

Following in the footsteps of Jesus, we learn, love and laugh together



Friday 7th November 2025

Dear Parents and Carers

We hope that you all enjoyed the half term break. As always, it was lovely to welcome all the children back to school on Tuesday morning. On Wednesday the whole school visited Chester Zoo. This was an opportunity to extend and to enhance our Science curriculum. When asked about the Natural Selection Theory, Kurtis in year six was able to discuss in detail, sharing his knowledge about Charles Darwin. When I asked about his favourite part of the day? He said "it was when we saw the Red Pandas, they were such a rich and vibrant colour."

This weekend our Junior Leaders; Astrid and Louis, will represent the school at St. Laurence Church Remembrance Service. They will place a wreath on behalf of our whole school community. Our Ambassadors for Charity will be selling Poppies and selected merchandise, they can be purchased during the morning break or at lunch time. On Tuesday, Lydia and Megan will represent our school community at the Frodsham memorial service, and again place a wreath will be placed.

Thank you to all the parents who attended our Parents Evenings, we hope you found discussions informative. If you were not able to attend for any reason, you are very welcome to make a mutually convenient appointment with your child's class teacher.

This is always a very busy half term, particularly with the run up to the Christmas season. Please see the dates below to add your calendar:

Best wishes

Eileen Murtagh



"In Flanders Fields" by Col. John McCrae,

In Flanders Fields The poppies blow Between the crosses row on row That mark our place; and in the sky The larks, still bravely singing, fly

Scarce heard amid the guns below.
We are the dead, short days ago
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,
Loved and were loved and now we lie
In Flanders Fields.

Take up our quarrel with the foe
To you, from failing hands, we throw
The torch, be yours to hold it high.
If ye break faith with us, who die
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow
In Flanders Fields.

Jess and Joshua our Junior Safety Officers shared some very important messages about staying safe at this time of year!

If you are going to a fireworks display, we hope that you have a good time, most importantly, that you stay safe!

From Jess and Joshua



At the end of last academic year, the year six leavers presented our school with a trophy. This term we are focusing on behaviour for learning; having the right attitude as well as being Ready, Respectful and Safe! The trophy will be presented at the end of each half term. St. Catherine's class are the first and proud recipients of the Super Star, Spirit of the School Award. Congratulations Everyone!



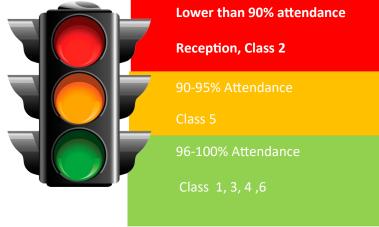
Attendance

Overall Attendance this week is 94.24%

Across the school, **17 minutes** of learning time was lost this week through late arrivals.

Don't underestimate the importance of 100% attendance. Even one day missed can have an effect on learning.

98% attendance means 4 school days missed
95% attendance means 10 school days missed
90% attendance means 19 school days missed
80% attendance means 38 school days missed
5 minutes late each day means 3 school days missed



Please be aware that requests for children to take holidays during term time will be classed as an unauthorised absence.

Please be aware that unauthorised absences that exceed 5 school days during term time will receive a fixed penalty notice (FPN).

Reminder - Dental or medical appointments

If you will be taking your child for an appointment please send us an email with the booking/screen shot for our files. Thank you



As we start the new School year, we're excited to inform you of the myHappymind Parent App. It's a brilliant way to help children keep practising their myHappymind habits during the School year at home.

You will need the activation code 111379

To find the checklist on the Parent App, they simply:

- 1. Open the app
- 2. Click on Kids' Zone
- 3. Select myHappymind Checklists
- 4. Choose the Holiday Checklist

St Nicholas Catholic High School Newsletter

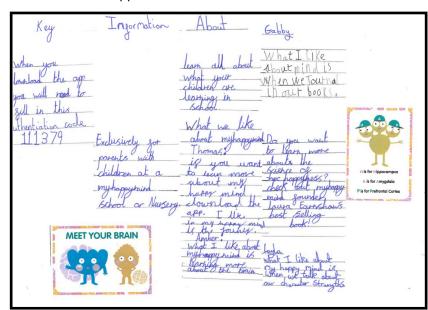
For the latest newsletter click here

St Luke's Lion Cubs

We loved seeing our Lion Cubs this week. Make sure you come and join us next week!

MyHappyMind

MyHappyMind Heroes have been busy this week putting together a leaflet to invite parents to download the app!





Little Church

Come and join us for Children's Liturgy on Sunday 16th November during 11am mass where we will do some fun activities to explore the Gospel. This is aimed at children who have not yet made their First Holy Communion.

