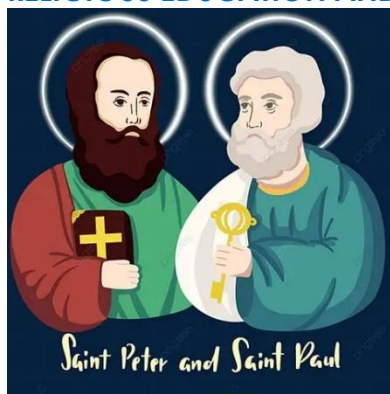




RELIGIOUS EDUCATION AND THE CATHOLIC LIFE OF THE SCHOOL



On Monday, our school came together for a special celebration of the word to mark the Feast of Saints Peter and Paul. We reflected on the incredible faith and courage of these two great missionary disciples, who dedicated their lives to spreading the Good News of Jesus. Linking to our words of the week, *Missionary Discipleship*, we explored how we, too, are called to share our faith through our words, actions, and kindness. As part of their mission, the children were challenged to find a way to put their faith into action this week, whether through a small act of kindness, a prayer for someone in need, or a helping hand to a friend - each a way to help others encounter Jesus through love and service..

GOING FORTH CELEBRATION

Today, our school family gathered for a beautiful going Forth celebration of the word, led by our First Communicants reflecting on their recent First Holy Communion celebrations in their respective parishes. It was a special moment of thanksgiving, where the children looked back on their journey of preparation and the significance of receiving Jesus in the Eucharist for the first time. Together, they gave thanks for this important step in their faith life and thought about how they can continue to live out the message of Jesus in their everyday actions. Afterwards, the children enjoyed a joyful party with their classmates—complete with games, and treats—to mark this milestone and celebrate together as a faith-filled school community.



WEDNESDAY WORD

The latest version of the Wednesday Word can be accessed [here](#). Please enjoy spending some time sharing the Word of God with your children.

SPORTS DAYS SUCCESS 2025



Our Sports Days this week were a resounding success, with children across the school enthusiastically taking part in a wide range of athletic activities. From sprint races and long jumps to relays and team games, the playground and field were alive with energy, excitement and friendly competition. The children shone not only in their sporting efforts but also in their teamwork and sportsmanship—cheering each other on, trying their best, and celebrating every success together. A big well done to all the parents who bravely took part in the parents' race—it was a real highlight and is now set to become an annual tradition! Nursery also had a wonderful afternoon on Wednesday, enjoying races and a picnic on the field with their grown-ups. One child summed it up perfectly: *"It was really good fun! I loved the running race and the parents' egg and spoon race the best... and the picnic!"*

A huge thank you to all the staff for their hard work and careful planning to make each event run so smoothly—your efforts ensured the children had a fantastic and memorable experience.

KNIGHT FRANK SCHOOLS TRIATHLON

On Sunday, some St. Mary's children participated at the Knight Frank Schools Triathlon event at Cheadle Hulme School. This highly successful triathlon event saw our young participants taking on the exciting challenge of swimming, cycling, and running, showing determination and teamwork throughout each stage of the competition. It was a true celebration of youth sport, with children pushing their limits and cheering each other on, creating a fun and inspiring atmosphere from start to finish.



TRANSITION/MOVE UP DAY



Our transition event yesterday was a great success, giving children a valuable opportunity to spend time in their new classes and meet their teachers for the year ahead. The day was filled with engaging activities designed to help pupils feel comfortable and excited about the changes to come. From interactive classroom sessions to fun team-building tasks, the children threw themselves into the experience and began building positive relationships with their new teachers. Feedback from both staff and pupils has been overwhelmingly positive, and the day has helped lay the foundations for a smooth and confident start to the new academic year. Meanwhile, most of

our Year 6 children spent the day visiting their new secondary schools, and we were delighted to hear from Year 7 staff that they were a joy to work with—well-prepared, respectful, and more than ready to embrace the challenges of the next stage in their learning journey.

