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Mr M Sutton, Headteacher

**Friday 17th April 2026**

Dear Children, Parents and Carers,

### Happy Easter and Welcome Back

A very happy and holy Easter to everyone.

It has been lovely to welcome the children and school community back this week, we do hope that you all managed to have a restful and enjoyable break. We now move together through this final summer term, with lots of exciting events and experiences to look forward to.

### Gospel Reflection:

This week we have reflected upon the joys of Easter and the Good News of Jesus' resurrection. We have reflected upon John's Gospel Reading describing the disciples gathered in a room. They gathered together in shared grief and worry, worry that those who had executed Jesus would soon return for them too. With doors locked and to their amazement, Jesus came into the room and stood among them.

His first words to them are of peace as He says: "Peace be with you." Moments later, he repeats those words: "Peace be with you. As the Father sent me, so I am sending you."

Jesus showed them the wounds in his hands and his side. The disciples were filled with joy.

Thomas was not there when Jesus came into the room and he refused to believe what had happened. One week later, they were in the room again, and Thomas was also there. Jesus came and stood among them, again saying, "Peace be with you!" He said to Thomas, "Here, touch the marks on my hands and feel the wound in my side. Doubt no longer, but believe."

Thomas replied, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet believe!"

Jesus offers us all the same words of comfort that we can take with us on our faith journey. Peace is a gift of our faith. Knowing that God is with us always, should give peace and comfort in our lives.



**"Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe." John 20:29**

## Nursery Places 2026 and Wrap Around Care

For all of our families and wider community a reminder that we are welcoming and still have, places available for our September 2026 Nursery intake. Please see the flyer below with additional information, including the expansion of our breakfast club and wrap-around care this year.



## Reception and Nursery Places September 2026

For all of our families and wider community a reminder that we are welcoming and still have, places available for our September 2026 Nursery intake, as noted last week, we are expanding our wrap-around care later this year, this includes before and after school.

### Are you looking for a full-time school-based Nursery place for your child for September?

If so, then we warmly welcome you to St. Margaret Mary's RC Primary School.

We are committed to fostering strong, caring, supportive relationships with you and your child that will be built upon as we journey through school together.



Within school we can offer full wrap around care for your child, including breakfast club facilities from 07.30a.m. We will offer (from Summer 2026), full after school club provision until 5.30p.m. every day. In addition to this Holiday Club places will be available throughout the year.

Please get in touch with our school office for any enquiries. We warmly welcome visits in person, which can be booked through the office.

0161 681 1504, alternatively, please email:

[contact@st-margaretmarys.manchester.sch.uk](mailto:contact@st-margaretmarys.manchester.sch.uk)

### **Monday 20th April 2026: Nursery Open Evening**

This Monday 20th April we welcome parents/carers and their children starting in our Nursery this September, to come for a look around our EYFS unit. EYFS staff will be available to speak to for any parents/carers who may wish to speak with them.

We look forward to welcoming you and your child as they start their school journey at St Margaret Mary's.



### **Year 5 Bikeability**

A number of Year 5 children will participate in "Bikeability" sessions during next week. If you have been notified that your child is participating, please ensure you have completed a consent form. Thank you in advance.



### **School Communication via the School Gateway app**

School Gateway, our school app, is the main method of communication we use for parents/carers. It is extremely important that parents/carers download the app onto their mobile telephones as we no longer be sending text messages, which incur a charge to school, going forward. This means you will not receive school messages if you do not have the app downloaded.

If you log into your phone and download the app, which is the image below, we would be most grateful.

Should you need any help with this please do not hesitate to call into the school office.



**Email from Manchester City Council : A Message To Our Communities Manchester Stands United Against Hate**

We have emailed all of our parents/carers an extremely important email this afternoon from Manchester City Council. We have also attached another copy of this separately at the end of this newsletter.

Thank you in advance.



**Foundation Governor Vacancies**

A reminder that we currently have vacancies for Foundation Governor[s] at the school. If you would be interesting in supporting the school in this important role, please see the attached information sheet from the Diocese of Salford and/or alternatively arrange to speak to myself.

**GOVERNOR  
VACANCY**

# Look at our great work!

wonderful writing

The children in EYFS & KS1 were given the opportunity to see and handle some creatures from the "Wild Science" ...



The children in 2M were using the atlases to find key information about Kenya ...





3/4D were learning the skills to play Badminton ...



4J were reading "The Road to Emmaus" in the Bible ...





Well done to this week's 'Stars of the Week' ...



Well done to all of our pupils who demonstrated our school virtues – "eloquent and truthful" this week ...





Congratulations to our Times Table Rock Stars and Numbots winners this week. Keep up the good work!





