






SUMMER TERM 2025/2026

Friday 22nd May

Attendance

This week school attendance is **95.08%**. Please remember that all holidays will be unauthorised.

			
	Attendance	Lateness	Class Dojo
Nursery	90.09%	1	
Reception	95.78%	4	4.9
Year 1	97.13%	3	9
Year 2	87.69%	1	5.2
Year 3	96.8%	4	4.2
Year 4	96.74%	11	5.4
Year 5	89.94%	3	6.9
Year 6	96.24%	7	12.3

Well done to Y1 and Y6 who earned the bonus break this week 😊

St Martin's Stars

Well done to all our certificate winners this week!

			
	Shining Star	Purple Tie	Our Values
Nursery	Bobby S		Lottie S
Reception	Reuben	Layla	Frankie
Year 1	Everyone	Everleigh	Archie
Year 2	Ava	Fraser	Isla
Year 3	Addison	Alice W	Dylan
Year 4	Dougie	Harper	Parker
Year 5	Mila	Tommy	Pennie
Year 6	Jayden	Chloe	Winter

Clubs

Clubs continue after half term until 3rd July
 Monday – Netball club Y5 & Y6
 Monday – Homework club
 Tuesday – Comic club KS2 (Y3-Y6)
 Thursday – Mr Cullen Sports KS1 (YR, Y1 & Y2)
 Friday – Choir (KS2)

Message from Mrs Ming

We have had an extremely busy but good week in St Martin's this week. It started with a visit to Warrington Museum where year 1 pupils enjoyed their trip – especially riding on a train. Year 4 thoroughly enjoyed their visit to the Grange school where the stories they had written were brought alive by actors. The choir loved singing to the residents of Beechcroft Nursing home where they had the chance to ask questions and experience their wisdom. And we all loved paying our respects to Our Lady during our whole school May procession. Well done to Maisie in Y4 who won the Vikings tickets. She was chosen from the 113 children who had above 97% attendance.

We hope you enjoy the Match on 7th June. We are really looking forward to returning on 8th June where we will have an even busier final term of the year. Have a lovely break and enjoy the expected sun! See you in two weeks.

Parent Notice Board

Wednesday 10th June

Whole school Mass 10am

New intake parents meeting 2.30pm

Friday 22nd May

YR Assembly 9am

Half term

A reminder that we close for half term today which is **2 WEEKS** long. We will return to school on Monday 8th June at 8.40am. Have a lovely Break.

School Lottery

CONGRATULATIONS to last week's winner

16/05/2026 Mr D who won £5.50



You can buy tickets here

This month you can win an Ikea voucher worth £1000 and don't forget the jackpot of £25k.

Thank you to all who have bought tickets so far – school has raised £177.60 through ticket sales already.

The **more tickets bought the bigger the prize** so please share and you could win £200 for referring a friend.

Catholic Life and Reflection

The Wednesday Word is a resource for parents to use when discussing the [weekly Gospel](#) with their families. There is a whole school Mass to celebrate the start of the final term on **Wednesday 10th June at 10am**. All families are welcome.

This is a vital guide to understanding [online grooming](#), its warning signs and how to protect children from exploitation.

At The National College, our WakeUpWednesday guides empower and equip parents, carers and educators with the confidence and practical skills to be able to have informed and age-appropriate conversations with children about online safety, mental health and wellbeing, and climate change. Formerly delivered by National Online Safety, these guides now address wider topics and themes. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit nationalcollege.com.

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about ONLINE GROOMING

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Online grooming is when someone builds a relationship with a child or young person online to gain their trust for the purpose of sexual abuse, exploitation, radicalisation, or criminal activity – such as county lines or financial scams. According to the NSPCC, police in the UK recorded over 7,000 offences involving sexual communication with a child in a single year – an increase of 89% since 2017/18.