2025 SUMMER READING CHALLENGE

This summer, The Reading Agency invites children to embark on an exciting adventure with **Story Garden**, the 2025 Summer Reading Challenge theme. Featuring vibrant illustrations by award-winning artist Dapo Adeola, *Story Garden* celebrates the wonders of the natural world and the limitless power of imagination. Completely free and available through local libraries and online, the Summer Reading Challenge is a fantastic way to keep children motivated and engaged with reading over the holidays. By taking part, children can explore new books, earn rewards, and join in with a variety of nature-themed events and activities. The challenge officially launches at your local library on **Saturday 5 July** - so head down to sign up, or visit summerreadingchallenge.org.uk to start your reading adventure!



DOODLE LEARNING SUMMER CHALLENGE



The Doodle Summer Challenge
1st of July - 31st of August 2025

We're excited to share that our school will be taking part in the *Doodle Summer Challenge*! Running from now and throughout the summer holidays, this challenge encourages children to keep up their maths and English skills in a fun and engaging way by using the award-winning *Doodle Learning* apps. Just a few minutes a day can help children stay on track and return to school confident and ready for the new term. All children

who take part will receive a certificate, and there are exciting prizes up for grabs too! Look out for more information on the attached leaflet and via the [Doodle platform](#).

BABY NEWS!

We are delighted to share the wonderful news that Miss Burke gave birth to a beautiful baby daughter, Elodie, last week. Elodie arrived safely, weighing 7lb 1oz, and both mum and baby are doing well. On behalf of everyone at St Mary's, we offer our warmest congratulations to Miss Burke and her family, and we extend a joyful welcome to baby Elodie into the world. We wish them all health, happiness, and precious moments together in these early days.



WELLBEING LIBRARY WISH LIST 2025



At our recent SEND Champions meeting, parents once again suggested a meaningful alternative to end-of-year staff gifts: donating a book to our Wellbeing Library. Located in the school entrance hall, the Wellbeing Library is open to all St Mary's families and offers a carefully chosen collection of books that celebrate neurodiversity and support the wellbeing of both children and parents.

If you would like to contribute, you can select a book to donate from our Amazon Wishlist using the following link: <https://amzn.eu/h3rA7ry>. You might also like to inscribe your chosen book with a message such as: "Donated by the [Your Family Name] family, July 2025."

If you have any questions, please contact Mrs Norburn at: anorburn@mmb.srscmat.co.uk.

Thank you for your continued support - your generosity helps us nurture the wellbeing of the entire St Mary's school family.

PTA NEWS

Colour Run – It's back! Our final event of the year. A fantastically fun mix of running, powder paint, water guns, music and sunshine to see out the year. This will take place on **Friday 18 July** from 3:30pm on the school field.

Tickets are now available on the [PTA website](#).

We also require volunteers to help with set up, throwing colours etc, so please let the PTA know if you're free to help.

Last year's Colour Run was a vibrant and joyous event, where children, staff, and families came together to celebrate community spirit, raising significant funds for the PTA while having a fantastic time. We know this year will be just as fun! We hope that you can join us.



THE MONTH (OR SO) AHEAD...KEY DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Date	Event
	<i>Please note the dates and times detailed below are provisional and may be changed if necessary. New dates in bold.</i>
7 July	Year 3 celebration of the word at 2:30pm. All welcome.
11 July	End of Year reports issued to parents/carers.
11-13 July	Family Camp.
15 July	Open Evening/Reports drop in 3:30pm – 4:30pm.
16 July	Y5 & Y6 Production 1:30pm and 6:00pm.
18 July	PTA Colour Run 3:30pm – 4:30pm.
23 July	Leavers' Assembly 10:00am – 11:00am.
23 July	Bubbles and Confetti 2:50pm – 3:10pm.
23 July	Leavers' Disco 5:30pm – 7:00pm.
24 July	Leavers' Mass 10:00 – 11:00am.
24 July	School closes for children for the Summer Break at 3:20pm.
1-2 September	INSET days for staff. School closed to children.
3 September	School reopens for children following the summer break. (Y1-Y6). Nursery and Reception children, please see induction information.
9 & 11 September	Meet and Greet your child's new class teacher (3:30 – 4:00pm)

**Congratulations to Bishop Patrick on the 10th anniversary of his installation as Bishop of Nottingham.
Wishing you all a wonderful weekend. Mr John Nish.**