



GOSPEL VALUE OF THE WEEK

HONESTY

LISTEN to the Word of God

SERMON ON THE MOUNT

"You have also heard that it was said to the people long ago, 'Do not break your promise, but keep the vows you have made to the Lord.' But now I tell you: do not use any vow when you make a promise. Do not swear by heaven, for it is God's throne; nor by earth, for it is the resting place for his feet; nor by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the great King. Do not even swear by your head, because you cannot make a single hair white or black. Just say 'Yes' or 'No'—anything else you say comes from the Evil One." Matthew 5:17-37

RESPOND to the Word of God

As we reflect, give thought to:
Why does Jesus want our "yes" to mean yes?
What does this tell us about being truthful?

GO FORTH with a mission from the Word of God

This week, I will make sure my words are truthful and kind.
I will mean what I say and do what I promise.
If I make a mistake, I will be honest about it.
I will help others feel safe by being trustworthy.



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 DAVID

SPRING 1

Table with 5 columns (St George, St Margaret, St David, St Brigid) and 7 rows (Week 1-6, TOTAL POINTS). Shows trophy icons for St Margaret in weeks 1-3, St Brigid in week 4, and St David in week 6. Total points: St George 494, St Margaret 616, St David 559, St Brigid 522.



WEEKLY NEWSLETTER - THURSDAY 12TH FEBRUARY 2026



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	Salar
Reception	Hendrix
Year 1	CecCe
Year 2	Lilly
Year 3	William
Year 4	Fallon
Year 5	Wilson
Year 6	Arthur

	NAME
	Sanaa
	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	90.4%	4	95.7%
Year 1	94.2%	6	93.1%
Year 2	100%	13	93.2%
Year 3	95.8%	4	96.2%
Year 4	98.3%	7	96.8%
Year 5	92.3%	17	92.1%
Year 6	98.4%	7	95.3%
Total	95.4%	58	94.6%

SPRING TERM I 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.

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
23.02.2026	N - Y6	Ash Wednesday Service
23.02.2026	Selected Pupils	Y5 & Y6 Beacon Fire Project
24.02.2026	Y6	Y6 PGL Residential Parent Information Meeting
24.02.2026	Y5	Monthly Mass
26.02.2026	Selected Pupils	LDPS Cross-Country - Race 5
27.02.2026	N -R	EYFS Stay & Play Session
01.03.2026	Y4	With You Always Holy Communion Registration & Session 1
03.03.2026	N - Y6	Beautiful New Beginnings Coffee Morning for parents carers
04.03.2026	Selected Pupils	LDPS Cross-Country - Race 6
10.03.2026	Y1 - Y6	Guide Dogs for the Blind Assembly
10.03.2026	Selected Pupils	LDPS Cross-Country Championships - City 1
13.03.2026	Reception	Mothering Sunday Assembly
16.03.2026	Y6	PGL Residential
19.03.2026	Selected Pupils	British Gymnastics Championships
23.03.2026	Selected Pupils	LSSP KSI & KS2 Dance Festival

EXTRA-CURRICULAR INFORMATION - SCHOOL WEBSITE

HOLY COMMUNION WITH YOU ALWAYS PROGRAMME - SCHOOL WEBSITE



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

We have noticed a number of children who are coming to school with either incorrect or incomplete uniform e.g. no ties, jumpers. 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!

EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

All extra-curricular clubs will resume on Monday 23rd February.

NURSERY AFTERNOON SESSIONS 15 HOUR 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.

100% ATTENDANCE INITIATIVE

Attendance remains a significant priority for our school community. Our overall attendance currently stands at 94.6%, with each class below the national expectation of 97%. We know that regular attendance has a direct impact on children's progress, confidence and wellbeing and we are committed to working together to improve this.

To support this, we will be introducing a new attendance initiative after half-term. Rather than waiting until the end of term to recognise 100% attendance, we will now celebrate this achievement on a weekly basis.

Any child who achieves 100% attendance for the week will be invited to choose a reward from the class attendance prize box. We fully understand that children will sometimes be unwell and must remain at home when necessary. However, by recognising 100% attendance each week, we hope to provide more achievable milestones for our pupils and that this regular celebration will have a positive impact on overall attendance across the school.

We ask for your continued support in working in partnership with us to ensure that children are in school and on time each day so that they can flourish and benefit fully from every learning opportunity available to them.

Should you have any suggestions as to how we can further improve attendance, we would greatly welcome your feedback.

ABSENCE PROCEDURES

In order to ensure the safety and wellbeing of all pupils, we would like to remind families of our absence procedures.

If your child is unwell or unable to attend school, parents must telephone the school office before **9.15am** to inform us of the reason for absence. Messages sent via ClassDojo will **NOT** be accepted as notification of absence. If you leave a voicemail, a member of staff will return your call as part of our safeguarding first response procedures to ensure that we have spoken directly with a parent or carer.

If we have not received notification of a child's absence by 9.15am, the school will initiate safeguarding first response procedures. This will include follow up phone calls and may include a home visit.

In addition, where a child is absent from school for 48 hours, the school will carry out a home visit to the registered home address as part of our safeguarding procedures to check on the child's welfare.

These measures are in place to ensure that every child in our care is safe and accounted for. Thank you for your cooperation and support in helping us fulfil this important responsibility.

ATTENDANCE INFORMATION - SCHOOL WEBSITE



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.

