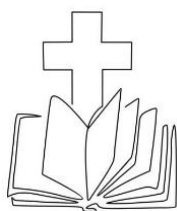




# WEEKLY NEWSLETTER – FRIDAY 8<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2026



## GOSPEL VALUE OF THE WEEK

# UNITY

### LISTEN to the Word of God

#### PROMISE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

“When I go, you will not be left all alone; I will come back to you. In a little while the world will see me no more, but you will see me; and because I live, you also will live. When that day comes, you will know that I am in my Father and that you are in me, just as I am in you.”

*John 14: 15 - 21*

### RESPOND to the Word of God

As we reflect, give thought to:

- ♥ How does Jesus show that we are never alone in this Scripture?
- ♥ What does Jesus mean when He says “you are in me and I am in you”?
- ♥ How does following Jesus’ commandments help us stay close to God and to each other?

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

This week, let your family focus on being united in love, just as Jesus teaches. He reminds us that He is with us and the Holy Spirit helps us stay close to God and to one another.

*Holy Spirit,*

*help our family to stay united in love.*

*Make our home a place of peace, kindness, and joy.*

*May we stay close to Jesus and close to one another.*

*Amen.*



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				
<b>TOTAL POINTS</b>	340	342	335	358



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	Arabella
Reception	Amelia
Year 1	Isaac
Year 2	Darius
Year 3	William
Year 4	Josiah
Year 5	Ethan
Year 6	Dominic

	NAME
	William
	CLASS
	Year 3



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.

CONGRAULATIONS MRS OYEWALE

After Mrs Oyewale finished for maternity leave last Thursday, it seems baby girl simply couldn't wait to meet her Mummy, Daddy and her two big sisters. She made a very speedy entrance into the world on Wednesday (6<sup>th</sup> May), arriving safely at home even before the ambulances could get there! Both Mum and baby girl are doing brilliantly.

On behalf of everyone at St Sebastian's, we send our love, congratulations to Mrs Oyewale & family.

NHS CAREER WORKSHOPS

This week, our Y3 and Y5 pupils took part in exciting NHS Careers Workshops - with all year groups taking part over the next few weeks. Children will be discovering how doctors, nurses, paramedics, therapists, scientists, administrators and many more professionals all play vital roles in helping others. Most importantly, children will be encouraged to think about their own skills, talents and interests and how these could shape the careers they may choose when they grow up!



## WEEKLY NEWSLETTER – FRIDAY 8<sup>TH</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

In Nursery we have been so impressed with our learning of sounds in phonics! We've been playing lots of fun phonics games like hunt for the sound and sound bingo and have been practicing forming our letters both indoors and outside! We have also learnt about David Attenborough, celebrating his 100th birthday and his dedication to our environment, discussing how we can look after our world too

#### RECEPTION

Mrs Brewerton & Mrs Reynolds

We have had lots of fun exploring our new topic superheroes. Through this we have been exploring people who help us, which has tied nicely into David Attenborough's 100th Birthday celebrations and the fantastic work he has done to help our planet. We have thought about how we can be superheroes too, and look after our world.

#### YEAR 1

Ms Tabone, Ms Chan & Ms McKeown

We have had a short but very productive week in Year 1. The children loved beginning our new topic of 'Fractions' in maths this week, we began by finding half of a shape and quantities and are now moving on to working our quarters! I have been very impressed with our use of mathematical vocabulary this week. We also began our writing of our retell narrative based on 'Black Rock' – the creativity has been amazing! We ended our week with a celebration of Sir David Attenborough turning 100!

#### YEAR 2

Mrs Rabbette, Ms Alderton, Mr Morton & Ms McKeown

In Year 2 we have been celebrating a very special person before his 100th birthday this Friday, David Attenborough! Linking to our recent learning during earth day, we discussed how he has dedicated his life to highlighting the importance of looking after our planet. Taking inspiration from his work, we completed a journal entry as if we had been on an expedition in the rainforest, writing about all the amazing things we might see!

#### YEAR 3

Mrs Fitchett-Sabbagh, Mrs Oyewale & Ms Conway

This week, we have been learning all about Mother Mary and the incredible charity, Mary's Meals. We explored how the charity helps children around the world by providing meals and supporting education. In Science, we conducted an exciting experiment to investigate which surface a toy car would travel the furthest on. We made predictions, tested different surfaces, and carefully recorded our results. We also had a special visit from a member of the NHS, who talked to us about different ways to stay healthy.

#### YEAR 4

Ms Perez & Ms Bullen

This week we learned all about the Mayan sport 'Pitak' and compared it to how we play football nowadays. Did you know you couldn't kick the ball with your feet in Pitak? We also finished writing our refugee narratives in English, which we have been working really hard on. To finish off our busy week, we enjoyed celebrating David Attenborough's 100th birthday by watching a live assembly!



# WEEKLY NEWSLETTER – FRIDAY 8<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2026

## YEAR 5

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

This week, Year 5 have looked at the fruits of the Holy Spirit in RE and how we can apply these in our daily lives.

Earlier this week, we had a brilliant time interviewing Saul, who had turned his name to Paul after he had been transformed by the Holy Spirit - the class loved the drama activity!

