



ST MARY'S RC PRIMARY SCHOOL AND NURSERY

NEWSLETTER – Friday 12th December 2025



A Fond Farewell to Mrs. Raby

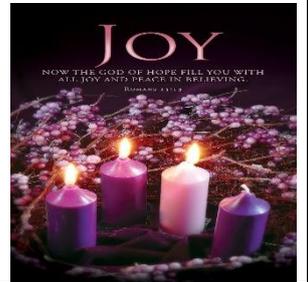
Next week, on Friday 19th December, we will say goodbye to Mrs. Raby, who has been a cherished member of the St Mary's community for many years. Throughout her time here, she has shown incredible dedication to the school, working closely with children, staff, and families, and has been an important part of our community.

We will fondly remember the many laughs, kindness, and support she has shared with everyone. It is very sad to see her go, but we wish Mrs. Raby all the best in her new adventure. She will be greatly missed!

Advent and Joy

As we move through Advent, we are reminded that this season is a time of hope and joyful expectation. On the third Sunday of Advent, Gaudete Sunday, we light the rose candle to celebrate the joy that Jesus brings into our lives.

In school, we are encouraging our students to share joy through kindness, gratitude, and helping others. May this season remind us to notice the small moments of joy around us as we prepare our hearts for Christmas.



The Immaculate Conception

This week we celebrate the Feast of the Immaculate Conception, a special day in our Church when we remember that Mary was chosen by God and kept free from sin from the very beginning of her life. This allowed her to say "yes" to becoming the Mother of Jesus.

We encourage our students to look to Mary as a model of faith, trust, and openness to God's love. May we follow her example by saying "yes" to kindness, goodness, and the call to love one another.



Lights, Popcorn, Action!

Our recent PTA Movie Nights for KS1 and KS2 were a great success! The children thoroughly enjoyed their evenings together, and it was wonderful to see so many smiles. A massive thank you to our fantastic PTA for organising and running both nights so brilliantly, and thank you to all parents for supporting the events and allowing your children to take part.

It was a brilliant way to bring the school community together, and there are more fun activities planned—**so watch this space!**



Revised Holiday Dates

Please note that our holiday schedule has been updated due to the additional INSET day on Monday 5th January 2026 (please see below).

School will now reopen for pupils on Tuesday 6th January 2026.

Thank you for your support and understanding.



Christmas Early Finish Reminder

A reminder that school will finish at 1:30pm next Friday for the Christmas holiday. **There will be no after-school provision available**, so please make any necessary arrangements to collect your children on time.

We wish all our families a joyful and peaceful holiday season!



Attendance

Please remember the importance of good attendance and punctuality. Our school doors open at 8:35am and close promptly at 8:55am. Arriving on time helps children start the day calmly and ensures they don't miss valuable learning. As an extra incentive, any child who is on time every day for the week will be entered into our Freddo Friday draw for a chance to win a chocolate treat! Thank you for your continued support.

Important Dates

Look out for the Christmas dates sent out last week.

Pink Monday – Monday 15th December (wear a pink accessory)

Christmas Lunch – Wednesday 17th December

Class Parties – Thursday 18th December (Year's 1-6 bring a change of clothes for the afternoon)

EYFS class party Friday 19th December (come in non-uniform)

School closes Friday 19th December at 1.30pm

Star Awards

EYFS – Logan and Mollie

Year 1/2 – Ella-Rose and Lucas

Year 3/4- Samuel and Bobbie

Year 5/6- Layla-Jai and Lexie-Marie

Well done to all our Star Award winners! You are brilliant!



Attendance

| | This week |
|-----------|-----------|
| Reception | 80% |
| Year 1 | 80% |
| Year 2 | 81.8% |
| Year 3 | 83.6% |
| Year 4 | 85.4% |
| Year 5 | 88.8% |
| Year 6 | 85.5% |

Remember attendance as a school should be higher than 96% to ensure that children make the best progress and reach their potential. Over the course of the full year if children miss more than 7 days in total, for any reason, they will not reach this target and are at risk of falling behind.

It Didn't Go Unnoticed Awards

These are very special awards to acknowledge children showing their care and concern for others across the school day, responding to their call to serve others, without any desire for recognition. Well done and thank you to...

Harper Whaite

Sienna Bolton



Freddo Friday
Attendance Hero Winners!

- EYFS – Finley
- Year 1/2 – Harper
- Year 3/4- Ava D
- Year 5/6 – Kaylan

Hero's Per class

- EYFS – 6/14 - Improved
- Year 1/2 – 17/24 Decreased
- Year 3/4- 18/27 Improved
- Year 5/6 – 20/28 Decreased

Well done EYFS and 3/4.
Let's try to improve this next week!

HOLIDAY LIST: 2025-2026

2025 Autumn Term

| STAFF | | PUPILS | |
|---------------------------|---|---------------------------|---|
| INSET DAYS | Monday 1st & Tuesday 2nd September 2025 | | |
| School re-opens | Wednesday 3 rd September 2025 | School re-opens | Wednesday 3 rd September 2025 |
| School closes | Thursday 23 rd October 2025 | School closes | Thursday 23 rd October 2025 |
| INSET DAY | Friday 24th October 2025 | | |
| Half-term Holiday | Monday 27 th October 2025 – Friday 31 st October 2025 | Half-term holiday | Monday 27 th October 2025 – Friday 31 st October 2025 |
| School re-opens | Monday 3 rd November 2025 | School re-opens | Monday 3 rd November 2025 |
| School closes | Friday 19 th December 2025 | School closes | Friday 19 th December 2025 |
| INSET DAY | Monday 22nd December 2025 | | |
| Number of openings | 73 + 4 Staff Inset | Number of openings | 73 |

2026 Spring Term

| STAFF | | PUPILS | |
|---------------------------|---|---------------------------|---|
| INSET DAY | Monday 5th January 2026 | | |
| School re-opens | Tuesday 6 th January 2026 | School re-opens | Tuesday 6 th January 2026 |
| School closes | Friday 13 th February 2026 | School closes | Friday 13 th February 2026 |
| Half-term Holiday | Monday 16 th February 2026 – Friday 20 th February 2026 | Half-term holiday | Monday 16 th February 2026 – Friday 20 th February 2026 |
| TRUST Inset Day | Monday 23rd February 2026 | | |
| School re-opens | Tuesday 24 th February 2026 | School re-opens | Tuesday 24 th February 2026 |
| School closes | Thursday 2 nd April 2026 | School closes | Thursday 2 nd April 2026 |
| Easter Holidays | Friday 3 rd April 2026 – Friday 10 th April 2026 | Easter Holiday | Friday 3 rd April 2026 – Friday 10 th April 2026 |
| Number of openings | 57 + 2 Staff Inset | Number of openings | 57 |

2026 Summer Term

| STAFF | | PUPILS | |
|---------------------------|---|---------------------------|---|
| School re-opens | Monday 13 th April 2026 | School re-opens | Monday 13 th April 2026 |
| Bank Holiday | Monday 4 th May 2026 | Bank Holiday | Monday 4 th May 2026 |
| School closes | Friday 22 nd May 2026 | School closes | Friday 22 nd May 2026 |
| Half term holiday | Monday 25 th May 2026 – Friday 5 th June 2026 | Half term holiday | Monday 25 th May 2026 – Friday 5 th June 2026 |
| School re-opens | Monday 8 th June 2026 | School re-opens | Monday 8 th June 2026 |
| School closes | Monday 20 th July 2026 | School closes | Monday 20th July 2026 at 1.30 pm |
| Number of openings | 59 | Number of openings | 59 |