

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

Friday 6th March 2026

Issue 759



**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 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

## 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	96.3% (54)
26/01	96.1% (57)
02/02	93.9% (88)
09/02	92.8% (104)
23/02	92.3% (72)
02/03	95.7% (61)
09/03	
16/03	
23/06	
Total:	95.5% (1421)

## Family Points

389

301

397

422

It is my pleasure to write this week's InTouch. I would like to begin by sharing my sincere thanks to the whole school community for the kindness and support you have shown towards Miss Payne. We continue to keep her in our thoughts and prayers as she focuses on her recovery, we are incredibly grateful for your continued partnership during her absence.

There has been a wonderful spring-like buzz across the school this week; the appearance of some much needed sunshine has had a positive effect on us all. As always the children have been a joy to watch as they busily build their skills and knowledge - made all the better by the many smiles on their faces as they learn.

It has also been fantastic to see a noticeable rise in attendance across the school this week. Thank you for your support in ensuring the children are here and ready to learn; let's keep it up!

Our Year 1 children visited Waterstones to celebrate World Book Day. Reading is the heart of everything we do, helping children build vocabulary, imagination, confidence and lifelong love of learning. The children enjoyed exploring the bookshop, discovering new stories, choosing books and finishing the trip with a chocolate milk drink in the café.

This week our Year 3 pupils began their first swimming lessons. Thank you to our staff and parents for supporting with this vital part of their physical education and development.

On Thursday Mr Philips accompanied a group of pupils to take part in the PPSSA girl's football tournament. The team played two matches this week against Our Lady Queen of Heaven and Sheringdale. While the scores didn't go our way this time, the growth in the girls' defensive skills since last week were incredible. Mr Philips shared that they were "Far more confident on the ball, far more confident in talking and far more confident in themselves as a team". We are all incredibly proud of their efforts and their growth as a squad.

Please do join us for our Mothering Sunday Service at St Mary's church next Friday starting at 9.45am. It would be lovely to see as many of you as possible, where we will share some songs and reflections around this theme.

Gemma Jennings - Deputy Head Teacher

