term Two
23.02.26	School Opens
04.03.26	Y4 School Trip to Formby Beach
04.03.26	Football League at Oldham Leisure Centre (Details to Follow)
05.03.26	Nursery Stay and Play. Details to Follow
10.03.26	SEND Surgery
12.03.26	Parents' Day
13.03.26	Y3 Reconciliation Mass
13.03.26	Reception Mother's Day Parent Assembly
18.03.26	Reception School Trip to Manchester Airport Runway Museum
25.03.26	Caritas Ambassador Pupil Leadership Training
25.03.26	Y3 Guess the Eggs in a Jar (Details to Follow)
26.03.26	Nursery Trip to Smithill's Farm
27.03.26	Y5 Resurrection Rock Assembly
27.03.26	Y4 Brass Concert 2.30pm
30.03.26	EYFS/KS1 and Y6 Palm Sunday 9.30am in Church
31.03.26	KS2 Holy Week Mass 9.30am in Church
31.03.26	Y3 Easter Gardens Displayed in School (Details to Follow)
01.04.26	KS2 Egg in a Box Competition
01.04.26	EYFS/KS1 Easter Bonnet Parade
02.04.26	School Closes (Normal time)

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 Arbor as an In-App message and add to the next newsletter.

Class Assemblies

All children will participate in an assembly during the academic year. Please see our class assembly dates. Assemblies start at approximately 9.15am to allow time for the children to be registered and ready for the performance.

Reception	13.03.26
Year 1	26.06.26
Year 2	22.05.26
Year 3	30.01.26

Year 5	27.03.26
Year 6 M	15.07.26
Year 6 E/W	16.07.26

The Month of January

Throughout January, our daily classroom prayers will allow children to reflect on Jesus, the Light of the World. In the first week, we will pray with words from the [Gospel of John](#) and from [St John Henry Newman](#), asking Jesus to be the true light of life, who lights their path. Children will be encouraged to shine Jesus' light by helping others to see His love, kindness and goodness through what they say and do. You might like to use this prayer as a family at home:

Jesus,

You are the true light. The light of life, The light on my path, The light of glory! May your light shine brightly through my words and actions each day.

Amen



School Website/Twitter (X)

Make sure you don't miss school life in 2026 by checking in on our school website and our Twitter (X) account to keep up to date with the many lessons, events and activities that take place weekly here at St Marys.

Twitter (X) - @StMarysRCFW

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

At National Online Safety, we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one of many topics which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit www.nationalonlinesafety.com for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

STAY SAFE ON NEW DEVICES

Whether you're an internet newbie or a pro at surfing the web, it's always important to keep online safety in mind. We've pulled together a list of top tips to make it easier for you to protect yourself and your devices in the digital world – helping you steer clear of hazards like misleading information and vicious viruses. There's never a bad time to refresh your internet safety knowledge, but it's an especially smart thing to do before you start using any shiny new devices!



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#WakeUpWednesday