

St. Mary's CE Primary School
 Head Teacher:
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IN TOUCH



Friday 16th January 2026

Issue 753

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

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)
Autumn	96.2% (989)
Week Beginning	% (sessions)
05/01	95.5% (67)
12/01	95.3% (68)
19/01	
26/01	
02/02	
09/02	
Total:	96.0% (1124)

CORRECTION!
 FoSMS Quiz Night is
 on Thursday 5th
 February in the School
 Hall at St. Mary's.

Family Points

629

503

571

546

I would like to say a very big thank you to Sophie Campbell for working with neighbours and governors to petition the council for a zebra crossing outside the school. Sophie has received confirmation that works will commence this half term to install a zebra crossing. This is a much needed traffic calming measure and I am very grateful to Sophie and the team for making this a reality. Thank you Sophie! One of the issues that has arisen during the application is the congestion on the pavement in the mornings and afternoons at pick up and drop off. This has eased slightly with the change of timings for our Nursery but please can I ask all parent/carers to avoid waiting on the pavement outside the school before and after school. I appreciate it is difficult to time journeys precisely but ideally children would arrive from 8.45am and not before so that they can filter straight through an open school gate rather than waiting on the pavement and we ask that parent/carers avoid waiting on the pavement outside the school at the end of the day. Any support you can give us in this would be greatly appreciated.

Extra-curricular clubs have started this week. Take up for some of our sports clubs is low. If there are any particular reasons for this please feed them back to us and we will carry out pupil voice exercises in school to ensure our ongoing programme meets the needs of pupils and families as far as possible.

Year Six have had two visitors this week, on Tuesday they were visited by an artist as part of 'Our Beautiful Neighbourhood' project and the picture below shows them engaging with a magistrate as they learn about our justice system and the work that magistrates do.

Many thanks to Reverend Whittaker for leading worship for Year One to Six this morning. This term we will be focussing on our core value of endurance and John took us back to St. Paul's letter, from which our biblical text comes from: 'I have done my best in the race, I have run the full distance, and I have kept the faith.' Timothy 4:7.

Speaking of Reverend Whittaker, John will be leading our KS2 Eucharist service next Wednesday from 9.30am at the Church. All parent/carers are welcome to join us for the service and communion. We look forward to seeing anyone who can, and would like to join us then.

Until then, have a lovely weekend and we look forward to seeing you at the usual time on Monday!

Very best wishes,
 Cheryl Payne
 Head Teacher

