



# St Mary's Catholic Voluntary Academy

<http://www.st-marys-marplebridge.stockport.sch.uk/>

St Mary's Parish: <http://stmarysmarplebridge.org.uk/>

Holy Spirit Parish: <https://www.holyspiritmarple.com/>

**Bulletin Number 30: 15 May 2026**

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION AND THE CATHOLIC LIFE OF THE SCHOOL

*I have set you an example  
that you should do as I  
have done for you.*



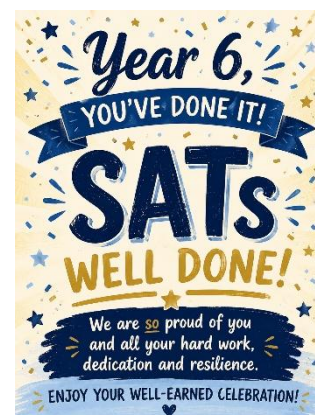
On Monday, Year 4 lead the whole school in a beautiful and thoughtful celebration of the word on the theme of Example. They linked this to the question who inspires us? The children came up with some great examples from St Carlo Acutis and St Teresa of Calcutta all the way to Marcus Rashford and Sir David Attenborough, who celebrated his 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday on the 8<sup>th</sup> May. The scripture was Jesus washing the feet of his disciples and how he gave his example to his disciples on to us to serve not be served. They gave us the Mission to set a good example to all we meet by doing simple acts of service.

## WEDNESDAY WORD

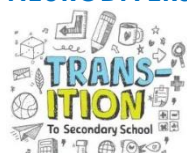
The latest version of the Wednesday Word can be accessed [here](#). Please enjoy spending some time sharing the Word of God with your children.

## CONGRATULATIONS TO YEAR 6 ON COMPLETING THEIR SATS!

A huge well done to our fantastic Year 6 children who completed their SATs this week in 2026! We are incredibly proud of the focus, determination, and resilience they have shown throughout the year. Each child approached the assessments with maturity, positivity, and confidence, supporting one another and always striving to do their very best. Their hard work, commitment, and preparation have truly shone through, and we could not be prouder of the way they have represented themselves and our school. SATs week is an important milestone, and the children should feel extremely proud of all they have achieved. We now look forward to an exciting final half-term together, with lots of opportunities to celebrate their successes, enjoy new experiences, and create lasting memories as they prepare for the next stage of their journey into secondary school.



## NEURODIVERSITY TRANSITION FROM Y6-Y7



The Neurodiversity Team are hosting a transition webinar on **Tuesday 19th May** for parents/carers of children moving to high school. Please see the attached flyer relevant Y6 parents. The full Neurodiversity Team transition offer is also attached to remind you of the wider offer, within which this webinar sits.

## WALK TO SCHOOL WEEK – 18-22 MAY

Next week we will be taking part in Walk to School Week and encouraging everyone to enjoy the benefits of walking, scooting or cycling to school where possible. To celebrate, we will be holding a special "Happy Shoesday" on **Tuesday 19th May!** Children are invited to **walk to school and wear their favourite shoes for the day**. You will also receive a Walk to School diary in your child's book bag with fun suggested activities to complete on the journey to or from school throughout the week. We can't wait to see all of the happy shoes and hear about your walking adventures!



**DIOCESE OF  
NOTTINGHAM**

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**St Ralph  
Sherwin**

Catholic Multi Academy Trust

**SCOOTER WORKSHOPS**

Next Tuesday, children in Years 1–6 will have the exciting opportunity to take part in scooter workshops led by qualified instructors. The sessions will focus on developing confidence, balance, coordination, and safe riding skills in a fun and engaging environment. All equipment will be provided, so children do not need to bring anything with them for the day. This workshop also links closely to Walk to School Week, encouraging children to think about active, healthy and sustainable ways of travelling to and from school. By developing their scooter skills, pupils are supported to build confidence in active travel and are reminded of the benefits of making positive choices for their wellbeing and the environment. We are extremely grateful to the PTA for generously funding this opportunity and supporting enriching experiences for our pupils. We are looking forward to a fantastic day of learning, activity and enjoyment for all involved.



**MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS WEEK 2026**



This week, we proudly marked Mental Health Awareness Week 2026, embracing this year's theme of 'Action' and celebrating the many positive steps our children have taken to support their own wellbeing and that of others. Throughout the week, pupils engaged thoughtfully in class discussions, creative activities, and practical acts of kindness that helped strengthen our school community and promote a strong sense of belonging. The children explored how small everyday actions, checking in on a friend, including others, offering encouragement, and showing compassion, can make a meaningful difference

to mental health and wellbeing. It was wonderful to see so many examples of kindness, empathy, and support demonstrated across the school. We ended the week with a fantastic Wear Something Green Day on Friday, where children proudly wore green to show their support for mental health awareness. Thank you to everyone who took part and contributed donations towards further developing our mental health books and resources. Your generosity and support are greatly appreciated and will help us continue promoting positive wellbeing across our school community.

