



*Harrison*

HANLEY



# HARRISON HANLEY



It is with great sadness that we share the passing of Harrison Hanley, a much-loved former pupil of St Sebastian's.

Harrison had an infectious personality that lit up every room he walked into. He loved a challenge, he loved to laugh and he had a smile that made others smile too! His energy, his warmth and his incredible talent as an athlete made him someone you simply couldn't forget.

Harrison truly lived out our school motto: *"Only my Best will do. Be kind to one another."* He showed kindness so naturally, gave his best so willingly and left a lasting impression on pupils and staff - past and present. The memories people hold of him are full of joy, admiration and gratitude for the time they shared with him.

As a St Sebastian's community, we would like to honour Harrison by creating a [Book of Condolence](#). This will be a space for everyone who knew him to share memories, reflections and messages of love - celebrating the life of a young person who touched so many hearts.

For families who would like to do so, there is also a [fundraiser](#) in Harrison's honour to provide support for his family during this difficult time. Parents of St Sebastian's are also raising funds within the parent fundraising group, offering another meaningful way to show care and solidarity.

There will also be a balloon release in memory of Harrison on Wednesday 6th May at 6.00pm at Sefton Park Field, directly in front of St Hilda's High School, followed by a walk together around the park. Any members of the St Sebastian's community who would like to attend are warmly welcome.

As we come together in grief and remembrance, we hold Harrison's family in our thoughts and prayers, asking that they feel surrounded by the love, strength and support of our whole community.

Harrison's light, laughter and spirit will stay with us. He will be remembered so fondly and always as a blessing to our St Sebastian's family.

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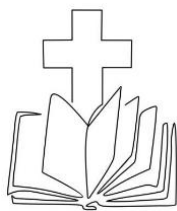
*"Good people will be remembered as a blessing."*

*Proverbs 10:7*





# WEEKLY NEWSLETTER - FRIDAY 1<sup>st</sup> MAY 2026



## GOSPEL VALUE OF THE WEEK

# GROW

### LISTEN to the Word of God

#### JESUS THE WAY TO THE FATHER

“Do not be worried and upset,” Jesus told them. “Believe in God and believe also in me. There are many rooms in my Father’s house, and I am going to prepare a place for you. I would not tell you this if it were not so. And after I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to myself, so that you will be where I am. You know the way that leads to the place where I am going.”

*John 14: 1 - 12*

### RESPOND to the Word of God

As we reflect, give thought to:

When Jesus says He is preparing a place for us and will come back for us.

- ♥ How does knowing Jesus has prepared a place for us make you feel about the future?
- ♥ What promises of Jesus do you rely on most when you feel uncertain?
- ♥ How can our family rely on Jesus together instead of trying to handle everything alone?

### GO FORTH with a mission from the Word of God

As we go forth, may we grow in Christ:

- G - Grounded in Trust
- R - Relying on his Promises
- O - Open to his way
- W - Walking in his words



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**

### SUMMER 1

	St George	St Margaret	St David	St Brigid
Week 1				
Week 2				
Week 3				
Week 4				
Week 5				
Week 6				
TOTAL POINTS	255	250	244	261



# WEEKLY NEWSLETTER - FRIDAY 1<sup>st</sup> MAY 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	Umama
Reception	Zaiah
Year 1	Amelia
Year 2	Ndanji
Year 3	Khais
Year 4	Abbey
Year 5	Mateusz
Year 6	Ezaan

	NAME
	Scarlet
	CLASS
	Year 6



## 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.

GOOD LUCK MRS OYEWALE
This week brings wonderful news within our school community. Mrs Oyewale will begin her maternity leave on Friday as she prepares to welcome her third baby girl. We wish her every happiness and a restful, exciting journey into this next chapter.

HOUSE CAPTAINS & VICE CAPTAINS
A huge and heartfelt thank you to our wonderful School House Captains and Vice Captains, who have been fantastic ambassadors for our school this week. They carried out pupil-panel interviews for our current vacancies with confidence, maturity and genuine professionalism.
Every candidate commented on the children's impeccable manners, thoughtful and well-crafted questions, and the respectful way they conducted themselves throughout. Their contribution to our recruitment process has been invaluable, and I am incredibly proud of the example they set.



