

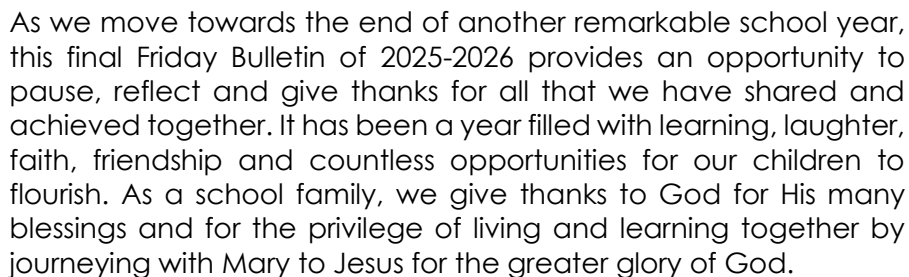


St Mary's Parish: <http://stmarysmarplebridge.org.uk/>

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

Bulletin Number 37: 17 July 2026

AS WE APPROACH OUR FINAL WEEK OF THE SCHOOL YEAR...



A special farewell goes to our wonderful Year 6 pupils. You have been exceptional role models, showing kindness, resilience, leadership and compassion throughout your final year at St Mary's. Whether supporting our youngest children as Special Friends, representing the school in sport, music and the arts, leading our

liturgies, or starring in your fantastic end-of-year production, you have left a lasting legacy. We are immensely proud of all that you have achieved and know that you are more than ready for the exciting opportunities that await you in secondary school. Whilst we shall miss you greatly, you will always remain part of the St Mary's family, and we look forward to hearing about your many successes in the years ahead.

This year also marks the end of an era as we say farewell to several highly valued members of staff. We offer our heartfelt thanks to Mrs Ashton, Mrs Buckley, Mrs Davies, Mrs Davison and Mrs Hotson, together with Mr Hamilton, our Trust Lay Chaplain, for their dedicated service, unwavering commitment and the lasting contribution each has made to the lives of our children and the wider St Mary's family. We wish them every happiness and God's richest blessings for the future.

There are many people whose support enables St Mary's to be such a special place, and I would like to express my sincere gratitude to:

- *Our dedicated staff* – Thank you for your unwavering commitment, professionalism and care. Your passion, creativity and dedication ensure that every child is known, valued and encouraged to reach their God-given potential.
- *Our governors* – Thank you for your wisdom, challenge and steadfast support throughout the year. Your service helps ensure that St Mary's continues to thrive.
- *Our parents and carers* – Thank you for your continued trust, encouragement and partnership. By working together, we provide the very best opportunities for our children.
- *Our wonderful children* – You are the heart of St Mary's. Your enthusiasm, kindness, resilience and joyful spirit make our school a truly special place each and every day. We are incredibly proud of each one of you.
- *Our fantastic PTA* – Thank you for your endless enthusiasm, generosity and hard work. Through your fundraising events and community spirit, you continue to enrich school life and provide opportunities that benefit every child.
- *Our parish, Trust and wider partners* – We are deeply grateful to the Diocese, St Ralph Sherwin Catholic Multi Academy Trust, Stockport Local Authority and the many agencies and volunteers who have supported our school throughout the year with their expertise, guidance and encouragement.

As our children begin their well-deserved summer holidays next Friday afternoon, our staff will remain in school preparing classrooms and planning exciting learning opportunities for the new academic year. September brings with it fresh beginnings, new friendships and new opportunities, and we look forward to warmly welcoming both new and returning families back to St Mary's. Finally, on behalf of everyone at St Mary's, I wish all of our families a safe, restful and joyful summer break. May this be a time of happiness, renewal and treasured moments together. We look forward to welcoming everyone back in September, refreshed and ready for another exciting year of learning, faith and friendship. God bless and thank you for your continued support throughout another wonderful year.



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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.

