



## January 2026 Newsletter

Through God's love and our Christian Values, we encourage each individual to love, respect and value God, themselves and others.

We encourage and nurture everyone to flourish and grow into the unique person God made them to be, ready to go out into the world to love others.

This is rooted in Jesus' words: Love one another as Jesus loved us.  
(John 13 v 34-35)

Dear Parents, Children & Friends,

### JOINING THE CROMPTON HOUSE TRUST UPDATE:

All consultations with stakeholders were completed before Christmas. The next stage is to seek approval from Manchester Diocese to move forwards with the application to join Crompton House Multi Academy Trust. This meeting has now been scheduled for 10<sup>th</sup> February. Once this approval has been granted the next stage will be a submission to the Department of Education. As you can see this is a long process and I will keep you updated throughout each stage. In the meantime, Crompton House are already inviting St Mary's to Trust Events which we are delighted to be able to participate in. For Instance, St Mary's will join other Church Primary Schools in the Trust and attend the Year 6 Leavers' Service at Manchester Cathedral together. We have also accepted an invite to join the Trust for events supporting 'The National Year of Reading'. These events enable us to begin to strengthen our relationship with the Crompton House Trust and enjoy the opportunities this brings for our pupils.

### WELCOME LUNCH:

In September our pupil Department for Vision and Values made a pledge to:

- Strengthen connections with elderly community members.
- Build bridges between school and local parish.
- Promote intergenerational understanding and respect

As part of this pledge, we are delighted to introduce the 'Welcome Wednesday Lunch'. Taking place once a month, this new initiative gives each class the wonderful opportunity to invite a grandparent or close relative into school to enjoy a meal with them.

The first lunch took place on Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> January with Year 6 and what a fantastic lunch it was! All pupils took part and sat together with our visitors. We hope that the 'Welcome Wednesday Lunches' help children and their grandparents (or relatives) spend special time together, learn from one another, and feel more connected as part of our school family and wider community.



Some of the feedback we received included:

"It's been great. Really enjoyed it"

"What a lovely idea! It has been so nice to spend time together, especially as it is their last year at Primary School "

"It is a nice idea. School dinners have definitely changed since I was at school (for the better)"

"Wonderful idea! It has worked out so well, thank you for organising it"

"All the food was lovely. The bread was so fresh and the fruit cocktail was lovely too"

" Already looking forward to the next one. We had to flip a coin to decide who would get to come today



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Dates for Future Welcome Wednesday Lunches are:

25<sup>th</sup> Feb - Year 5

25<sup>th</sup> March - Year 3

29<sup>th</sup> April - Year 4

20<sup>th</sup> May - Year 2

24<sup>th</sup> June - Year 1

15<sup>th</sup> July - Reception

### PARENTS EVENING

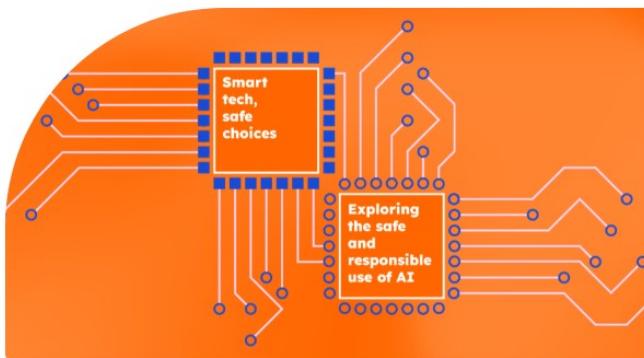
The next Parents Evenings will be held on:

Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> February - 3:40 - 6:50p.m

Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> February - 3:40 - 6:50p.m

Appointments are available to book Parents Evening Manager on School Spider. If you have any difficulty please contact the school office.

### THEMED DAYS AND WEEKS:



#### **Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> February Safer Internet Day**

Although e-safety is integral to any of our learning when technology and the internet are used, we will be marking the importance of staying safe on line as part of Safer Internet Day this week. The theme is 'Inspiring change ? Making a difference, managing influence and navigating change online.' Throughout the week teachers will focus on e safety awareness in lessons and this will be a theme in some of our worship. Please ask your child to tell you how they can stay safe online.

The link below also provides useful resources for parents.

<https://saferinternet.org.uk/safer-internet-day/safer-internet-day-2026/top-tips-for-parents-and-carers>

We also have a section on our website dedicated to Digital Parenting and Online Safety to help keep you up to date keep of this ever changing and emerging technological world!

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**W/C 9<sup>th</sup> Feb - Children's Mental Health Week and Wellbeing Afternoon:**

This year's theme is "**This is My Place**": Encourages schools, families, and communities to create environments where children feel they belong, are welcomed, and valued. During Children's Mental Health Week, we will revisit the 5 ways to Mental Health and Wellbeing :



Throughout the week there will be a range of activities at break times and lunchtimes for pupils to engage with. These activities will be led by our Health Champions and Sports Ambassadors. In addition, on **Friday 13<sup>th</sup> February** we will finish the week with a **non-uniform day** to make our very own '**Rainbow Friday**' in school. Pupils are invited to send a voluntary donation of £1:00 donation, these funds will be used to purchase additional resources to support mental health in school.

