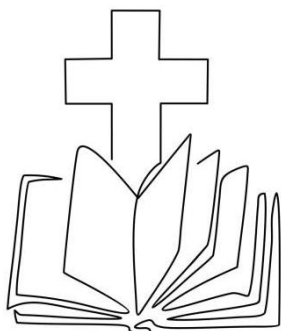




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GOSPEL VALUE OF THE WEEK

FAITH

LISTEN to the Word of God

"... he said to the paralyzed man, "I tell you, get up, pick up your bed, and go home!" At once the man got up in front of them all, took the bed he had been lying on, and went home, praising God."

Luke 5: 17 - 26

RESPOND to the Word of God

As we reflect, give thought to:

- ♥ What does this story tell us about trusting Jesus, even when things seem impossible?
- ♥ The man believed Jesus could help him. When have we needed faith to help us through a difficult moment?
- ♥ Who showed faith in this story besides the man who was healed? How can our faith help and support others?

GO FORTH with a mission from the Word of God

Take a moment each day to trust God with something that feels difficult, and say a short prayer together asking Jesus for help.



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	272	334	284	262



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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	Alex
Reception	Micah
Year 1	Daisy
Year 2	Lottie
Year 3	Luke
Year 4	Reeva
Year 5	Autumn D
Year 6	Oliver CMF

	NAME
	Angel
	CLASS
	Year 1

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	93.1%	2	95.7%
Year 1	96.0%	9	93.5%
Year 2	91.1%	8	92.8%
Year 3	98.0%	4	96.0%
Year 4	94.3%	7	96.7%
Year 5	91.3%	9	92.4%
Year 6	92.9%	4	95.1%
Total	93.8%	43	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 94.6%, 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 July - 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
26.01.2026	Selected Pupils	Y5 & Y6 Beacon Fire Project
26.01.2026	Y5 & Y6	LSSP Personal Safety Workshop - DADDR (Detect, Avoid, Defuse, Defend & Report)
27.01.2026	Y6	Monthly Mass
29.01.2026	N - Y6	SEND Drop-in session with SENCO
31.01.2026	Selected Pupils	Merseyside Primary Schools' Cross Country Championships (Wavertree)
02.02.2026	Selected Pupils	Y5 & Y6 Beacon Fire Project
02.02.2026	N - R	EYFS Read with Me Session
06.02.2026	Selected Pupils	Y6 LSSP Inside Out Festival
06.02.2026	N - Y6	NSPCC Number Day
09.02.2026	N - Y6	Children's Mental Health Week
09.02.2026	Selected Pupils	Y5 & Y6 Beacon Fire Project
09.02.2026	N - Y6	School Photographs
10.02.2026	N - Y6	Safer Internet Day
11.02.2026	N - Y6	I:I Parent Carer Meeting (1/2)
12.02.2026	N - Y6	I:I Parent Carer Meeting (2/2)
23.02.2026	Selected Pupils	Y5 & Y6 Beacon Fire Project
26.02.2026	Selected Pupils	LDPS Cross-Country - Race 5
27.02.2026	N - R	EYFS Stay & Play Session

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.

[MGL ONLINE SAFETY NEWSLETTER FOR PARENTS | CARERS](#)

Issue 18 newsletter focuses on setting rules around device use

SEND DROP-IN SESSIONS 29TH JANUARY 2026

Dear Parents | Carers,

You are warmly invited to attend our Special Educational Needs (SEN) Drop-In Session with Mrs L McCormick, SENCO.

This is an informal opportunity for you to:

- Seek advice and guidance about SEN support.
- Learn more about the ways we can work together to support your child.
- Access information about services and resources available.

To ensure we can support everyone, time will be limited to 10 minutes per person on the day. If you feel you need longer, an additional meeting can be arranged at a later date.

These SEN drop-in sessions will run each term, giving you regular opportunities to meet with us.

Please send a message via Class Dojo to Mrs L McCormick to arrange a time slot.

We look forward to welcoming you and working in partnership to support every child's needs.

Mrs L McCormick

Special Educational Needs Coordinator (SENCO) | Assistant Head Teacher

SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHS: 9TH FEBRUARY

School photographs will take place on Monday 9th February 2026 for all children from Nursery to Year 6. Children should attend school wearing full winter school uniform in line with the [uniform policy](#)

Please ensure that long hair is neatly tied back.

Thank you for your support in helping our children look smart and ready for their photographs.

PARENT MEETINGS: 11TH & 12TH FEBRUARY

We look forward to welcoming parents and carers to our February interim review meetings, which provide a valuable opportunity to meet with school staff to discuss your child's progress so far and to talk together about next steps in learning.

Meetings for children in Nursery to Y6 will take place over two evenings on **Wednesday 11th and Thursday 12th February**, between **3.30pm and 6.00pm**. Each child will have one 10-minute appointment.