## WEEKLY NEWSLETTER - FRIDAY 1<sup>st</sup> MAY 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 have continued this week with their farm topic. We have loved linking this to our phonics learning spotting the initial sounds in our farm animals names. In RE, we have been exploring the gift of the Holy Spirit and how it appeared to the disciples. We blew bubbles outside and discussed how the wind can remind us the Holy Spirit is all around us.

#### RECEPTION

Mrs Brewerton & Mrs Reynolds

This week Reception have been looking at jungle animals. We have explored animal patterns, animal noises and animal facts. Mrs Brewerton and Mrs Reynolds have been so proud of the children's independent writing skills. Well done and keep it up!

#### YEAR 1

Ms Tabone, Ms Chan & Ms McKeown

This week, Year 1 have began thinking about dividing. We worked hard thinking about how to share equally, using cubes and grouping circles. In RSHE this week, we thought about how people in our families show love to us. We then linked this to God and thought about all of the different ways God shows us love daily.

#### YEAR 2

Mrs Rabbette, Ms Alderton, Mr Morton & Ms McKeown

This week, Year 2 has been learning to tell the time to the nearest 5 minutes in Maths. The children have enjoyed making times on an analogue clock and practicing how to say the time correctly. In RE, we listened to the story of Pentecost in Acts 2: 1-9; 12-13. We talked about how the apostles changed through the power of the Holy Spirit. We learned how the Holy Spirit helps Christians in their lives.

#### YEAR 3

Mrs Fitchett-Sabbagh, Mrs Oyewale & Ms Conway

This week, we finished writing our Egyptian Mystery narratives and we really enjoyed it! It was fun to be creative and come up with our own ideas. We've also loved doing athletics outside. We think we've got better at relay races and our long jump technique has improved too. We also had a great chat during RSHE about the joy and happiness we have from living in friendship with God.

#### YEAR 4

Ms Perez & Ms Bullen

This week in RSHE we thought about unique skills and innate qualities that make us special, linking this to God. We chose a classmate whose qualities inspire us and wrote them a lovely card. In History we have been learning about how the Mayans used symbols called Logograms and Syllabograms to write letters and stories. We learned some of these then had a go at creating our own!

#### YEAR 5

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

Year 5 have had a busy week! We have looked at how the gift of the Holy Spirit is for everyone and how Saul's story inspired him to become a better person. In art, the children have produced some really great drawings of Mayan art, getting ready for their final designs they will create using lino tiles. In Maths, year 5 have impressed their teachers with increasingly absolutely amazing journals - well done!

#### YEAR 6

Ms Kaur & Ms Doyle

This week in Year 6, we have worked extremely hard in Maths, looking over Algebra and Area and Perimeter. We had such an amazing discussion in RSHE about remembering that God is part of all of us and so we should build strong healthy relationships because of that. In PE we have been doing Netball and Rounders! This has helped us with our competitiveness and communication skills.



# WEEKLY NEWSLETTER - FRIDAY 1<sup>st</sup> MAY 2026

## 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	94.7%	4	95.3%
Year 1	90.3%	5	92.9%
Year 2	92.6%	14	93.9%
Year 3	98.2%	3	96.6%
Year 4	98.0%	4	96.8%
Year 5	97.1%	17	92.4%
Year 6	97.1%	7	95.1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>95.4%</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>94.7%</b>

### SUMMERTERM 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							

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, rather than waiting until the end of term to highlight achievement, we recognise 100% attendance of the week! 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. By recognising 100% attendance each week, we hope to provide more achievable milestones for our pupils.

## ATTENDANCE & WELFARE PROCEDURES

As shared in our newsletter on 12.02.2026, we have now implemented updated attendance & welfare procedures in line with Keeping Children Safe in Education 2025. These procedures came into effect from the week beginning 27.02.2026 & form part of our ongoing commitment to ensuring that every child in our school community is safe, supported & able to thrive.

