

St. Mary's CE Primary School
 Head Teacher:
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Autumn Term

Half Term:
 Monday 27th October to Friday 31st
 October 2025
 INSET Day:
 Monday 3rd November 2025
 Last day of Term:
 Friday 19th December 2025

Spring Term

INSET Day:
 Monday 5th January 2026
 First day of Term:
 Tuesday 6th January 2026
 Half Term:
 Monday 16th February to Friday 20th
 February 2026
 Last day of Term:
 Friday 27th March 2026

Summer Term

First day of Term:
 Monday 13th April 2026
 Bank Holiday:
 Monday 4th May 2026
 Half Term:
 Monday 25th May to Friday 29th May
 2026
 Last Day of Term:
 Friday 17th July 2026

School Attendance 25-26

TARGET	97.0%
2024-25	96.5% (1687)
Week Beginning	% (sessions)
01/09	96.2% (32)
08/09	98.1% (27)
15/09	97.0% (43)
22/09	97.2% (40)
29/09	97.1% (40)
06/10	96% (57)
13/10	
20/10	
Total:	96.9% (243)

Family Points

1163

1206

1236

1326

IN TOUCH

Friday 10th October 2025

Issue 743



VISION: Delivering excellence, allowing all to flourish
MISSION: Creating a culture of wonder, guided by Christian Faith
VALUES: COMPASSION - ENDURANCE - THANKFULNESS

It has been a wonderful and inspiring week in school, with the children engaging so enthusiastically in workshops and activities as part of our Black History Month celebrations.

Our Nursery and Reception children have been on a storytelling adventure around the world. They began here in England, joining Grace on her imaginative pirate voyage, before travelling to Kenya to learn how courage and kindness can bring the rain. Their journey then took them to the Caribbean, where they explored numbers through island life, before finally meeting Anansi, the clever keeper of stories. The children were captivated by these tales and the rich cultures they represent.

Our Key Stage 2 pupils took part in an inspiring Breaking Barriers workshop, guided by Dada, a character from the Yoruba culture of West Africa. Through Dada's storytelling, the children learned about four remarkable Black British individuals — Jacques Francis, Claudia Jones, Sislin Fay Allen and Stormzy — whose achievements have helped shape and enrich British history. These stories encouraged pupils to reflect on courage, creativity and the importance of representation.

Year 1 and Year 2 were due to take part in a workshop about Mary Seacole, but this has been postponed due to illness. We are in the process of rescheduling it.

Throughout October, the children will continue to explore this year's Black History Month theme - "Standing Firm in Power and Pride." They will be learning about changemakers, leaders and pioneers who have made a lasting impact and paved the way for others.

Our Year 6 pupils also took part in an engaging Transport for London (TfL) workshop this week. The session shared valuable messages about travel safety and respect, supporting pupils as they begin to prepare for greater independence.

Looking ahead to next week, we have a number of exciting events taking place. On Monday, our flu immunisations will take place for children whose parents and carers have given consent. On Thursday, we are pleased to welcome Rev'd Helena back to St Mary's to lead our P1 and P2 worship. Helena always brings a thoughtful and engaging message that the children really enjoy and respond to so positively. We look forward to another uplifting morning together. Later in the week, our Year 5 and the Junior Choir will be visiting St Paul's to take part in a special musical event. The children have been practising enthusiastically, and it promises to be a memorable experience for everyone involved.

It has been a week filled with discovery, pride and thoughtful discussion. We are so proud of how our children continue to learn, question and celebrate the world around them.

We would like to wish our families and community a blessed and restful weekend, and we look forward to seeing you all on Monday morning.

Very best wishes, Gemma Jennings - Deputy Head Teacher

CELEBRATING
**BLACK
 HISTORY
 MONTH**