Appointments should be booked via the [booking system](#) on the school website. Please ensure you have set up an account in advance of bookings opening.

To ensure fairness for all families, the booking system will open on **Monday 26th January at 5.00pm**.



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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.

WHOLE SCHOOL: ST SEBASTIAN'S MASS

A special shout-out to our whole school community as we celebrated the Feast of Saint Sebastian on Tuesday. We gathered together at church for a celebration mass, led by Y3. I am so proud of how thoughtfully and enthusiastically the children have been exploring the life and example of our patron saint and how confidently they shared this with our school community. Moments like Tuesday, with everyone gathered together, reminds us what a privilege it is to be part of St Sebastian's!

Y2 - SCIENCE

A big shout-out to Y2 for their fantastic learning in Science this week. It was a pleasure to see Ms Perez engaging the children in their topic on animals and humans, exploring habitats and what both animals and humans need to survive. The children's enthusiasm was wonderful to see and they impressed me so much with their confident use of scientific vocabulary, including herbivore, carnivore, omnivore, species etc. A fantastic snap-shot of children thoroughly enjoying their learning, well done Y2!

Y5 & Y6 INDOOR ATHLETICS

This week, selected children from Y5 & Y6 took part in the LSSP Y5 & Y6 Indoor Athletics Heat 1 competition. Pupils competed against other Liverpool schools across a wide range of events, including obstacle courses, sprint relays, standing long jump, triple jump, vertical jump, soft javelin, speed bounce and chest push. We were delighted to receive such positive feedback from Mrs L McCormick and Mrs Fitchett-Sabbagh, who attended the event and shared how wonderfully our children represented our school. They were fantastic ambassadors, clearly demonstrating the values of our patron saint, St Sebastian, through their determination, perseverance and kindness. LSSP staff also commented on the way our pupils supported and encouraged one another throughout the competition, while showing excellent sportsmanship and respect towards other competitors. We are extremely proud of the way our children worked together as a team and lived out our school values both on and off the track.

SHARING STAFF NEWS

I am delighted to share some happy news with our school community.

Mrs Brewerton (Reception) and Mrs Oyewale (Y3) are both expecting, with babies due in Summer 2026.

We join together in wishing them both well as they prepare for their precious arrivals.

Please be assured that we will plan carefully to ensure continuity of learning and care for all children. Further information regarding staffing arrangements will be shared with parents later on in the term.

"Children are a gift from the Lord" Psalm 127:3

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.



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Please contact the school office for further information.

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 loved exploring our new topic "toys in our lifetime". We looked at toys we played with when we were babies, comparing them to toys we play with today. We also had a show and tell of our favourite toys from home! In RE we learnt the "Glory Be" prayer.

RECEPTION

Mrs Brewerton & Mrs Reynolds

This week the children have started a new topic on 'Toys in the past'. We have started by exploring toys that we currently play with, and the materials they are made of. We have been extremely impressed with the language and vocabulary the children have been using to describe their toys.

YEAR 1

Ms Tabone, Ms Chan & Ms McKeown

Year 1 loved celebrating St Sebastian's Feast Day. We enjoyed watching Year 3 perform the life of St Sebastian at Church.

YEAR 2

Mrs Rabbette, Ms Perez, Mr Morton & Ms McKeown

Year 2 enjoyed going to St Sebastian's Church on Tuesday, to celebrate the feast day of our patron saint. We talked about the courage St Sebastian showed in his life and how we want to show courage in our own lives. We also had a lovely PSHE lesson this week, where we talked about differences that make each of us special.

YEAR 3

Mrs Fitchett-Sabbagh, Mrs Oyewale & Ms Conway

Year 3's highlight of the week was leading the St Sebastian's Feast Day Mass for the whole school and our parish community. We performed the life of St Sebastian and learned about his bravery, faith and kindness. It was a meaningful experience that made us feel proud and grateful to be part of our school and parish community.

YEAR 4

Mrs Cooney & Ms Bullen

Year 4 loved creating art in preparation of the Feast Day Mass of St Sebastian. We have also loved learning about how solids change when heated, observing both chocolate and egg! The discussions that arose were amazing, the children demonstrating great scientific language.

YEAR 5

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

Year 5 celebrated St Sebastian's Feast Day by attending mass. We explored how Sebastian and those who supported him may have felt during these challenging times. On Wednesday, we certainly lived out our school motto as we took part in an indoor athletics competition alongside Year 6. The children worked collaboratively as a team and showcased how truly talented they really are. What a successful week!

YEAR 6

Ms Kaur & Ms Doyle

Year 6 enjoyed attending the St Sebastian's Feast Day Mass and offering our faith promises. Some of us have represented our school so positively at Athletic this week and really showed off our resilience, determination and teamwork skills. Year 6 have worked so hard on dividing fractions by integers, with everyone feeling so proud of their work this week. We have also spent time in PSHE focusing on digital media and online safety - with everyone listening carefully on how to stay safe online.