



MORE NEWS 8th May 2026



SAINT THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Mission - I am the way, the truth and the life

Following the bank holiday, classes celebrated the word of Sunday's Gospel in their classroom. We listened to a special part of the Bible, where Jesus said,

“I am the way, the truth and the life.”

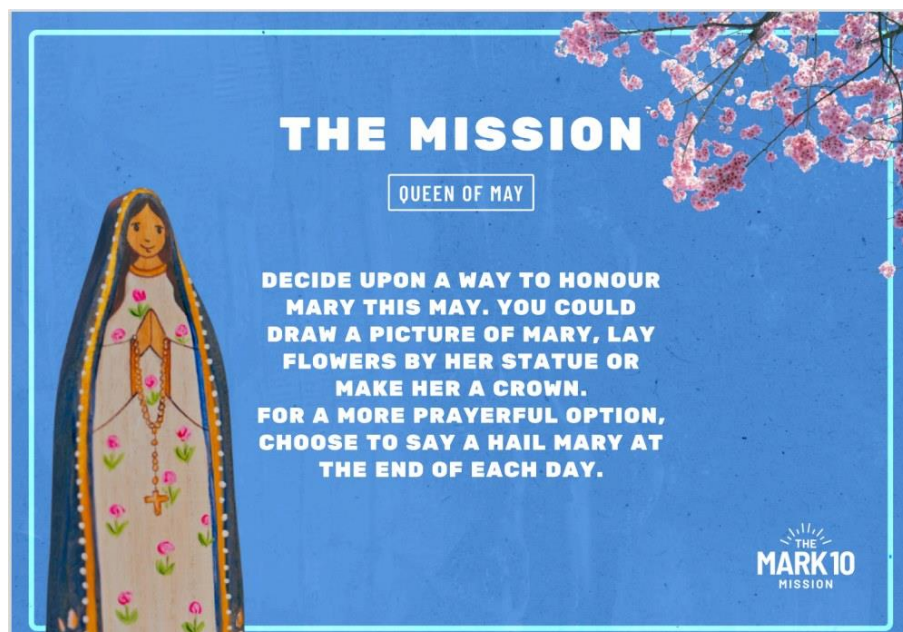
This means that if we want to be close to God and go to heaven, we should follow Jesus. Jesus shows us the right path, just like a map or a sat nav helps us find our way.

We talked about how we find our way to places. We might use a map, ask someone for help, or follow directions. Jesus is like our guide, helping us know how to live and how to love others.

*Jesus taught us that we should **love one another**, just as he loves us.*

We also thought about Mary, Jesus’ mother in heaven. Mary can also show us the way to heaven. Mary trusted God and said “yes” to Him. She followed Jesus with love and faith.

We can be like Mary by trusting God, making good choices, and showing kindness to others every day.



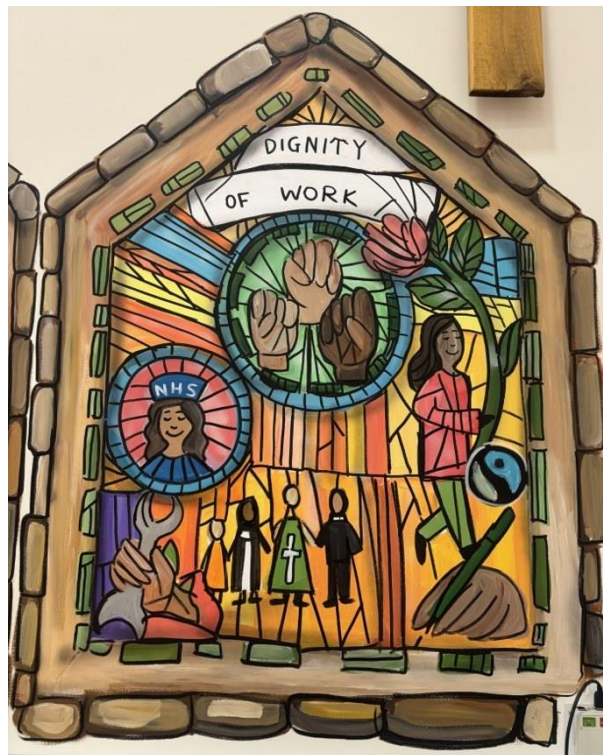
May - the Month of Mary

This week children have been honouring Mary by creating special Mary altars in their classrooms. Reception class carried out their own liturgy, preparing their sacred space and crowning their own Mary statue in their classroom.





