



GOSPEL VALUE OF THE WEEK

OBEDIENCE

FOLLOWING JESUS

LISTEN to the Word of God

"Come with me and I will teach you to catch people"

Mark 1: 14 - 20

RESPOND to the Word of God

As we reflect, give thought to:

- ♥ Jesus calls Simon, Andrew, James and John to follow him. What do you think it felt like to be asked to follow Jesus?
- ♥ The fishermen left their nets straight away. Why do you think they obeyed Jesus so quickly?
- ♥ Jesus invited them to learn from him. How can listening carefully help us to follow Jesus better?
- ♥ Who helps you to follow Jesus today and how can you learn from them?

GO FORTH with a mission from the Word of God

How can we show obedience to Jesus in the choices we make at school, at home and with our friends?



The Wednesday Word is an outreach which shares Sunday's Gospel with all school families in a unique way. [Click here](#) for this week's latest Wednesday Word to discuss with your loved ones at home.

HOUSE POINTS

"None of us, including me, ever do great things. But we can all do small things with great love, and together we can do something wonderful."

St Teresa of Calcutta (Mother Teresa)

Every child from Nursery to Year 6 has been assigned to one of our four houses: St George, St Margaret, St David, or St Brigid. Children can earn house points for going above and beyond, especially when they demonstrate our Gospel values:

Be Ready to Learn → Diligence

Be Resilient → Courage / Perseverance

Be Respectful → Respect

Be Responsible → Responsibility

Each week, points are totalled, and the winning house enjoys an extra playtime. The house with the highest total at the end of the half term will celebrate with a special afternoon celebration.

THIS WEEK'S WINNING HOUSE IS...

ST MARGARET

SPRING 1

	St George	St Margaret	St David	St Brigid
Week 1				
Week 2				
Week 3				
Week 4				
Week 5				
Week 6				
TOTAL POINTS	175	206	178	169



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We are delighted to celebrate the personal achievements of our children this week! Each of these stars has been carefully chosen by their teachers for a variety of reasons—whether it's demonstrating outstanding behaviour, producing an excellent piece of work, mastering a tricky concept, showing kindness to others, or going above and beyond in so many ways.

In all they do, these children are shining examples of our school motto: *"Only my best will do. Be kind to one another."* Through their efforts and actions, they live out our Catholic values each day, inspiring those around them. As Pope Francis reminds us, *"Each of us is a masterpiece of God's creation."*
Well done to all our shining stars!

CLASS	STAR OF THE WEEK
Nursery	Darla
Reception	Jude
Year 1	Sanaa
Year 2	Amelia
Year 3	Janelle
Year 4	Isabella
Year 5	Lexi
Year 6	Chima

	NAME
	Haniya
	CLASS
	Year 6

ATTENDANCE & PUNCTUALITY

The national expectation for attendance is 97% and above, but at our school, we aim even higher! Guided by our values of care and responsibility, we monitor attendance and punctuality every day, working together as a school community to support our children in being present and engaged. By attending school regularly, our children can make the most of every learning opportunity and flourish in their talents and abilities.

	Weekly Attendance	Punctuality (Lates)	Attendance to date
Reception	97.9%	7	95.9%
Year 1	93.7%	8	93.3%
Year 2	91.8%	13	92.9%
Year 3	99.0%	6	95.8%
Year 4	96.3%	13	96.8%
Year 5	95.5%	15	92.5%
Year 6	97.4%	8	95.3%
Total	96.0%	70	94.6%

SPRING TERM 1 CLASS OF THE WEEK - ATTENDANCE STARS							
	R	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6
Week 1					★		
Week 2				★			
Week 3							
Week 4							
Week 5							
Week 6							

As we move further into a season where weather can be unpredictable and illnesses are more common, we kindly ask all families to make a renewed and conscious effort this term to improve both attendance and punctuality. Our overall attendance to date currently stands at 94.5%, with each class falling below the national expectation of 97%. In addition, punctuality continues to be a significant concern. Being in school every day, on time, is vital for children's learning, wellbeing and sense of belonging within our school community.