On Friday the 13<sup>th</sup> we will also be running a **Mental Health and Wellbeing Afternoon** for all pupils to participate in. Once again, the activities will focus on the 5 areas and will include : Lego Building - to connect with others; a Nature Walk - to take notice, Exploring and Experiencing a Taste of France - to keep learning, Creating a Wave of Hands to welcome people into St Mary's Church - as part of giving , and dance, yoga and fitness - to keep active. We look forward to sharing photographs of the afternoon on our school website. **Please note their will be NO celebration worship on this day !**

As parents and carers, you play an important role in your child's mental health. Check out the free resources for families below. <https://www.childrensmentalhealthweek.org.uk/families/>

**Coming Soon ...World Book Day 5th March and the National Year of Reading:**



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We are already planning lots of exciting reading-based events for the children for both World Book Day and The National Year of Reading. There will be more details to follow!



National Year of Reading 2026

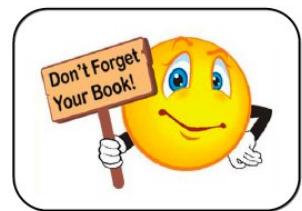
A few things we thought you might like to know in advance

of World Book Day:

**Dress code:** World Book Day will be a non-uniform day and children are welcome to dress up in whatever way they like - this maybe a character from a book, or simply like many book characters just ordinary people in ordinary clothes or even school uniform, although I am guessing this may be a less popular choice! The Parent Support Group will be running a World Book Day Costume exchange ahead of this event - so please recycle and reuse - details to follow on how this will operate from the Parent Support Group

**A Reading Cafe:** we will be inviting parents and carers to come in to read with their children.

**A Book Swap:** - this will become a permanent fixture in school, but will be launched in Book week.



**Drop and Read:** - all staff and pupils will need their book at the ready as we could signal a 'drop everything and read' at any time and in any place!

Mr Day is finalising our plans for World Book Day but the day will focus upon the benefits of reading for pleasure and we will write with more details closer to the time.

#### ATTENDANCE:

Good attendance is of great importance for all our pupils and something we celebrate at the end of each term with badges presented to individual pupils.

Each month on the school newsletters we will also celebrate great attendance by class.

The class with the highest attendance this month is **both Year 2 and Year 4 with 98.6% attendance!**

**Well done Year 2 and Year 4, keep up this magnificent achievement!**





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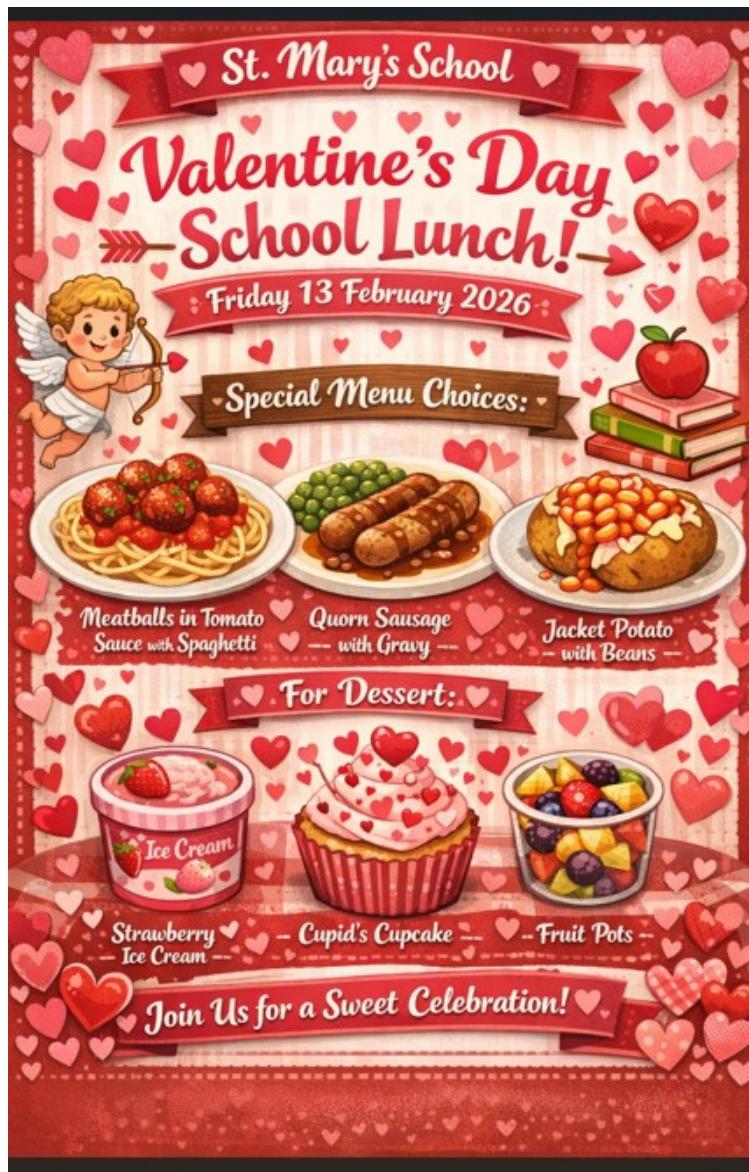
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### THEMED LUNCH DAYS:

The next themed lunch will be on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> February and it is a Valentine's Day Lunch.



