

St. Mary's CE Primary School  
 Head Teacher:  
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**Spring Term**  
**INSET Day:**  
**Monday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2026**  
**First day of Term:**  
**Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2026**  
**Half Term:**  
**Monday 16<sup>th</sup> February to Friday 20<sup>th</sup> February 2026**  
**Last day of Term:**  
**Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March 2026**

**Summer Term**  
**First day of Term:**  
**Monday 13<sup>th</sup> April 2026**  
**Bank Holiday:**  
**Monday 4<sup>th</sup> May 2026**  
**Half Term:**  
**Monday 25<sup>th</sup> May to Friday 29<sup>th</sup> May 2026**  
**Last Day of Term:**  
**Friday 17<sup>th</sup> July 2026**

# 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**

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



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

## Family Points

629

503

571

546