Catholic Social Teaching - Dignity of Work



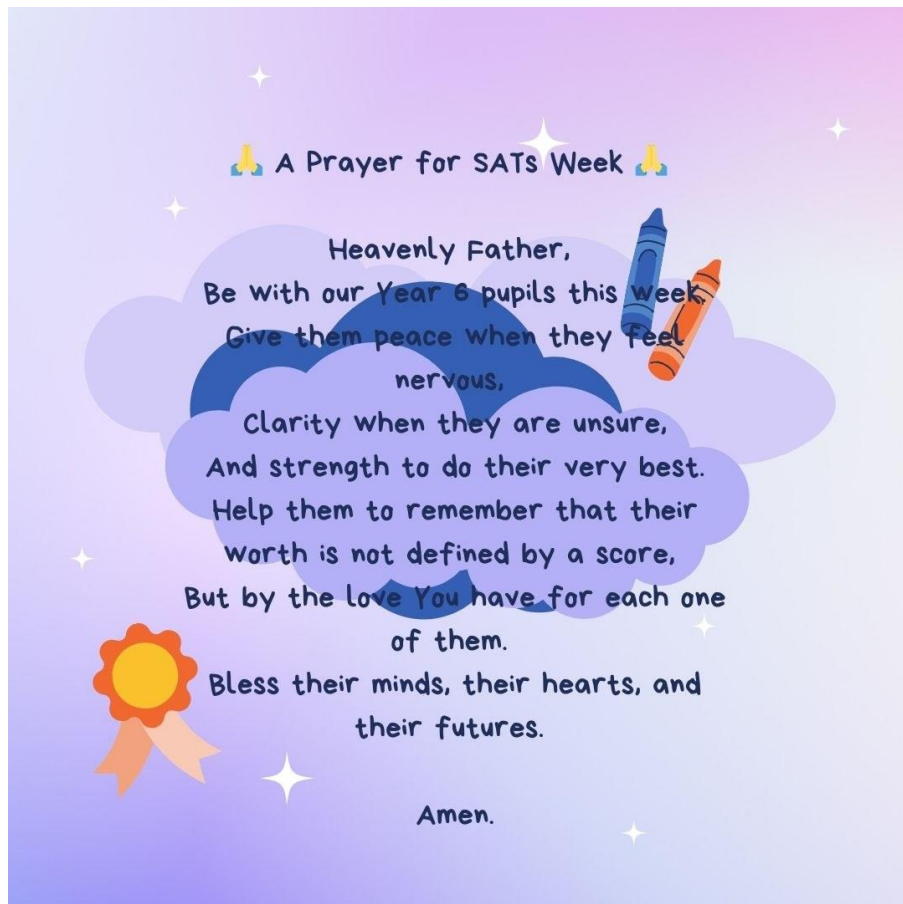
*The Catholic Social Teaching principle of the **dignity of workers** reminds us that every person is important and should be treated with respect. People who work hard deserve to be paid fairly so they can take care of themselves and their families. This is called **fair pay**. It also means that the things we buy should come from businesses that treat their workers kindly and pay them properly—this is called **fair trade**. By choosing fair trade products and being kind and thankful to workers, we can help make sure everyone is treated fairly and with dignity.*



Year 6 SATs

We wish our Year 6 children the very best of luck during their SATs next week. Each and every child has worked so hard and we are incredibly proud of them all.

Year 6 children are welcome into school from 8:15am to join together in breakfast ahead of the day.



R.E. Books

From September, we will be implementing a new Religious Education curriculum in line with the mandate from the Catholic Bishops of England and Wales. As part of this transition, we are reviewing our previous practice to ensure the highest possible quality of teaching and learning.

*To support this, we kindly ask that any **R.E. books from previous academic years are returned to school** if your child still has them at home. This will greatly assist us as we develop and embed the new curriculum.*

GIFT Team News



Ukrainian Candle Appeal

*As we reflect on the light Easter brings us, the GIFT Team have been inspired in collecting **used and unused candles** for the **Ukrainian Candle Appeal**. This can include candles in any form, such as used tealights or even a scented candle (which might not be to your taste!). The wax and candles are melted to create "trench candles", providing essential light, heat and cooking sources to fuel soldiers and civilians without power.*

Wheelbarrow of Hope

*After the success of the GIFT Team's Wheelbarrow of Hope initiative, **the children will continue to collect food donations for Cheylesmore Community Food Hub**. The wheelbarrow will be available for donations in the **mornings at the Watercall Avenue gate**.*

Carriers of Hope Baby Project

During the **Marian month of May**, the **GIFT Team** will be supporting the **Carriers of Hope Baby Project**, which provides essential items for local expectant families in need.