The cost of this meal will be £2.80 per pupil. Please book no later than Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> February, on School Spider.

### Valentine Cupcakes

To celebrate Valentine's Day the kitchen staff are making cupcakes on Thursday 12th February 2026.

If you would like to purchase the cupcakes this can be done through School Spider. The last date to order is Friday 6th February. The cupcakes are priced as follows:





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2 cupcakes for £3.00

4 cupcakes for £5.00

Any cupcakes ordered will be boxed and sent home with your child at the end of the day

#### LINKS WITH ST. MARY'S CHURCH and WORSHIP IN SCHOOL:

Father Paul continues to lead Worship and Circle Time each week for which we are extremely grateful.

In worship we have been thinking about the Christian Value of Responsibility . Please see our school website or use this link to find out more about this Christian Value:

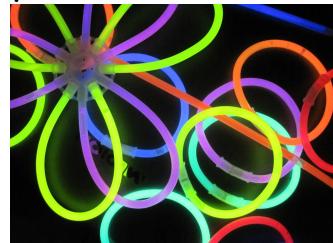
[https://spaces.schoolspider.co.uk/uploads/798/page/25479659\\_page\\_file.pdf?ofn=responsibility.pdf](https://spaces.schoolspider.co.uk/uploads/798/page/25479659_page_file.pdf?ofn=responsibility.pdf)

#### ST. MARY'S SUPPORT GROUP NEWS:

The next meeting for the Parent Support Group is on Wednesday 25th February at 7:00pm in the North Star. Please come along all new ideas and new members are warmly welcome.

The next confirmed event for the Support Group is the School Disco on 12<sup>th</sup> February

This will be **A Glow Disco**! More details from the Support Group to follow.



#### Save the Date: A Spectacular Evening of Music!

We are thrilled to announce the return of our ever-popular **Musical Event!** Please provisionally mark your calendars for **Friday, 13th March**, for what promises to be a fantastic evening showcasing the incredible musical talent within our community.



The night will feature performances by our very own **School Wind Band**, **Woodwind Ensemble**, and **School Choir**. We are also delighted to welcome special guests, the amazing **Adult Oldham Community Wind Band**, and a special collaboration with both bands.

Please keep a close eye on your emails and the school website, as **tickets will be going on sale soon**. You won't want to miss this celebration of music and talent!

#### Sponsored Pancake Flip

This will take place in school on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> February - more details to follow

The next 150 draw will be on Friday 30<sup>th</sup> January. **We still have vacant numbers if you wish to purchase a number please enquire at the school office.**

#### UP TO DATE DETAILS:

Please remember to keep the office informed of any changes in medical conditions, emergency contact numbers and email addresses via the school email address [info@stmarysceccrompton.oldham.sch.uk](mailto:info@stmarysceccrompton.oldham.sch.uk) or in writing.



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## EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES FOR NEXT HALF TERM:

Monday:

Tuesday:	Infant Fun Club	12:00 - 12:30pm
	Junior Fun Club	12:30 - 1:00pm
	Tag Rugby	3:30 - 4:30pm Yr,5,6
Wednesday:	Choir	3:30 - 4:30 Y3 - Y6
Thursday:	School Band	8:30 - 9:00
	Anna's Dance	3:30 - 4:15 Y1, Y2 Y3
Friday:	Gymnastics	3:30 - 5:00

## FORTHCOMING DATES:

W/C 9 <sup>th</sup> Feb:	World Children's Mental Health Week
Tues 10 <sup>th</sup> Feb :	Safer Internet Day
	Parents Evening
Wed 11 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Parents Evening
Thurs 12 <sup>th</sup> Feb:	Y3 to visit Castleshaw - Rivers topic
	Valentines Cupcakes
	Glow Disco
Fri 13 <sup>th</sup> Feb:	Non-Uniform Day - Rainbow Colours £1:00
	Valentines Lunch
	Mental Health and Wellbeing Afternoon
	<b>NO FRIDAY CELEBRATION WORSHIP</b>

**16<sup>th</sup> - 20<sup>th</sup> Feb closed for Half Term Holiday.**

Tues 24 <sup>th</sup> Feb:	Sponsored Pancake Flip - details to be sent by PSG
	Girls Football competition at Crompton House School
Wed 25 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Welcome Wednesday Lunch - Year 5
	PSG Meeting 7pm North Star
Thurs 5 <sup>th</sup> March	World Book Day
Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> March	Musical Evening

**Kind regards,**  
P.A Hartley  
**Headteacher**