



October NEWSLETTER



St Mary's RC
Primary School



An amazing start back

We would like to say a big thank you to all our children and families for such a wonderful start to the school year. It has been fantastic to see everyone arriving on time, looking smart in their uniforms, and settling straight back into school life. The children have already shown excellent behaviour, positive attitudes, and a real enthusiasm for learning. We are so proud of how well they have begun the year and look forward to all the exciting opportunities and achievements ahead

Laudato Si – Choose to Reuse!



Our Year 5 Laudato Si' group have been working hard to care for our planet, with their current mission focused on reducing plastic waste in school. Last summer, the team carried out a survey to see how much plastic waste was produced after lunch, and this September they repeated the survey and were delighted to see a reduction. The children have been busy spreading the word and educating others about making good choices for our lunchboxes. This week, they were especially pleased to spot so many reusable tubs being used instead of single-use plastics. A **big thank** you to all our parents and families for supporting this important mission; together we can keep up the great work all year long!

Caritas Award

Well done to the children who have already been awarded the Caritas Love into Action Award for making a real difference by living out their faith and helping others. We look forward to celebrating many more children as the year goes on. Our Year 5 Caritas team are keeping a close eye on those who show kindness and service in school, but children can also receive the award for the wonderful things they do outside of school.

If your child is helping others in the community or putting their faith into action at home, please let us know so we can recognise and celebrate them with this special award.



St Thérèse of Lisieux

Last week we held a whole school assembly about St Thérèse of Lisieux, the Patron Saint of Mission. She teaches us through her "Little Way" that small, loving actions, done with kindness and care, can make a big difference in sharing the love of Jesus with others.



As we begin the first week of October, our school will be putting this into practice by focusing on our own "Little Way," carrying out simple acts of kindness each day.

Open Morning

On Friday 10th October, we are delighted to be holding our annual Open Morning. This is a wonderful opportunity for you to spend time with your child in class and see their learning in action. The event will run from 9.00am to 10.10am, with the school hall open for refreshments from 8.50am. We look forward to welcoming you and hope to see many of you there!



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Harvest Appeal

This year our Harvest Collection will be for Loaves and Fishes, the organisation within Salford Diocese that provides food, shelter and support for homeless people. If you would like to participate in the collection, Loaves and Fishes would be particularly grateful for: toothpaste, shampoo, toilet rolls, corned beef, tinned vegetables, tinned corn, tinned fish, cereals, biscuits, rice, pasta, sugar, tea and coffee.



Your contributions can be sent into school from now until the morning of Friday 24th October. Thank you for joining us in making a difference to the needy of our community and diocese.

Our Harvest Assembly takes place on Friday 24th October at 9.15.a.m. in St Mary's Church.
You are all most welcome to join us.

Sports

Well done to our Year 6 athletics team who recently took part in their athletics event. They not only tried their best but also showed fantastic sportsmanship and lived out our Catholic values throughout the competition. We are very proud of the way they represented our school. Well done Y6

Attendance Matters

Attendance is monitored closely by both school staff and the Educational Welfare Officer each half term. Our whole-school attendance target is 97%, and we really appreciate your continued support in helping us reach this important goal.

A reminder to all parents and carers that, in line with government guidance, holidays during term time are not permitted.

Free School Meals

Free School Meals – Release funding for your school!

Below is the link that Parents/Carers should use when checking to see if your family is eligible to claim free school meals (FSM). Any family that successfully claims free school meals, enables a pot funding to be released to us. St Mary's has a very low FSM percentage and as a result we do not attract as much funding as many schools in Salford especially when comparing to the schools local to us. As you will be aware, all children in England who are in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 are entitled to a school meal – this is known as Universal Free School Meals (UFSM) and is automatically allocated without Parent/Carers having to apply. The UFSM does not release funding for schools. I would like to ask all families, particularly families in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 to click the link, check the criteria for application and apply if eligible.

<https://www.salford.gov.uk/schools-and-learning/free-school-meals/>



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DATE	EVENT
Oct 5, 2025	Welcome Mass and First Communion Certificate presentation
Oct 10, 2025	Open Morning 9:00 a.m – 10:10 a.m
Oct 24, 2025	Harvest Assembly in Church 9.30am
School closes on Friday 24/10/2025 and reopens <u>Monday 3/11/2025</u>	
Nov 5, 2025	KS2 Parent/Teacher Meetings
Nov 12, 2025	FS & KS1 Parent/Teacher Meetings
19/11/2025-21/11/2025	Year 6 Trip to Robinwood
Nov 28, 2025	Year 3 Advent Assembly 9.15am School
Dec 3, 2025	Reception Christmas Craft Morning 9:00am - 10:00am
Dec 3, 2025	Nursery Christmas Craft Afternoon 2:00pm - 3:00pm
Dec 5, 2025	Year 4 Advent Assembly 9.15am School
Dec 9, 2025	KS1 Nativity - 9.15 am School Hall 2.30pm School Hall
Dec 10, 2025	EYFS Nativity - 9.15 am School Hall 2.15pm School Hall
Dec 12, 2025	Year 5 Advent Assembly - 9.15 am School
Dec 15, 2025	Advent reflection at school 8.30am
Dec 16, 2025	Carol Concert times at Church 5:15pm
Dec 18, 2025	Year 6 Advent Assembly - 9.15 am School Hall
Dec 19, 2025	Whole school Mass
Dec 19, 2025	School Closes 1.30pm