### REPORTING ABSENCE

If your child is unwell or unable to attend school, please remember that parents and carers must telephone the school office before **9.15am**.

Messages sent via ClassDojo cannot 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. This ensures that we have spoken directly with a parent or carer & can confirm the reason for the absence.

If we have not received notification by 9.15am, the school will begin our safeguarding first-response process, which may include follow-up phone calls and, where necessary, a home visit.

### WELFARE VISITS AFTER 48 HOURS OF ABSENCE

A member of the Senior Leadership Team will carry out a welfare home visit for any child who has been absent for more than 48 hours, even if the school has already been contacted by the family.

These visits are not a sign of concern or mistrust. They are a proactive safeguarding measure designed to check on your child's wellbeing and to check in with parents & carers to see whether any further support is needed to help your child return to school.

Our Catholic mission calls us to care for the whole child & to walk alongside families, especially during times of difficulty.

Welfare visits help us:

- ✓ ensure every child is safe and accounted for
- ✓ maintain strong, supportive communication between home and school
- ✓ identify any barriers that may be preventing a child from returning to school
- ✓ offer practical help, guidance, or signposting where needed
- ✓ uphold our statutory safeguarding responsibilities ✓

These procedures are not intended to cause worry or inconvenience. They are in place because the safety, wellbeing & flourishing of every child is at the heart of our work.



# WEEKLY NEWSLETTER - FRIDAY 1<sup>st</sup> MAY 2026



## TERM DATES 2025 - 2026

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

<b>BANK HOLIDAY MONDAY</b>
Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> May 2026

<b>INSET 3 - STAFF TRAINING</b>
Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> June 2026

<b>INSET 4 - STAFF TRAINING</b>
Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> June 2026

<b>SUMMER - MAY HALF TERM</b>
Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> May - Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup> June 2026

<b>INSET 5 - STAFF TRAINING</b>
Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> July 2026

<b>SUMMER HOLIDAYS</b>
Tuesday 21 <sup>st</sup> July - 31 <sup>st</sup> August 2026

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

<b><u>TERM DATES 2026 - 2027</u></b>
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## 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.

<u>SCHOOL CALENDAR - SCHOOL WEBSITE</u>		
Date	Year Group	Event
08.05.2026	N- Y6	Sir David Attenborough's 100 <sup>th</sup> Birthday Assembly
11.05.2026	N-Y6	Mental Health Awareness Week
11.05.2026	Y6	KS2 SAT English GPS Papers 1&2
12.05.2026	Y6	KS2 SAT English Reading
13.05.2026	Y6	KS2 SAT Mathematics Paper 1&2
14.05.2026	Y6	KS2 SAT Mathematics Paper 3
18.05.2026	N-Y6	Walk to School Week
19.05.2026	Y2	Monthly Mass
20.05.2026	N - Y6	National Numeracy Day
20.05.2026	N - Y6	PTFA AGM Meeting
20.05.2026	R	I:I Parent   Carer Meeting (1/2)
21.05.2026	R	I:I Parent   Carer Meeting (2/2)
22.05.2026	R-Y6	Mary's Meals Assembly
22.05.2026	Y3	Mary's Meals Workshop
22.05.2026	Y2	Stay & Pray Family Session

<b><u>EXTRA-CURRICULAR INFORMATION - SCHOOL WEBSITE</u></b>
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<b><u>HOLY COMMUNION WITH YOU ALWAYS PROGRAMME - SCHOOL WEBSITE</u></b>
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## WEEKLY NEWSLETTER - FRIDAY 1<sup>st</sup> MAY 2026

### PARENT GOVERNOR NOMINATION

Following the announcement that the Federated Governing Body for St Cuthbert's Catholic Primary School & Nursery and St Sebastian's Catholic Primary School & Nursery (including Field of Dreams Day Nursery) will be dissolved, we are now preparing to establish our own Governing Body.

Our first step is to appoint a second **Parent Governor**.

We are inviting parents, carers, and those with parental responsibility for a child at St Sebastian's Catholic Primary School & Nursery to put themselves forward for election.