Our GIFT Team were an absolute credit to our school and the wider community when they attended Deacon Steven's Funeral Mass on Tuesday. They represented our school wonderfully and we are very proud of all of them. Deacon Steven will be greatly missed by our children, staff and the wider school community.



3/4D are this week's class attendance winners with a fantastic 97.2% attendance!

<b>Nur W</b>	<b>Nur/RecW</b>	<b>RecW</b>	<b>1H</b>	<b>1/2S</b>	<b>2M</b>
93.4%	93.9%	96%	95.2%	96.3%	96.5%
<b>3W</b>	<b>3/4D</b>	<b>4J</b>	<b>5C</b>	<b>5/6G</b>	<b>6W</b>
96.3%	97.2%	97%	95.2%	95.4%	94.4%

### Dates to remember

Monday 20th April 2026: Nursery Open Evening

Monday 20th April 2026: Year 5 Bikeability sessions

Wednesday 6th May 2026: Y4 of Class 3/4D begin swimming lessons at Broadway Baths

Monday 11th May 2026: KS2 SATs week

Monday 18th May 2026: Year 6 Residential week

Friday 22nd May 2026: School closes for half-term at the normal school finish time of 3.15 p.m.

Monday 8th June 2026: School re-opens after half-term

Tuesday 16th June 2026: "Great Science Share" at University of Manchester

Wednesday 17th June 2026: Boys' football after school at St Matthew's RC High School

Tuesday 23rd June 2026: Year 5 Taster Morning at St Matthew's RC High School

Tuesday 7th July 2026: Year 3 & 4 trip to "Eureka!"

Thursday 16th July 2026: Year 1 & 2 trip to Blackpool Zoo

Tuesday 21st July 2026: School closes for pupils for summer holidays

Wednesday 22nd July 2026: STAFF INSET Day

April 2026

# A MESSAGE TO OUR COMMUNITIES

## MANCHESTER STANDS UNITED AGAINST HATE

Dear residents,

You may be aware that Britain First is planning a national demonstration in Manchester city centre on 18 April, with the group attempting to link it to St George's Day. There will also be counter-protests, alongside a number of other regular demonstrations in the city centre. These events are expected to attract large numbers of people.

I want to speak directly to you about what this means for our city. I also want to set out what St George's Day means in Manchester, and how for more than 20 years it has been part of city life with residents, community groups and families marking the day in positive and welcoming ways.

Manchester is a city that comes together no matter the challenges we face, and we know that we have more that unites us than divides us. I've said it before, we are a proud and welcoming city built on tolerance, fairness, respect and compassion. There is no room for people who come to our city to spread hatred or sow division – hate will always be rejected by ordinary, decent Mancunians.

This is a city built over generations by people from all backgrounds who have contributed to its success. We are strengthened, not weakened, by our diversity, and we are proud of every community that helps make Manchester what it is today.

I understand the deep distress caused in our communities when far-right hate groups like Britain First choose to come to our city. However, freedom of expression and assembly is enshrined in UK law, which means demonstration must be allowed on condition a group engages with local police.

We will continue to liaise closely with GMP, who have given assurances that they will be policing this event robustly with public safety their top priority. We will also work with a range of other city centre stakeholders to make sure disruption is as limited as possible and Manchester remains open, safe and peaceful. I urge everyone to demonstrate within the law and respect our city.

If you experience or witness hate crime or discrimination, please report it. You deserve to feel safe and it is vital that incidents are recorded and acted upon.

## **CELEBRATING ST GEORGE'S DAY, THE MANCHESTER WAY**

Manchester celebrates its traditions by coming together, and it's disappointing that some groups are trying to hijack St George's Day. I urge Mancunians who want to celebrate St George's Day in Manchester by getting involved in our annual parade on the 26 April or by joining Council funded events across the city. We can celebrate our traditions while celebrating all that is good about modern Manchester.

## **MANCHESTER STANDS UNITED AGAINST HATE**

We are also making a poster and social media graphics available again for residents, communities and local organisations to download and display should they wish. By sharing it in windows, workplaces and community spaces, we can show that Manchester stands together as one city against hate.

They can be downloaded at [\*\*manchester.gov.uk/stand-together\*\*](https://manchester.gov.uk/stand-together)

I am asking everyone to stand united in the face of division, celebrating that we have more in common than our differences. Let's come together with a clear message that there is no room for hatred in our city.

**Cllr Bev Craig OBE**

Leader, Manchester City Council

I hope you all have a lovely, restful weekend.

Take care and God bless!

Mr Sutton

Headteacher

### Our Journey through Easter

"Easter is the victory of life over death, of light over darkness, of love over hatred".

Pope Leo XIV



Christ  
is  
Risen!