OUR PARENTS | CARERS

A huge thank you to all our families who attended !! Interim review meetings this week. These meetings are such a valuable opportunity for parents and staff to come together to celebrate children's progress and discuss next steps for development. It was also lovely to see parents looking through school books, with their children proudly showing off their work and talking about their learning so far! We hope you found the opportunity to meet with staff useful and we thank you for your time, commitment and ongoing support.

SAFER INTERNET DAY

This week, we celebrated Safer Internet Day with a range of activities focused on how to stay safe online, including thoughtful discussions about the use of AI. I really enjoyed teaching in Y4 this week, where children showed great awareness of how to keep themselves safe online. It was fantastic to explore with them how AI is used in our daily lives and to emphasise that, while AI can be a helpful tool, it is not always accurate and can never replace our amazing minds and critical thinking! Thank you also to the families who attended the AI workshop with Mr Keegan, your support & engagement are greatly appreciated.

CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH WEEK

This week we marked Children's Mental Health Week, led by Place2Be, focusing on the theme 'This is My Place'. We know that a sense of belonging - as individuals, within friendships, in school and in our wider community - plays a vital role in children's mental health and wellbeing. Feeling that we truly belong is a basic human need and has powerful, long-lasting impacts on many areas of our lives, including our emotional and physical health, learning and relationships.

Throughout this week, children took part in a range of activities and webinars that encouraged them to reflect on what belonging means to them and how we can all help create inclusive, nurturing environments. These experiences culminated in a wonderful video celebrating 'This is My Place', highlighting how our school is a community where children feel safe, valued and that they truly belong. Please see highlights from this week on ClassDoJo.

HAPPY HALF TERM : 16TH - 20TH FEBRUARY 2026

Wishing all our families a restful half-term filled with quality time spent with loved ones.

Please take this opportunity to relax, refresh and recharge for the term ahead!

We look forward to welcoming children back to school on Monday 23rd February 2026.

Only My Best Will Do. Be Kind To One Another. Amen



WEEKLY NEWSLETTER - THURSDAY 12TH FEBRUARY 2026

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 in nursery we have been exploring the celebration "Valentine's Day". We have been sharing who we love and exploring how to show care and love for others. We have made collage art hearts to share with our loved ones.

RECEPTION

Mrs Brewerton & Mrs Reynolds

This week we have been exploring Part-whole models in our math's lessons. We started the week feeling very unsure as to how these work. However, we have been very proud to see how quickly our children have grown in confidence and persevered with the challenge. Well done Reception!

YEAR 1

Ms Tabone, Ms Chan & Ms McKeown

This week we enjoyed celebrating children's mental health week. We thought about our feelings - big and small and thought about how to deal with those. We joined a live stream with Liverpool Mental Health Team and had lots of opportunities to express ourselves through dance.

It was also Safer Internet Day this week and we thought about different ways in which we could stay safe online. We know how to stay safe on our devices at home and at school.

Well done for an excellent end to our half term. We can't wait to see you all again in a weeks' time!

YEAR 2

Mrs Rabbette, Ms Perez, Mr Morton & Ms McKeown

This week we enjoyed an exciting Beatles workshop from a real life superfan Marie Darwin. We played Beatles Bingo, read Marie's book, and even dressed up as George, John, Ringo and Paul.

We also took part in an online workshop for Children's Mental Health week. The theme this year is "This is my place". That means feeling like you're part of something, such as your family or your school. These happy moments help us feel connected, valued, and accepted. When we feel like we belong, we feel happy, safe, and ready to learn and play. It helps us grow strong in our minds and bodies, and it makes it easier to make friends, do well in school, and feel good about ourselves.

We also did some activities for Safer Internet Day. We learned how important it is that we have the skills and confidence to make safe choices when we use smart technology.

YEAR 3

Mrs Fitchett-Sabbagh, Mrs Oyewale & Ms Conway

This week we had some really meaningful learning together. We had a big discussion about how everyone faces temptation to make bad choices, but that God loves all people and is always ready to forgive us when we make mistakes. We also took part in some fun activities for Safer Internet Day and Mental Health Week, learning important ways to stay safe online and look after our wellbeing.

YEAR 4

Mrs Cooney & Ms Bullen

This week we have achieved amazing writing in English. It has been great to see the enthusiasm for writing a guide for a monster hunter. It was also lovely to see what our vision of Jesus is through art and reflection. We have had a great time taking part in Safer Internet Day, learning about the importance of staying safe online. In PE we have been really creative in designing a carnival dance in groups, to a samba beat.



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YEAR 5

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

Year 5 loved finding out about some of the Victorian Inventions for communication - especially learning about how the Morse Code was used via telegraphs.

Year 5 have also completed a brilliant instruction manual, guiding couriers through treacherous obstacles and hazards in the Whispering Woods.

Finally, Year 5 had a brilliant opportunity to take part in an art competition, where they used a range of media to create exciting pieces.

YEAR 6

Ms Kaur & Ms Doyle

This week we have worked so hard on completing our Explanation Texts, combining all of our amazing knowledge from Science into our English to write about how certain species adapt! We also celebrated Safer Internet Day by talking about AI and how to stay safe online. We have also celebrated Children's Mental Health Week by taking part in an online workshop and reminding ourselves how to look after our wellbeing. In RE, we had so much fun designing stained glass windows to represent the Eucharist and explaining why we chose certain symbols too.