Through this project, we are invited to show compassion and generosity, following the example of Mary, our Mother.

Please refer to the poster below for a list of requested items, but please note, Carriers of Hope do not need donations of clothes. Donations can be dropped off at the school office, and all contributions - large or small - are very welcome. Thank you for your support!

CARRIERS OF HOPE
CIRCLE OF FRIENDS
AND DELIVERERS OF HELP

THE GIFT TEAM
is collecting items to support
CARRIERS OF HOPE
BABY PROJECT

Your donations help us provide essential items to babies and families in need.

ITEMS WE NEED:

- MOSES BASKETS
- COTS
- PRAMS AND PUSHCHAIRS
- HIGHCHAIRS
- BABY BATHS
- BABY MONITORS

NEW AND GENTLY USED BABY EQUIPMENT

PLEASE BRING ANY ITEMS THAT ARE CLEAN AND IN WORKING ORDER TO THE OFFICE.

Thank you for helping us share hope and care with families in our community!

Open Gardens- Sunday 7th June

Styvechale Gardens has been going for over 25 years. This year the event is going LARGE!!! There are 21 gardens opening as part of the NGS which is the largest group opening in Warwickshire. The gardens are in both Styvechale and Earlsdon and come in all shapes and sizes. We are very proud that our peace garden, woodland trail and vegetable garden is joining this major charity event. Many hands have been busy over the last few months getting the gardens ready and we are very grateful for the overwhelming community support.

Within the mix of gardens, one was on on Gardeners World during COVID and another that has won a major national garden award.

Our gardens include

- *Courtyard*
 - *Cottage*
 - *Prairie*
 - *Vegetable*
 - *Wildlife*
 - *Exotic*
-

And much. much more.

As well as the garden trail there is a central hub: United Reform Church Baginton Road where you can enjoy the following:

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- *A craft fair - the best of the best of local crafts.*
 - *A "pop Up" nursery - plants galore. People all over Coventry are propagating plants.*
 - *A refreshments station - yummy homemade cakes.*
 - *A horticultural themed raffle.*
-

As well as supporting National charities the local charity we will be supporting is Myton Hospices.

Important details

Date: *Sunday 7th June 2026*

Time: *12 noon - 6pm*

Venue: *United Reform Church Baginton Road CV3 6FP*

Event: *Styvechale Open Gardens & CRAFT FAIR*

Walk to School Week - Monday 18th May to Friday 22nd May

*We are very excited to be taking part in Living Streets' Walk to School campaign! This fantastic initiative encourages pupils to walk, wheel, cycle, scoot, or 'park and stride' to school. Class teachers will be recording how many children travel to school this way each day from Monday to Thursday. The class with the highest participation will win a special prize - the chance to wear their own shoes to school on **Friday 22nd May**. Let's get moving and make every journey count!*



PSHE

WALK TO SCHOOL

Monday 18th May - Thursday 21st May 2026

We're excited to announce the date for this year's Walk to School 2026! This year, our challenge takes place between **18 and 21 May** and we can't wait for you to take part.

Pupils will be encouraged to walk, wheel, cycle, scoot or Park and Stride to school.

Everyone can take part!



Live far away?

You can take part and enjoy the benefits of walking to school.

If families drive, park a ten-minute walk from school and complete the rest of your journey on foot.

It reduces traffic, congestion and road danger around the school gates whilst allowing children the chance to get active.

Competition: Your class teacher will record the data each day for your class. The class that walked the most over the four days will be able to wear their own favourite shoes to school on Friday 22nd May 2026.

Good luck everyone! From Mrs Hill



Saint Thomas More Catholic Primary School 75th Anniversary

Day of celebration

Tuesday, 23rd June at 10:30am there will be a Special 75th Anniversary Mass celebrated by Archbishop Bernard Longley.

Following the mass there will be a procession down to the school grounds and a blessing of St Thomas More. Then all are invited to join with the school in a picnic on the field (weather permitting).

*At the end of the day the School and Parish will then continuing the fun by holding the '**STM 75th Festival**'.*

A big thank you to all the memories and photos that have been shared so far. They are fascinating to read and I know will help make our rich history come alive for our children. The photographs are amazing. So please keep sending them in.

We would appreciate if past pupils, staff and Governors were able to write some memories of their time at STM including the dates they were there. It is our intention that each Year group will focus on one decade of the school's life and wider events in Coventry and Britain. The primary sources will allow pupils to get a sense of how school life has changed from the uniform, subjects, discipline etc and help the history of the school come alive.

We would welcome memories from those who remember the different buildings of the school - the KS1 building, KS2 School and life in the portacabins prior to the new school build.