**YEAR 5 VISIT TO LONGDENDALE**

As part of their Geography curriculum, Year 5 took part in an exciting and highly engaging river study visit to Longdendale last Thursday. The children explored the journey of a river from source to mouth, applying their classroom learning in a real-world setting. They carried out fieldwork investigations, including measuring river flow and depth, and developed a deeper understanding of how rivers shape and influence the landscape over time. The pupils demonstrated outstanding enthusiasm, curiosity, and exemplary behaviour throughout the visit, representing the school with great pride. Staff and members of the public commented positively on their focus, maturity, and excellent attitudes to learning. One pupil reflected on the experience, saying, "It was amazing to see what we've been learning in class come to life – and getting our feet wet made it even better!"



**HOUSE POINTS**

Please see the totals for the month of April. St Peter's House are currently in the lead but there is another week until we reach the end of the half term! Well done to everyone for striving to live out our SANCTA Values and Pocket Principles!



St George	St Peter	St Mary	St Patrick
664	760	678	676

## FIND THE RIGHTS WORDS

internet  
matters.org

Virgin Media and Internet Matters have released a wonderful new resource for parents/carers Called 'Find the Right Words'. the video and resources help with some of those difficult conversations about how to keep children safe online. Link: [Find the Right Words.](#)

## KEY STAGE 2 CAREERS FAIR

We are very much looking forward to our Key Stage 2 Careers Fair next **Friday 22nd May from 1:15pm** in the school hall. We would like to say a huge thank you to the parents who have already volunteered to support the afternoon and share their professions and experiences with the children. Their willingness to give up their time is greatly appreciated and will help make the event both engaging and inspiring for our pupils. To help provide an even wider variety of careers and experiences, we are still looking for another three or four parent volunteers to take part. If you would be interested in speaking to the children about your job or career pathway, we would love to hear from you. Bringing along props, uniforms, tools or resources that help showcase your role is strongly encouraged, as the children always enjoy these hands-on experiences. If you are able to help or would like further information, please contact Mrs Thompson or the school office. Thank you, as always, for your continued support.



## OUR SCHOOL STREET NEEDS YOU!



St Mary's School Street **cannot go ahead without volunteers**. If even a small number of parents, carers or local residents can help occasionally, the scheme can launch after half term and create a safer, calmer street for children. Volunteering is simple and flexible. The street has just one closure point and needs **one or two people for around 30–40 minutes** at drop-off or pick-up times. You don't have to help every day, sharing the role across the community keeps the commitment manageable. So far, we only have two volunteers. If more volunteers do not come forward soon, St Mary's risks missing out on this opportunity and related future support for road safety and active travel initiatives. If you can help, even occasionally, please inform the School Office or contact the School Streets team at [schoolstreets@stockport.gov.uk](mailto:schoolstreets@stockport.gov.uk) for further information. Full training will be provided. Please see the attached leaflet for details.

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

	<b>Key Event</b>
	<i>Please note the dates and times detailed below are provisional and may be changed if necessary. New dates in <b>bold</b>.</i>
17 May	First Holy Communions during Sunday Mass at St Mary's, Marple Bridge. 11:30am.
19 May	Scooter Workshops for all classes.
22 May	Careers Fair for Y2-Y6. 1:15-3:10pm. <b>No 2:15pm assembly today.</b>
22 May	School closes for half term.
8 June	School reopens following the half term holidays.
8-12 June	Y1 Phonics Check and Y4 Multiplication Tables Check.
15 June	Year 2 celebration of the word 2:30pm. All welcome.
22 June	Year 1 celebration of the word 2:30pm. All welcome.
23 June	Sports Day Reception – Y6 1:15-3:00pm.
24 June	Nursery Sports Day and Parent Picnic 9:30am-12:30pm.
24 June	New Nursery and Reception Parents Induction Meeting – 6:00-7:00pm.
3 July	Going Forth Mass for children on the Sacramental Programme. 10:00am in church followed by a class Communion breakfast in school. Children to wear their First Communion clothes. Full details to follow.

**Wishing you an enjoyable weekend. Congratulations to the Holy Communicants of St Mary's Parish.**  
**Mr John Nish.**