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We would also like to remind families that poor attendance or persistent lateness is considered a safeguarding concern, as it can impact a child's safety, progress and overall welfare.



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TERM DATES 2025 - 2026

Below are important dates for your reference in which children do **NOT** attend school

INSET 2 - STAFF TRAINING
Friday 13 th February 2026
SPRING - FEBRUARY HALF-TERM
Monday 16 th February - 20 th February 2026
EASTER HOLIDAYS
Friday 3 rd April - Friday 10 th April 2026
BANK HOLIDAY MONDAY
Monday 4 th May 2026
INSET 3 - STAFF TRAINING
Friday 5 th June 2026
INSET 4 - STAFF TRAINING
Monday 8 th June 2026
SUMMER - MAY HALF TERM
Monday 25 th May - Thursday 4 th June 2026
INSET 5 - STAFF TRAINING
Monday 20 th July 2026
SUMMER HOLIDAYS
Tuesday 21 st August - 31 st August 2026

Please ensure you check term dates carefully before booking any holidays as they will not be authorised.

TERM DATES 2026 - 2027

IMPORTANT DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

We're excited to share the schedule of events for this term! Our aim is to give parents | carers plenty of notice so you can join in at family events (highlighted in yellow) and support your children whenever possible.

Information regarding specific child attendance, timings & location of events etc will be shared with families privately via school APP ClassDoJo.

Please note that there may be additional activities, workshops, or competitions throughout the term that are not listed here yet, as we are waiting for confirmation of some events.

We aim to keep you updated as soon as new information becomes available.

SCHOOL CALENDAR - SCHOOL WEBSITE

Date	Year Group	Event
19.01.2026	-	Brew Monday: Samaritan's Charity
19.01.2026	Y5 & Y6	LSSP Personal Safety Workshop - DADDR (Detect, Avoid, Defuse, Defend & Report)
20.01.2026	R - Y6	St Sebastian's Feast Day Celebration Mass (Led by Y3)
21.01.2026	Selected Pupils	LSSP Y5 & Y6 Sportshall Athletics (Heat 1)
22.01.2026	Reception	School Health Screening Check
23.01.2026	R & Y1	National Dental Epidemiology Programme
26.01.2026	Y5 & Y6	LSSP Personal Safety Workshop - DADDR (Detect, Avoid, Defuse, Defend & Report)
27.01.2026	Y6	Monthly Mass
31.01.2026	Selected Pupils	Merseyside Primary Schools' Cross Country Championships (Wavertree)



19th January 2026

On Brew Monday, the third Monday in January, Samaritans reminds everyone to reach out for a cuppa and a catch-up with the people you care about.

A day to remind everyone how good human connection feels.

Come and join us, all are welcome! More details on ClassDoJo.

EXTRA-CURRICULAR INFORMATION - SCHOOL WEBSITE



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PARENT | SCHOOL COMMUNICATION

ClassDojo is for parents | guardians to keep up to date with what's going on in school and it allows you to contact class teachers directly. However, please be mindful that that staff are teaching throughout the school day.

Staff are only contactable during school hours:

Monday - Friday: 8.30am - 5.00pm.

Any queries | messages sent will be answered within 48hours

Please note: ClassDojo is not to be used as a tool to share your concerns. At St Sebastian's, face-to-face meetings are the preferred method in order to alleviate any concerns, resolve any issues and ensure that messages are not misinterpreted.

Should you wish to speak with teachers or senior leadership team directly regarding concerns etc, please contact the school office to arrange an appointment.

SCHOOL UNIFORM

Over the last few weeks of Autumn term and this week, we have noticed a number of children who are coming to school with either incorrect or incomplete uniform. In addition, multiple children are wearing jewellery & arriving at school with their hair untied.