If you could hand your memoirs to the school office or email them to

STM-Admin@hccmac.co.uk we would be very grateful. The sooner the better please so lessons can be planned. If anyone would be willing to come in and speak to the children about a particular decade in the life of our school you would be very welcome. Please contact the school office. It would be lovely to get someone from each decade the school has existed.

75th Anniversary Tea Towels

We are delighted to share that the 75th Anniversary tea towel design has now been finalised and the online shop is officially open for orders. Your child would have come home with a poster of the portrait which has instructions on how to place the order.

*As part of this special celebration, a range of commemorative items are available to purchase, including tea towels, mugs, coasters etc. all featuring the children's wonderful designs. Please note the **deadline to place orders is Monday, 1st June** and the estimated delivery to school would be the week beginning 15 June.*

These items will make lovely keepsakes to remember this milestone year in our school's history.

Other Notices

Chorister Recruitment Brochure



A MESSAGE FROM THE BISHOP OF COVENTRY:

For a child or young person who loves to sing, being a chorister has to be one of the greatest possible experiences. Having grown up singing and continuing to sing in a cathedral choir to this day, I can only commend this opportunity which could be life changing for your child. By singing in a cathedral choir, they not only receive world class musical training, they also learn important life skills such as working together with others and taking responsibility as well as growing their leadership potential from the youngest possible age. We do our very best to make sure our choristers are nurtured to flourish every step of the way.

If your child loves to sing, please do consider the opportunity that becoming a chorister at Coventry Cathedral represents. It may be the thing that brings them joy not just for today but for their life ahead.

In case you are concerned about whether you have to be 'religious' or support this aspect of cathedral life, we do want to ensure you that this opportunity is open to all, whatever background, as long as you are concerned about the values of the cathedral.

**With every blessing,
+Sophie Coventry**

CHORISTER OPEN EVENING

Venue: Coventry Cathedral
Who can attend?
Open to Boys & Girls in current school Years 2-6
Date: Tuesday 19th May, 16:30-18:30

- Open to all children considering auditioning for the cathedral choir
- Meet and sing with the cathedral choristers in a cathedral service
- Have a tour of the cathedral, and experience the cathedral organ close up
- Parents will hear their children singing in the cathedral choir, meet with current parents & meet the Director of Music

BOYS SCHEDULE

- Mondays: 16:20 - 17:20
- Wednesday: 16:20 - 18:05
- Sundays: 09:00 - 12:30 or 14:15 - 17:00 (alternate between AM and PM)

GIRLS SCHEDULE

- Mondays: 17:30 - 18:30
- Thursdays: 16:20 - 18:05
- Sundays: 09:00 - 12:30 or 14:15 - 17:00 (alternate between AM and PM)

We welcome applications from children of all backgrounds, schools, and faiths.

BENEFITS OF BEING A CHORISTER

- The boys and girls receive musical tuition several times a week from specialist cathedral music staff
- There are no costs payable to the cathedral for this tremendous musical training
- Choristers also receive vocal coaching lessons from the cathedral's specialist vocal coach free of charge
- Make friends for life!

Sign Up!

Scan the QR code to sign up for this event or click the link:
tinyurl.com/choristeropenevening

SCAN ME



TESTIMONIALS

"It's been transformative for our Son."
Parent of Year 9 Chorister

"Joining the choir has given our daughter confidence we never expected. She now stands tall, sings proudly. The musical training has been outstanding, and she's made friends for life." - Parent of Year 5 Chorister

"Our son loves every minute of it—and so do we. Being in the Choir Parents Association is very rewarding—we have great fun fundraising and knowing it supports the choristers makes it even better." - Parent of Year 4 Chorister

"Before I joined, I didn't know how to read music. Now I can sing harmony, and I'm even more confident at school." - Year 6 Chorister

Going on choir tours and singing in different places is the best part. And we always get biscuits after rehearsals!" - Year 10 Chorister

TRIPS & CONCERTS PAST AND PRESENT

- Malta October Half term 2026
- Derby Cathedral January 2026
- Christmas Concert 2025
- BBC CWR Carol Concert (broadcast on the radio)
- Germany 2025
- London 2025

ANY QUESTIONS, PLEASE GET IN TOUCH

Music.Administrator@CoventryCathedral.org.uk
www.coventrycathedral.org.uk

  CoventryCathedralMusic

BECOME A CHORISTER!



Clothing Coventry

As part of our fundraising drive to try and make sure our charity can keep running and support the Coventry based families in Clothing Poverty, we are running a Big Clothing Sale tomorrow, Saturday 9th May, from Queens Road Baptist Church (which is the venue we use for our Big Uniform Pop Up during the summer).

