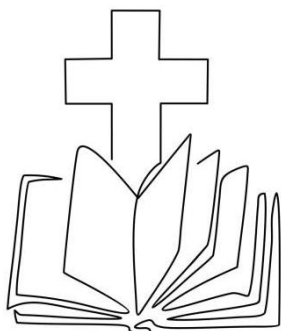




WEEKLY NEWSLETTER - FRIDAY 6TH FEBRUARY 2026



GOSPEL VALUE OF THE WEEK

UNITY

SPREAD THE WORD

LISTEN to the Word of God

THE CALL OF THE DISCIPLES

"When morning came, he called his disciples to him and chose twelve of them, whom he also designated apostles."

Luke 5: 1 - 11 | Luke 6: 12 - 16

RESPOND to the Word of God

As we reflect, give thought to:

- ♥ What might the disciples have felt when Jesus asked them to follow him, and when have you needed courage to say yes to something good?
- ♥ Why do you think Jesus called a group of people instead of just one person?

GO FORTH with a mission from the Word of God

"From now on you will fish for people."

Go forth and share God's love wherever you are.

Be brave enough to follow Jesus.

Use kind words and actions to bring others closer to him.



Good News for Families

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	429	534	475	448



WEEKLY NEWSLETTER - FRIDAY 6TH 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	Nawal
Reception	Charlotte
Year 1	Stanley
Year 2	Myla
Year 3	Grace
Year 4	Rafae;
Year 5	Katy
Year 6	Grace

	NAME
	James
	CLASS
	Year 5

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	99.0%	2	96.0%
Year 1	88.7%	2	93.0%
Year 2	94.8%	8	93.0%
Year 3	98.7%	5	96.2%
Year 4	97.7%	8	96.8%
Year 5	91.6%	9	92.1%
Year 6	95.5%	6	95.2%
Total	95.1%	40	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.



WEEKLY NEWSLETTER - FRIDAY 6TH FEBRUARY 2026



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
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
09.02.2026	Y2	The Beatles Workshop
10.02.2026	Y1	Fire Station Class Trip
10.02.2026	N - Y6	Safer Internet Day
10.02.2026	N - Y6	Safer Internet - Use of AI Parent Workshop
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
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

EXTRA-CURRICULAR INFORMATION - SCHOOL WEBSITE

HOLY COMMUNION WITH YOU ALWAYS PROGRAMME - SCHOOL WEBSITE



WEEKLY NEWSLETTER – FRIDAY 6TH FEBRUARY 2026

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

There will be no extra-curricular clubs next week: wb: 9th February due to parent meetings.

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.

SAFER INTERNET DAY: 10.02.2026

AI – PARENT WORKSHOP

On Tuesday 10th February 2026, we will mark Safer Internet Day with this year's theme, *Smart tech, safe choices – exploring the safe and responsible use of AI.*

Everyone is talking about AI and with many children and young people hearing about and using AI online, it is important that they develop the skills and confidence to make safe choices when using smart technology.

This Safer Internet Day, we will be exploring the impact of AI on our lives, considering how it can be used positively, and providing advice and guidance to empower children to use AI safely and responsibly. Throughout the day, pupils will take part in a range of engaging activities designed to promote safe and responsible online behaviour and to deepen their understanding of the digital world.

We have invited our Computing specialist teacher, Mr Keegan, to deliver a parent workshop to support families in navigating the ever-changing world of technology. The session will provide helpful updates and practical guidance on how we can work together to ensure our children remain safe online.

We warmly invite all families to attend. Please contact the school office to confirm your attendance.

CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH WEEK

9TH – 15TH FEBRUARY 2026

Next week, St Sebastian's will be celebrating Children's Mental Health Week.

The theme is 'This is My Place', and the is to support the systems around children and young people to help them feel they **belong**.

We know that our sense of belonging as individuals, in our friendships, in school, and in communities plays a vital role in our mental health and wellbeing.

To know our place and really feel part of our environment is a basic human need. It can have powerful and long-lasting impacts in lots of areas of our lives, including our physical and mental health, education, employment and relationships. When we feel that we belong, it empowers us to contribute to the world and make a real difference.

In addition to school, we encourage peers, families and communities to create inclusive and nurturing environments, where children and young people feel they belong and can say "This is My Place".





WEEKLY NEWSLETTER – FRIDAY 6TH FEBRUARY 2026

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.

SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHS: 9TH FEBRUARY

Individual school photographs will take place on Monday 9th February 2026 for all children from Nursery to Year 6.

If you would like your child to have an additional photograph with their siblings (who also attend St Sebastian's), please send a message to your child's class teacher via ClassDoJo.

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.



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.

NATIONAL STORYTELLING WEEK

A huge thank you to Mrs Rabbette for organising a jam-packed timetable to celebrate National Storytelling Week. There has been such a wonderful buzz of excitement across the school! From Book & Biscuit family Read With Me sessions, online workshops with authors, and mystery readers in classes, to a whole-school assembly story read (unplugged!) by Mrs Rabbette herself – it has truly been a fun and inspiring week for everyone.

YEAR 5

This week, I have been extremely impressed by our Year 5 children. From my drop-in sessions to class and to observing your behaviour around school, I have been so proud of your positive attitude towards learning and the respectful way you treat both your peers and staff.

Your behaviour in the dinner hall has been exemplary this week and you are proving yourselves to be fantastic role models for others across the school.

I also know that your Year 5 teachers have been particularly impressed with your focus, effort and maturity this week.

Well done Year 5, keep it up!

NSPCC NUMBER DAY 2026

A huge well done to all our children who truly rose to the occasion for NSPCC Number Day with their fantastic costumes. From creative number themed outfits to brilliant TTRockstars looks, the effort and imagination on display was incredibly impressive! It was also wonderful to welcome so many families to our Maths Breakfast, where we enjoyed playing number and board games together to start the day. Throughout the day, children took part in a range of fun activities designed to celebrate and promote a love of number.

Thank you, families, for your generous donations. We will share the total amount raised on Monday, with all funds going directly to NSPCC to support their vital work in helping to keep children safe.

A special thank you to Ms Kaur for organising such a successful and enjoyable event for our school community.



WEEKLY NEWSLETTER - FRIDAY 6TH 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

Nursery started their week with such a lovely read with me session with our grown-ups coming into class to read our favourite stories. We've also been celebrating national story telling week by retelling stories using puppets and exploring rhyming words!

RECEPTION

Mrs Brewerton & Mrs Reynolds

This week we have had lots of events happening in school. We started off our week celebrating National Story Telling Week, by enjoying a read with me session with our grown-ups! We finished our week by having lots of fun at our fantastic maths party!

YEAR 1

Ms Tabone, Ms Chan & Ms McKeown

Year 1 have had another amazing week this week and I can't believe we only have one week till half term to go. This week, we have been working hard in English to write our detective stories. We have loved taking parts in different activities for national story telling week and loved Ms Kaur coming to our class to read us a story!

YEAR 2

Mrs Rabbette, Ms Perez, Mr Morton & Ms McKeown

We have had a busy week of activities for National Storytelling Week. We enjoyed a book and a biscuit with our parents and teachers on Monday. We participated in an online author event with Annemarie Anang on Tuesday, where we heard her story, 'I am Nefertiti,' told through music. We loved having a 'Mystery Reader' in our class - Miss Rozycka read us a story about Paddington Bear. We ended the week with a story in assembly, read by Mrs Rabbette. The story made us think about friendships and having fun indoors and outdoors.

YEAR 3

Mrs Fitchett-Sabbagh, Mrs Oyewale & Ms Conway

Year 3 have had a fantastic week celebrating National Storytelling Week! We enjoyed welcoming parents in for Read with Me, taking part in a storytelling workshop with Alim Kamara and being surprised by a mystery reader. We also loved celebrating Number Day and dressing up for the occasion!

YEAR 4

Mrs Cooney & Ms Bullen

Year 4 has had another great week. It has been lovely to see their ideas on how we can live out our faith in RE. I was also amazed at their wonderful art work painting in the style of Claude Monet.

YEAR 5

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

This week, Year 5 have immersed themselves in Victorian life and written diary entries from the point of view of a Victorian child. We also made further progress in Art with our decoupage work in the style of Henri Matisse. Certainly a week of creativity that has been enjoyed by all!

YEAR 6

Ms Kaur & Ms Doyle

Year 6 have enjoyed National Storytelling Week where we have watched Alim Kamara help us tell stories through rap. Ms Tabone read to us as our 'Mystery Reader' and some extra reading for pleasure time with our families coming in too! We have also loved celebrating Number Day, dressing up and taking part in the TTRS tournament!