A letter with full details has been shared on DoJo and is also available on our school website, along with the [Parent Governor Nomination Form](#). Paper copies are available to collect from the school office. Please return completed nomination forms **no later than Friday 8<sup>th</sup> May 2026**.

We look forward to receiving your nominations and beginning this important next chapter for our school community.

### WOODLAND APPEAL

Thank you so much for supporting our Woodland Appeal. Over the next few weeks, the plants purchased through your generous donations will be used to create a beautiful new Prayer Garden.

However, as our school grounds are so vast, we are still in need of more plants. We're reaching out once again to our wonderful school community to help bring colour, life, and a sense of magic back to our woodland and science garden areas.

We are currently looking for:

**Hydrangeas**

**Rhododendrons**

**Azaleas**

**Flowering bulbs (no lilies)**

All of these can be found in local supermarkets such as Home Bargains, B&M, Tesco, Asda, etc., and are usually no more than £5.

**If you are able to, please consider picking up a plant as a gift to school while shopping this weekend. Your support is truly appreciated.**

### PARENT, TEACHER & FRIENDS ASSOCIATION AGM MEETING

20<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2026: 2.00PM

Following our coffee afternoon and meeting with ParentKind last Friday, St Sebastian's has decided to evolve our PTA (Parent & Teacher Association) into a PTFA - Parents, Teachers & Friends Association. This change allows a wider circle of people to support our school community, including grandparents, aunts, uncles, godparents and family friends.

The PTFA plays a vital role in enriching school life by organising community events and fundraising activities. Every penny raised goes directly towards supporting our children. As St Sebastian's is currently a deficit school with a stretched budget, the additional support from the PTFA helps us provide valuable opportunities such as school trips, playground improvements and extra learning resources.

The PTFA will be holding its Annual General Meeting (AGM) on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> May at 2pm.

This meeting will include the election of the new committee, and further details will be shared closer to the date.

If you are interested in supporting our school - no matter how small your contribution - we would love to see you at the meeting. At our last gathering, only three parents were able to attend... and we have 234 children in school. Even a small increase in parent involvement would make a huge difference to what we can achieve together for our children and the wider school community.

All parents and caregivers are warmly invited to attend and get involved in any way they can.

### DFE ASSESSMENT INFORMATION

[Year 1 - Phonics Screening Check](#)

Administration for Y1 Phonics Check is within the 1-week period from Monday 8<sup>th</sup> June 2026.

[Year 2 - Optional Key Stage 1 National Curriculum Tests](#)

The recommended administration period for Y2 Optional KSI Tests is during May 2026.

[Year 4 - Multiplication Tables Check](#)

Administration for Y4 Multiplication Tables Check is within the 2-week period from Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June 2026.

[Year 6 - Key Stage 2 National Curriculum Tests](#)



## WEEKLY NEWSLETTER - FRIDAY 1<sup>st</sup> MAY 2026

### SUMMER UNIFORM: SUMMER TERM

Our summer uniform expectations for Nursery - Y6 are outlined in our [school uniform policy](#)

#### RECEPTION - Y6 BOYS' SUMMER UNIFORM

- ✓ Pale blue polo shirt (no logo required)
- ✓ Navy blue jumper with yellow school badge
- ✓ Grey knee-length shorts
- ✓ Navy or grey ankle socks
- ✓ Black flat school shoes (no heel) or black trainers (no logos)  
Please note: For health and safety reasons, children must not wear jelly shoes, crocs, open-toe or open back sandals.



#### RECEPTION - Y6 GIRLS' SUMMER UNIFORM

- ✓ Navy blue gingham summer dress  
Please note: this must be NAVY BLUE gingham and it must be a DRESS  
Shorts may be worn underneath for comfort.
- ✓ Navy blue cardigan with yellow school badge
- ✓ White or navy ankle socks
- ✓ Black flat school shoes (no heel) or black trainers (no logos)  
Please note: For health and safety reasons, children must not wear jelly shoes, crocs, open-toe or open back sandals.