Please refer to our school website regarding [school uniform](#).

Please let us know if providing uniform is a challenge for you and your family, we are always happy to help! We have free items of school uniform and would encourage families to take what they need!

MOBILE PHONES ON SITE

As part of our safeguarding practices, we kindly remind all parents and carers that the use of mobile phones is not permitted on the school site, particularly at home time while waiting for children. This helps us maintain a safe and focused environment for all children.

PUNCTUALITY - LATENESS

MORNING

The school day begins at 8.45am (Reception - Y6).

School gates are opened at 8.35am and remains open until 8.50am, allowing 5minutes grace period for any families who are slightly delayed.

After 8.50am, the main school gate is closed and children (accompanied by an adult) should be brought to the school office. However, we are noticing a number of children arriving late and being dropped off at school, without a parent or carer accompanying them to the office.

To ensure the safety and wellbeing of all our children, all late arrivals must be brought to the school office front entrance by a parent or carer, who must also inform the school of the reason for the lateness.

We appreciate your support in keeping all our children safe.

AFTER SCHOOL

It is the responsibility of the parent | carer to collect their child(ren) on time at the end of each school day.

Please see below for collection expectations for each year group:

YEAR GROUP	SCHOOL DAY COLLECTION
Nursery (Morning Session)	11.30am
Nursery (Afternoon Session)	3.30pm
Reception, Y1 & Y2	3.15pm
Y3, Y4, Y5 & Y6	3.20pm
Extra-Curricular Clubs	4.00pm

We expect all children to be collected promptly.

We acknowledge that the vast majority of parents |carers collect their children on time, typically at or within five minutes of the end of the school day.

We also understand that on occasion, delays are unavoidable due to unforeseen circumstances such as traffic or emergencies. **In these cases, we ask that the school office is contacted as soon as possible to keep us informed.**

As part of school safeguarding procedures, school keep a daily log of late collections (either from nursery | school and extra-curricular activities) detailing the collection time and reason given for late collection.

Where late collection becomes a regular occurrence, the school will formally notify parents/carers of its concern.

The agreed threshold for this is **3 late collections in a rolling 6-week period.**

Repeated late collection (despite discussions with parent | carers) may result in escalating safeguarding concerns.

PERSISTANT LATENESS (either morning or after the school day) is a safeguarding concern.



MRS J MCCORMICK'S CELEBRATION SHOUT-OUTS

"Fill your minds with those things that are good and that deserve praise: things that are true, noble, right, pure, lovely, and honourable."

Philippians 4:8

Each week, I love to take a moment to celebrate and give a little shout-outs to children, staff or classes who have really shone this week. It might be for showing kindness, living out our school motto, working hard in their learning, being a brilliant team member, or simply making a positive difference in our school community. It's such a pleasure to recognise the efforts and kindness that make our school a special place.

Y5 BIKEABILITY

Our Year 5 children thoroughly enjoyed taking part in Bikeability sessions this week, developing their road safety skills and awareness when travelling by bike. The sessions also included valuable discussions about how cycling is good for our environment and supports our daily health and wellbeing. The children showed excellent focus and enthusiasm throughout, gaining confidence and important life skills that will benefit them now and in the future.

Y6 FAITH IN ACTION

Our Year 6 Faith in Action group, supported by Ms Casey and Mrs Hegarty, have been preparing for a Celebration for Peace taking place on Sunday 18th January. Inspired by Pope Leo's use of the candle as a sign of light in the darkness, the children have been creating paper candles and doves as symbols of peace, hope and unity. The children have worked thoughtfully and reverently, showing a deep understanding of the message they are helping to share with our parish community.

NURSERY

This morning, I had the pleasure of spending the morning teaching in Nursery. Our youngest children were full of enthusiasm and showed a real love of learning as we explored different seasons and discussed how the world around us changes throughout the year. It was a joy to listen to the children talk so excitedly about what they notice in nature, sharing which season they like best and explaining why. Their curiosity and confidence were a delight to see... what a wonderful morning I had to end my working week!

