



# St. Margaret Mary's Catholic Junior School

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Week ending: Friday 13th February 2026

"Turn away from sin and be faithful to the Gospel." (Based on Mark 1:15)



## RECOGNITION



Huge congratulations to Paris and Annalise (3CD) for competing in dance competitions over the past couple of weekends. Amazing effort—well done, girls! We're so proud of you both





India competed in the Lancashire County Championships at the weekend in Manchester. This was India's first time at the competition, and has been her goal for the last 12 months. She was the only girl to qualify from her home club in her age group. She gave it her all, and swam amazingly, narrowly missing out on the final. She's started training with the county squad as a result, ready for next year's championships! We are so proud of you India, well done!

### Yr 4 EUREKA TRIP

Year 4 had a fantastic time at Eureka! Science + Discovery in Seacombe. There was so much for the children to see and do, and they especially enjoyed the interactive activities. It was wonderful to see them learning through hands-on experiences and having so much fun together. The Eureka! Science + Discovery is definitely worth a visit.



## COFFEE MORNING

Thank you to all our parents and carers who joined us for the Coffee Morning today. It was lovely to spend the morning together and enjoy the wonderful talents of so many of our children. All money raised will be donated to Catholic Charities, CAFOD and Nugent Care. We truly appreciate your continued support.



## PARENT PARTNERS



Finch Woods Academy Parent Partners is an opportunity for parents to meet with the expert teams and professionals who support children with SEND, gain a deeper understanding of SEND and how to support their children's needs in the home, and become more involved in the life of the school.

The school offers tailored SEND sessions and an opportunity for parents to gain advice and strategies from experts in the world of SEND.

Upcoming dates for your diary:

**Tuesday 10th March 2026**

Supporting Speech, Language, and Communication skills through games

Chelsie Davies— Speech and Language Therapist

**Tuesday 21st April 2026**

Sleep Support

Alison Peace—School Health Team

**Tuesday 19th May 2026**

Understanding Autism: Post Diagnosis Support

Diane Strevens—Autism Advisory Teacher

**Tuesday 9th June 2026**

Supporting Sensory Regulation

Kerry Anne Warburton—Occupational Therapist

All sessions will take place at **Finch Woods Academy, Bailey's Lane, Halewood, L26 0TY**. The sessions will run for local schools 9:15—10:15am, and for parents of pupils at **Finch Woods Academy 10:30—11:30am**. Light refreshments will be available. To book a place, please contact: [vrhead@finchwoods.mhat.org.uk](mailto:vrhead@finchwoods.mhat.org.uk)



## **BEHAVIOUR**

As I am sure you are aware, we are having a big focus on behaviour in school at the minute with our main focus being to make school a better place for everyone in the building. Fundamental to this, are our three main values - Be Safe, Be Respectful and to Be our Best and to ensure that we behave in a way that is compliant with our school mission statement of - Loving, Learning and Growing with Jesus.

Last week in school, we shared through our assemblies, what our behaviour should look like and how we must follow these values in school whilst:

- In the classrooms
- In the canteen
- On the playground
- In the toilets
- On the corridors
- Outside of school

During these assemblies, teachers were asked to identify role models within the class who constantly display exemplary, **star behaviour**. Parents of these children should be extremely proud of their children!

[Year 3](#)

[Year 4](#)



Year 5



Year 6



We also discussed rewards and consequences for our actions. The children understand that we all make mistakes at times (even adults) and that to try to avoid making the same mistakes, we should always reflect on our words and actions.

We discussed our **school behaviour policy** and how we must seek support from adults if we need help rather than put ourselves in a position where we need to reflect and have consequences put on us.

We also talked about how good behaviour is rewarded in school and shared some of the many ways that star behaviour is rewarded in SMMJ!

- You become cleverer / you feel happier
- Glowing report to take home
- Smile / Praise / Dojo / Stickers
- SMMJ Certificates / Awards / Trophies
- Recognition points
- Spotlight Certificates
- SMMJ University Awards (Extra Curricular)
- Messages to parents via dojo / over the phone / in person
- Dojo winners go to Connor or Reece for extra rewards
- Dojo team winners get a reward
- Sent to other teachers and the head teacher to share good news
- Share your work in assembly / you get shout outs
- Intra tournaments / sport
- Represent the school (choir / sport / ambassadors)
- You feel proud!

Lots of our children love participating in sport! Whilst we understand that this is not all our children, we still feel this is an area that will help many of our children to improve their

behaviour. It will give them additional things to look forward to during their school day so long as they are following our school rules. Here are some of the activities for your children to look forward to next week!

Y3 - Dodgeball / Art / Music (Friday 2pm)

Y4 - Lunchtime football (Thursday 12:15 - 12:45)

Y5 - Intra school football competition (Thursday at 8:30am)

Y6 - Intra school benchball competition (Monday 8:30am)

There will also be a special reward for our '**Class of the Week**'. This will be given to the class who have shown throughout the week that they are **safe, respectful and their best**. Classes that are calm and where the children are **focused and engaged with their learning** will have a good chance of winning. Well done to 5HW who were our first winners of this award! They had a lovely reward this week and next week this reward will go to 6TC!