This week we had a brilliant visit from Marline who spoke to us on how to keep safe and we enjoyed learning about Sir David Attenborough celebrating his 100th birthday this week!

## YEAR 6

Ms Kaur & Ms Doyle

Year 6 have jumped into this week determined and ready. Despite doing non-stop Maths, we are feeling much more confident and positive! We enjoyed doing some athletics and hurdles with Mr Hardiman as well as developing our rounders skills too. In RE, we started our new topic - Reconciliation.

We had so much fun being interviewers for a blind man based on the parable of Jesus healing the blind man in Luke 18:35-43. To end our week, we have celebrated Sir David Attenborough's 100th birthday! Year 6 are more than ready for SATs next week, we cannot wait to show off how amazing we are!



## GOOD LUCK TO OUR WONDERFUL Y6

As our Year 6 pupils prepare for their KS2 SATs, we want to remind you of something truly important:

**as important as SATS are, these tests can only measure a small part of who you are!**

They assess your skills in reading, writing, grammar and maths but they cannot capture the whole, remarkable person God created you to be.

SATs don't show your creativity, your kindness, your sense of humour or the way you look after others. They don't reflect your talents in sport, art or music, or the quiet moments when you've shown courage, patience or compassion. They don't see the friendships you've built, the challenges you've overcome or the joy you bring into our school community.

What SATs can do is give you a chance to show **what you've learned** and **how hard you've worked!** They are simply one step on your education journey.

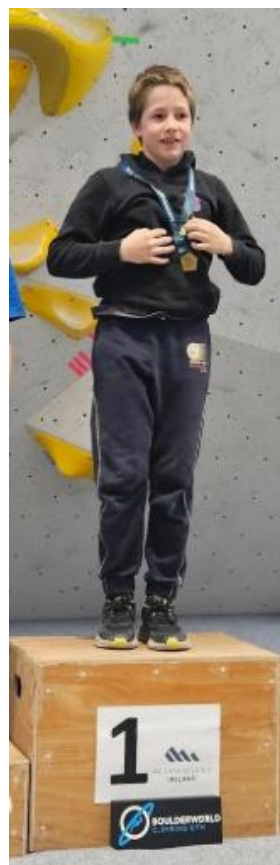
As you go into next week, hold onto our school motto: *"Only my best will do."*

Your best is enough. Your best is wonderful. Be proud of your efforts and trust in the hard work you've already put in.

And as always, remember to *"be kind to one another"* to your classmates, to your teachers and most importantly, to yourselves.

On behalf of all the school staff at St Sebastian's, we are incredibly proud of you – not just for what you know, but for who you are. You've grown, you've achieved and you've shown such heart. You're ready.

Good luck Y6. You've got this!



## NATIONAL UNDER 13 BOULDER CHAMPION

A huge well-done to Oliver, our Y6 pupil, who impressed us all by climbing brilliantly at the National Boulder Championships in Ireland. After finishing 1<sup>st</sup> in the qualifiers, he went on to top all four final boulders and was crowned **NATIONAL U13 CHAMPION!**

An outstanding achievement we are all really proud of him.

Photograph consent from Oliver's parent

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



# WEEKLY NEWSLETTER - FRIDAY 8<sup>TH</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	94.2%	2	95.4%
Year 1	92.9%	8	92.9%
Year 2	92.1%	9	93.8%
Year 3	92.2%	2	96.5%
Year 4	96.7%	3	96.8%
Year 5	94.0%	11	92.5%
Year 6	98.0%	6	95.2%
<b>Total</b>	<b>94.3%</b>	<b>41</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 8<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2026



## TERM DATES 2025 - 2026

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

<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>TERM DATES 2026 - 2027</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.

SCHOOL CALENDAR - SCHOOL WEBSITE		
Date	Year Group	Event
11.05.2026	Y1	Balancability
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
19.05.2026	Y1, Y4 & Y6	CAFOD Assembly & Workshops
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
09.06.2026	N - Y6	The Great Big Green Week
10.06.2026	Y4 & Y6	NHS Careers Workshops
10.06.2026	Selected Pupils	Liverpool Primary Schools' District Athletics
11.06.2026	Y6	Faith in Action Celebration
13.06.2026	Y4	Y4 First Holy Communion Masses
15.06.2026	N - Y6	National School Sports Week

<b>EXTRA-CURRICULAR INFORMATION - SCHOOL WEBSITE</b>
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<b>HOLY COMMUNION WITH YOU ALWAYS PROGRAMME - SCHOOL WEBSITE</b>
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## WEEKLY NEWSLETTER – FRIDAY 8<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2026

### 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, LIDL, 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.**



### GENTLE REMINDER

#### LIVERPOOL PRIMARY SCHOOLS SKI ASSOCIATION – SKI COURSE 2027

A gentle reminder to the 20 families whose children are attending the Liverpool Primary Association Ski Trip 2027 that the next CASH payment of £125 is due by **Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> May**.

If you have already made this instalment, please ignore this message.

Please also ensure that your child's Health Card and Passport have been brought into school by this date if you have not already done so.

### 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 8<sup>TH</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.