STRANGERS USING FAKE IDENTITIES

Groomers often pose as children or teenagers online to build trust. They may create convincing fake profiles, share photos stolen from real people, or mimic the interests of the child. By pretending to be someone their age, they make conversations feel safe and relatable. Over time, they may ask for personal details, photos, or suggest meeting in person, exposing children to significant emotional and physical harm.

EXPLOITATION THROUGH GIFTS AND FLATTERY

To gain trust quickly, groomers often send gifts, gaming credits, or money. Alongside material offerings, they use excessive compliments, affection, and attention to create emotional dependency. These tactics make children feel valued and special, lowering their defences. Once trust is secured, groomers may escalate their requests, often asking for photos or private conversations, making the child feel pressured or indebted to continue.

GROUP CHATS AS HIDDEN PATHWAYS

Unmonitored group chats on platforms like WhatsApp or Discord provide a cover for groomers. They can watch how children interact, identify those who seem vulnerable, and then move conversations into private messaging. This transition makes detection difficult for trusted adults. The seemingly harmless group setting often masks the presence of predators, giving children a false sense of security.

THE RISE OF SEXTORTION

Sextortion involves pressuring children into sharing explicit content, then blackmailing them for more. Offenders may claim to have hacked a child's device, threaten to share images with friends or family, or demand money. Many victims remain silent out of fear and shame. This growing crime is particularly dangerous because children often feel trapped, believing there's no safe way to escape the situation.

GAMING PLATFORMS AS GROOMING GATEWAYS

Games like Roblox, Fortnite, or Call of Duty, which include live chat features, are frequent targets for groomers. Conversations often begin casually during gameplay and can become manipulative over time. Groomers may offer in-game gifts, credits, or exclusive add-ons to build rapport. Children using headsets or private chat features are especially at risk, as conversations are harder for adults to monitor.

CRIMINAL & RADICALISATION RISKS

Grooming is not always sexual. Some offenders manipulate children into criminal activities such as drug running or online fraud. Others attempt to radicalise young people with extreme ideologies. Groomers often use fear, money, shame, or promises of belonging to control their victims. These forms of exploitation can be just as harmful as sexual grooming, and often leave lasting psychological and social consequences.

Advice for Parents & Educators

KEEP CONVERSATIONS REGULAR

Rather than having one "big talk" about online safety, weave conversations into everyday life. Ask questions about children's online friendships and interests. Share real-life examples to make discussions relatable and encourage honesty instead of secrecy. When children feel comfortable discussing their digital lives, they are far more likely to share concerns or admit when something feels wrong, reducing the chance of risky interactions going unnoticed.

UNDERSTAND THE PLATFORMS CHILDREN USE

Take time to learn about the apps, games, and social platforms children are on. Familiarise yourself with privacy settings, parental controls, and group chat features. Use resources like The National College guides or conduct quick searches to stay updated. By understanding how these platforms operate, you'll be better equipped to set boundaries, guide safe use, and notice any unusual or concerning online behaviour early.

CREATE A "TELL ME" CULTURE

Children often keep silent because they fear being punished or losing access to their devices. Reassure them that coming forward with concerns won't get them into trouble. Emphasise that you are there to help, not judge. Creating a safe, open environment encourages children to speak up if something feels wrong, and helps to ensure they don't suffer in silence when facing potential grooming risks.

STAY ALERT TO WARNING SIGNS

Be attentive to both behavioural and digital red flags. Sudden secrecy, mood swings, or new online contacts may signal a problem. Watch for unexplained gifts, new social media profiles, or changes in sleep patterns. Increased anxiety or reluctance to attend school can also be indicators. Regularly checking in and showing interest in those whom they communicate with online help prevent small issues from escalating into serious risks.

Meet Our Expert

Staffordshire Police is dedicated to keeping people safe and tackling crime across both the physical and digital world. The force continues to strengthen its digital investigation and safeguarding capabilities to protect children and vulnerable people online, working in partnership with local, regional and national organisations, schools, and the wider community.



The National College