

St. Mary's CE Primary School
Head Teacher:
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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

IN TOUCH

Friday 9th January 2026

Issue 752



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

A very happy new year to you! We hope you have all had a wonderful Christmas and that 2026 is a positive year for you and your family. Thank you all for your generosity to the staff team at the end of last term—it was hugely appreciated.

Speaking of our staff team, I am sorry to tell you that our Premises Manager, Cretos Mwila, was taken unwell over the Christmas break and will not be with us in school for some time. Mrs Abraham and I visited him yesterday and he was delighted to receive flowers and a card from FoSMS. We found him in very good spirits, making excellent progress and chomping at the bit to be well. I am sure you will join us all in keeping Cretos and his family in our thoughts and prayers at this time. In the meantime, we have temporary cover in place and have welcomed Richard to the team. I know everyone will make him feel welcome here at St. Mary's.

Also new this week, we welcomed Diane Nam, Year Two Class Teacher, to the team. Diane is a very experienced teacher with years of successful teaching and senior leadership under her belt. We are delighted she has joined our team. Our Nursery Team have also welcomed some new children to the class this week and they have settled well and had a fantastic first week at school.

Hopefully you will have all seen the note about the change to KS2 home learning. We have a homework club starting this term which will run on a Thursday and as a result home learning in KS2 will now be sent home on a Thursday.

Class termly letters are now on the website, please make sure you have read your class letters and have added key dates to your diaries.

Just a quick reminder about snacks and packed lunches. Children are permitted to bring snacks to school to eat at break times. Please remember that we are a nut free school and we ask that children bring only fresh or dried fruit and/or vegetable sticks as snacks. If your child has a packed lunch then we recommend the following:

- A good portion of starchy food, e.g. wholegrain roll, wraps or pitta pockets, pasta or rice.
- A portion of lean meat, fish, egg, pulses or other non-dairy protein.
- Plenty of fruit and vegetables e.g. apple, satsuma, tomatoes, carrot sticks, small tub of salad etc.
- A portion of semi-skimmed or 1% fat milk or other dairy food, e.g. reduced fat cheese, yoghurt or fromage frais
- A drink e.g. fruit juice, yoghurt drink or a bottle of water

It's been a chilly start to the Spring Term, but all of the children have settled back into routines quickly and are already hard at work. All we need now is for it to get a bit warmer! Hopefully Spring will be on its way soon and we can look forward to brighter, lighter days!

From all of us here at St. Mary's we wish you a restful and fun weekend and we look forward to seeing you at the usual time on Monday!

Very best wishes, Cheryl Payne—Head Teacher

School Attendance 25-26

TARGET	97.0%
2024-25	96.5% (1687)
Autumn	96.2% (989)
Week Beginning	% (sessions)
05/01	95.5% (67)
12/01	
19/01	
26/01	
02/02	
09/02	
Total:	96.1% (1056)



Family Points

548

513

470

485