Y4 UKULELE

Our Year 4 children continue to enjoy their ukulele lessons with Mr Rowe from Resonate. Following their wonderful Christmas performance, it has been lovely to see how many children are enthusiastically developing their musical talents, growing in confidence and musical skill with each session.

NURSERY AFTERNOON SESSIONS: 15HOUR FUNDED PLACES

A gentle reminder to families that St Sebastian's has funded 15-hour Nursery places available for children aged three.

Sessions run Monday to Friday from 12.30 to 3.30pm during term time only.

Please contact the school office for further information.



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HIGHLIGHTS OF THE WEEK

"Encourage one another and help one another, just as you are now doing." - 1 Thessalonians 5:11

Our school is a hive of activity, with every class busy learning, exploring and growing together.

Each week, we share highlights from every class - this could be linked to exciting learning in a particular subject, positive behaviour, teamwork, kindness, creativity or a special achievement that the children are proud of. Take a look below to see what has made each class shine this week!

NURSERY

Ms Alderton & Ms Williams

This week we have been so impressed by our new afternoon session nursery children on their first full week for settling into nursery so well and following their new routine. Also to new members of our morning nursery session who have settled so amazingly making new friends. We are so happy to have you with us and can't wait to see you continue to flourish in our nursery!

RECEPTION

Mrs Brewerton & Mrs Reynolds

This week Reception has worked really hard to plan their class Celebration of the Word. They talked about the important things that we need on our class prayer table and what scripture, songs and prayers they'd like to hear. The thought and consideration taken by members of our class has been wonderful to see!

YEAR 1

Ms Tabone, Ms Chan & Ms McKeown

This week, I have been so proud of Year 1 during PE. We have loved our dance unit and for the past two sessions have turned into pirates to create a group dance. We can't wait to finish it next week. We linked this to St Sebastian and, when creating our art work for feast day, found that he was also the Patron Saint of sport!

YEAR 2

Mrs Rabbette, Ms Perez, Mr Morton & Ms McKeown

This week in Year 2 we have been enjoying our exciting History topic on 'The Beatles'. We created a timeline and saw if we recognised any of their famous songs
In RE, we listened to Luke 3: 2-6; 10-17, The Preaching of John the Baptist. We learned that everyone is tempted to make bad choices (sin), but that God loves and forgives all people.

YEAR 3

Mrs Fitchett-Sabbagh, Mrs Oyewale & Ms Conway

This week, Year 3 have been really excited to learn about our school's patron saint, St Sebastian. It has given us the opportunity to reflect on this life and think about how we can show courage, faith and kindness in our own lives.

YEAR 4

Mrs Cooney & Ms Bullen

Year 4 should be particularly proud of their work created on St Sebastian in preparation for our Feast Day Mass. We have also enjoyed our pixel art in computing this week, moving onto tricky coding to create images. In art we have enjoyed exploring the work of Claude Monet.

YEAR 5

Ms Rozycka, Mrs L McCormick, Mrs Maguire & Mrs Xhafa

This week, Year 5 children have had a brilliant opportunity to take part in Bikeability training! What a brilliant opportunity to learn how to be safe on the roads.

They have continued to work on their music project, creating a libretto they will in time turn into a musical piece - this will be about what they want the world to look like in the future.

We have looked at the mission of charities in our area in RE, and really considered what a follower of Jesus would be like and the choices they would make.

YEAR 6

Ms Kaur & Ms Doyle

Year 6 have been so proud of their work in maths this week, a lot of us started off the week feeling nervous about 'fractions' but we are ending the week with fantastic journals and understanding! Preparing for the Feast Day Mass was so fun, we decorated the cross with all of our faith promises in our neatest handwriting! Year 6 also enjoyed Faith in Action this week with Ms Casey and Mrs Hegarty where they made paper candles and doves!