THE WRONG WAY ROUND

A huge congratulations to our Year 5 and Year 6 pupils for their fantastic summer production, *The Wrong Way Round*. Our talented 'Enn-Elite Investigators' took audiences on a hilarious and hair-raising musical mystery adventure, filled with intrigue, humour, memorable characters and brilliant performances. The children demonstrated tremendous confidence, teamwork and creativity as they brought the story to life, entertaining us all with their acting, singing and enthusiasm. A special vote of thanks goes to all the staff who worked tirelessly behind the scenes to make this production such a success. From rehearsals and choreography to costumes, props, music and the many practical details that go into a performance of this scale, their dedication and commitment have provided our pupils with a wonderful opportunity to shine. We are incredibly proud of everyone involved and grateful for the time and care given to creating such a memorable experience for our school community.



YEAR 6 LEAVERS' EVENTS



As we approach the last week of term, it's almost time to say a fond farewell to our amazing Year 6 class. However, before they begin their next exciting chapter, we have a number of special events planned to celebrate their time at St Mary's.

Parents and carers are warmly invited to join us for these memorable moments as we reminisce, give thanks, and celebrate all that our Year 6 pupils have achieved. We look forward to marking this important milestone together and giving our wonderful Year 6 the send-off they truly deserve.

Key Dates and Events:

- **Thursday 23 July 2025 – 10:00am**
Year 6 Leavers' Assembly in the school hall – parents and carers welcome.
- **Thursday 23 July 2025 – 2:50pm to 3:10pm**
Reception and Year 6 Special Friends: Confetti and Bubbles Celebration – a joyful moment to mark their special bond.
- **Thursday 23 July 2025 – 5:30pm to 7:00pm**
Year 6 Leavers' Disco in the school hall – pupils can dance the evening away! Parents and carers are welcome to stay, socialise, and enjoy light refreshments.
- **Friday 24 July 2025 – 10:00am**
Leavers' Mass in school – a reflective and prayerful farewell celebration; all parents and carers invited.

DOODLE LEARNING SUMMER CHALLENGE

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 pin badge and certificate! Look out for more information on the attached leaflet and via the [Parent Dashboard](#).



2026 SUMMER READING CHALLENGE



This summer, The Reading Agency invites children to turn up the volume on reading with Read to the Beat, the 2026 Summer Reading Challenge. Brought to life with vibrant illustrations by award-winning author and illustrator Harry Woodgate, this year's theme celebrates the joy of music and sound, exploring how music and storytelling can inspire, connect and spark the imagination. As part of the National Year of Reading, the challenge is being delivered in partnership with public libraries across the UK and is completely free to take part in. Children can discover new books, set their own reading goals, earn rewards and enjoy a range of exciting library activities throughout the summer holidays. The challenge is now in full swing so head down to sign up or visit summerreadingchallenge.org.uk to start your reading adventure!

GREAT BRITISH SUMMER SAVINGS

This summer, families can enjoy reduced-price children's meals, cheaper tickets for cinemas, theatres and attractions, plus free bus travel for ages 5–15 in August. Find local offers at <https://summersavings.gov.uk>.



ADVANCE NOTICE – MEET AND GREET YOUR CHILD'S NEW TEACHER



On **Tuesday 8 and Thursday 10 September from 3:30pm until 4:00pm**, parents/carers are invited to attend an informal meet and greet session in their child's new classroom. This is an opportunity to visit your child's classroom and meet with their class teacher at the start of the school year. This is in addition to our Open Evening held this week.

KEY DATES 2026-2027

Please find attached the Key Dates for the 2026–2027 school year. This document includes important events throughout the academic year, including class celebrations of the word, school productions, parent information sessions and other key occasions. We hope you find this a useful reference, in addition to the key dates in this newsletter, to support your diary planning and help you stay informed about the many opportunities for engagement and celebration across the school family during the year ahead.



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

	Key Event
	<i>Please note the dates and times detailed below are provisional and may be changed if necessary. New dates in bold.</i>
17 July	PTA Colour Run 3:30pm – 4:30pm on the school field.
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 in school.
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.
8 & 10 September	Meet and Greet Class Teachers 3:30-4:00pm.
8 September	School Street Marshall Training 4:00-5:00pm. Volunteers needed!
8 September	PGL meeting for Y6 parents 5:30-6:30pm.
14 September	School Street Launch
15 September	Flu Vaccinations (Reception – Y6)
21 September	Year 5 whole school worship 2:40-3:10pm. All welcome.
22-25 September	Y6 visit PGL Boreatton Park, Shropshire.

Wishing you all a wonderful weekend. Mr John Nish.