Dates for your Diary

9th November: Remembrance Day Service (Parish)

11th November: Remembrance Day Service (Council)

11th November: Poetry Workshops

17th November: Maths Week

29th November: Frodsham Festival

St Luke's Lion Club event

3rd December 9:30-11:30am

Christmas craft activities

St Mary's Class

Chester Zoo

We thoroughly enjoyed our trip to Chester Zoo this week! We took part in a workshop learning about different types of animals and how we know things are living or non living. We especially liked the challenges and feeling bones, skulls and animal fur.

We have been writing a recount about the Zoo and when we were planning the piece of writing, we couldn't believe how many animals we actually saw! Some of our favourites were the giraffe, sloth, elephants and of course, the gibbons!

Maths

Year 2 have been adding numbers by bridging to 10 and writing the number sentences to match. We have been talking about how making these links can increase our fluency and we can solve problems quicker. Year 1 have been solving missing number problems and have been using objects and part whole models to find the missing amount. Reception have been solving problems involving the number 5 and representing the number in different ways.

Geography

We have been continuing with our learning based on our Frodsham field trip. We used Purple Mash to create a bar chart about what we saw the most of in Frodsham - shops, leisure or people who help us. We also used photographs to identify human and physical features and a grid to find grid references of places in Frodsham.

Art

We got very messy when we were exploring sketching using charcoal and we loved using smudging techniques to create shades and tones. We are looking forward to creating our final pieces of artwork to display in St. Mary Class Art Gallery.





St Elizabeth's Class





This week we have settled back quickly into our learning. In English, we have finished our mini black lives unit, Coming to England. We wrote letters from Floella's point of view to her Grandma to share what life was like when she got to England. Year 4 were working on consolidating fronted adverbials and year 3 were consolidating expanded noun phrases and prepositions. On Thursday and Friday, we enjoyed writing a recount of our trip to Chester Zoo! We used adverbs to progress our paragraphs and thought of lots of different adjectives we could use to describe the animals.

In Maths, Year 4 are nearing the end of the addition and subtraction unit! There have been some tricky sums calculating multiple exchanges, and we have worked hard to do this with accuracy. At the end of the week, we practiced using efficient methods when adding and subtracting numbers such as 999. Year 3 have been continuing using the column method to add and subtract, and this week have been practicing carrying numbers across a 1 or a 10.

In Geography, we started our new topic of Rivers! We recapped some of our Science learning about the water cycle, and learnt about the three parts of a river and some of the key features and names. We worked in pairs to match them up, and started thinking about our practical project next week.

On Wednesday, we were very excited to go to Chester Zoo! We spent the morning exploring the park and using our map skills to navigate our way around. We were really good at recognising our location on the map and wayfinding to the next enclosure. We saw elephants, penguins, flamingos, and even braved the bat cave! After lunch, we took part in a nutrition and digestion workshop (a great introduction to our science topic) and had fun guessing the animal's poo, classifying animal skulls based on their diet (carnivores, omnivores and herbivores), and building our very own digestive system. To end the day, we explored the orangutans and some reptiles including a large python, a tarantula and some frogs.

St Catherine's Class



It's been a jam-packed and exciting start to the new half term!

The highlight of our week was definitely our trip to Chester Zoo. We took part in a fascinating Evolution and Inheritance workshop, where we learnt more about Charles Darwin and how animals have adapted over time. Afterwards, we enjoyed exploring the zoo, spotting all sorts of incredible animals, and spending time with our buddies. Thankfully, the rain stayed away, and we had an amazing day!

Back at school, we made a splash on our first day as swimming sessions continued. Everyone is making fantastic progress and working hard to perfect their techniques — there's been lots of determination and improvement all round.

In Maths, Year 5 have been mastering column addition, while Year 6 have been tackling long multiplication. Perseverance has been key this week, as we've learnt the importance of making mistakes and using them to help us improve.

Following our zoo trip, we channelled our experiences into writing. We studied the features of online blogs, planned our ideas carefully, and then wrote our own recounts in that style. The results were brilliant — engaging, well-structured, and written with the audience and purpose in mind.

What a fantastic first week back — full of learning, teamwork, and creativity!



Award Winners

Well done to this week's award winners...

Headteachers Awards



Subject Awards



Award Winners

Raise the Praise Champions



Pride Award



Sports Awards



Award Winners



Well Done to both Jess and Dan representing Runcorn Reps Swimming Club

Jess did well, achieving personal best times for 100m freestyle, breaststroke and individual medley against tough competition.

Daniel also achieved personal best times and also placed in the medal positions for 50m freestyle (bronze), 50m backstroke (silver) and 100m individual medley (silver).

FOSL



Local News