We also discussed how we want our school to be a calm environment and how this is so important to allow for us all to **be safe, be respectful and to be our best**. To support this, we have introduced our **Quiet Corridors**. Children and adults will only speak if it is very important and will do so with our **indoor voices**.

The children and staff have really bought into all that we are trying to do in school but can we take this opportunity to address all parents and ask for your support with this as well. Please can we ask that you back the teachers? We are doing all these things to help your children to **be safe, be respectful and to be their best** both in school and at home.

Thank you for your anticipated support with this.

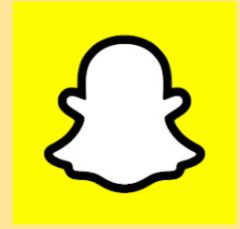
## **SOCIAL MEDIA**

We are becoming increasingly concerned about the growing number of issues in school that are linked to children's use of social media and messaging apps outside school hours. Unfortunately, these online disputes and inappropriate interactions are often spilling over into the classroom, affecting friendships, learning, and wellbeing.

It is essential that parents and carers are aware that apps such as WhatsApp, TikTok and Snapchat all have age restrictions (usually 13+ years) for important safety reasons. Despite this, we are seeing children as young as those in Year 3 using these platforms — something that is both worrying and contrary to the guidance set out by the app providers.

We urge all parents to closely monitor their child's mobile phone and online activity. Please ensure you are aware of what platforms they are using, who they are communicating with, and how they are presenting themselves online. Children need ongoing support and supervision to ensure they use technology safely, respectfully, and responsibly.

Our shared goal is to keep every child safe — both in school and beyond it. Your cooperation in helping us tackle this growing issue is vital.



## JC FEBRUARY HOLIDAY CAMPS

## Wake and Shake!

Tuesday and Thursday between 8.00am and 8.30am, we run a Wake and Shake club where pupils can join in dancing and games in our hall to get them ready for learning.

All year groups are welcome to join in the fun, just arrive on time at reception and say, 'Wake and Shake!'

## ATTENDANCE

<u>Year Group with the fewest lost days this week</u>	<u>Classes Recognised this week</u>	<u>School Attendance this week</u>	<u>Impressive attendance this week</u>
☀️ Year 5 ☀️	☀️ 3GM ☀️ ☀️ 4CF ☀️ ☀️ 5DN ☀️	☀️ 93.3% ☀️	☀️ 3GM 99.3% ☀️

### ATTENDANCE REMINDER

All emails relating to pupil absences must now be sent to schools our email address - [stmargaret@knowsley.gov.uk](mailto:stmargaret@knowsley.gov.uk)

## SPRING TERM DATES FOR THE DIARY

(Please note that dates are subject to change but, in the event of change, we will endeavour to give parents as much notice as possible)

### SPRING TERM 2

- 23rd February - Whole school INSET day- children are not in school
- 24th February- Children and staff return to school
- 2nd March- Yr 6 Residential trip to London (3 days)
- 4th March- Yr 5 Author visit
- 5th March -World Book Day
- 9th March- Yr 4 Swimming (Mon-Thurs)
- 11th March - Parents Evening
- 13th March -Wear Blue for Bobby Day
- 16th March- Yr 4 Swimming (Mon-Thurs)
- 16th March - Year 5 and 6 Disco 3.15-4.15pm Year 3 & 4 Disco 4.30-5.30pm
- 18th March - Parents Evening
- 19th March- British Gymnastic Competition - 30 children to visit
- 20th March- Yr 6 to visit the Royal Philharmonic
- 23rd March - 25th March Yr 5 Winmarleigh Hall Residential
- 27th March - Coffee Morning for Good Shepherd
- 2ND April- Finish for Easter (time TBC)

Loving, learning, growing together with Jesus

### Extra-Curricular Timetable

We have a wide range of extra-curricular activities for our children to participate in during the Spring Term. Please see the timetable below: -

		Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<b>Y3</b>	Before School		Wake and Shake		Wake and Shake Girls football	
	Lunchtime					Football
	After School				Rebound Dance	
<b>Y4</b>	Before School		Wake and shake		Wake and shake	
	Lunchtime				Football	
	After School		LFC Dodgeball Arts & Crafts	Boxing	Choir, Boxing	Rebound Dance
<b>Y5</b>	Before School		Wake and shake	Basketball	Wake and shake Girls Football Boys Football	Bleep Test
	Lunchtime					
	After School			Football		
<b>Y6</b>	Before School	Benchball	Bleep Test Wake and shake		Girls Football Wake and shake	
	Lunchtime	Hockey	Table Tennis	Rugby		

	After School	EFC Dodgeball		Football	Homework Club	
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