The Event is running 11am - 3pm and we have lots of lovely party wear, summer dresses, formal wear, prom dresses and vintage clothing.

Prices start from £5 per item, and payments can be made via cash or card.

CLOTHING COVENTRY
PRESENTS

THE BIG CLOTHING SALE

Party wear
Prom Dresses
Formal Wear
Vintage Clothes
Summer Dresses

MAY 9 | 11AM - 3PM

QUEENS ROAD BAPTIST CHURCH, GROSVENOR ROAD
COVENTRY CV1 3FE
(Near Central 6, what3words ///fear.snacks.drop)

CASH & CARD PAYMENTS
ACCEPTED

Parents' Guide: Growing Up with Phones and Taking Photos

Parents' Guide: Growing Up with Phones and Taking Photos

Many children do not realise that photos they take, even if never shared, can be automatically stored online.



Most smartphones can automatically save photos online if backup is switched on and the phone has Wi-Fi or mobile data.

This means:

- Photos can be uploaded as soon as they are taken
- They are no longer just on the phone
- They can stay online even if deleted from the device
- If someone gets into the account, they can see and download these images.

Avoid taking images you would not want shared.



A trusted resource that supports open, honest conversations between parents and children about sensitive topics and how to stay safe.



scan the QR code with your phone's camera for Parent Guides on how to help keep your children safe online



Online safety is when young people know who they can tell if they feel upset by something that has happened online.

SHOULD I KEEP MY CHILD OFF SCHOOL

Please see below NHS guidance

Should I keep my child off school?



Yes

Until...

Chickenpox	at least 5 days from the onset of the rash and until all blisters have crusted over
Diarrhoea and Vomiting	48 hours after their last episode
Cold and Flu-like illness (including COVID-19)	they no longer have a high temperature and feel well enough to attend. Follow the national guidance if they've tested positive for COVID-19.
Impetigo	their sores have crusted and healed, or 48 hours after they started antibiotics
Measles	4 days after the rash first appeared
Mumps	5 days after the swelling started
Scabies	they've had their first treatment
Scarlet Fever	24 hours after they started taking antibiotics
Whooping Cough	48 hours after they started taking antibiotics

No

but make sure you let their school or nursery know about...

Hand, foot and mouth	Glandular fever
Head lice	Tonsillitis
Threadworms	Slapped cheek



SCAN ME

Advice and guidance

To find out more, search for health protection in schools or scan the QR code or visit <https://qrco.de/minfec>.

FREE NETBALL TASTER DAY

**ALVIS
NETBALL
SECTION**



FREE NETBALL TASTER DAY

AGE GROUP

YEAR 5-10*

LOCATION

**KENILWORTH
SCHOOL
CV8 2AL**

DATE & TIME

**6TH JUNE 2026
10AM - 12PM**

**JOIN US FOR FUN TRAINING, SKILLS AND DRILLS,
MINI GAMES AND AN OPPORTUNITY TO TALK TO
THE COACHES AND OTHER CLUB MEMBERS**



**FOR MORE INFO CONTACT ELISE (JUNIOR
COACH) ON 07361 215249**

***YEAR 8+ SCHOOL NETBALL EXPERIENCE REQUIRED**

SPORTS NEWS

May Sports Holiday Camp

To book please scan the QR code below or complete the booking form [here](#). If you are having issues please email admin@sportsdevelopmentukltd.co.uk



MULTI SPORTS & ACTIVITY FUN DAYS
Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday
26th - 28th May

Year 1 - 6 09:30-15:00

****Wraparound available 08:45-15:30****

[BOOK NOW](#)

St Thomas More Catholic Primary
School, Knoll Drive, Coventry, CV3 5DE

<https://forms.cloud.microsoft/r/hhhkc1MXcM>

 admin@sportdevelopmentukltd.co.uk

Parent Teacher and Friends Association (PTFA)

UPCOMING EVENT

DROP OFF: COMMUNITY ROOM
PICK UP: STUDIO DOORS

£3 PER CHILD
CASH & CARD PAYMENT

STM PTFA PRESENTS:

SCHOOL DISCO

WITH  @RAFFERTY_DJ

PRE-LOVED UNIFORM SALE

POCKET MONEY TREATS

FRIDAY 15TH MAY 2026

DISCO 1: 17:15-18:15 - NURSERY, RECEPTION, YEAR 1 & YEAR 2

DISCO 2: 18:30-19:30 - YEAR 3, YEAR 4, YEAR 5 & YEAR 6

PLEASE NOTE: NO PHONES / DEVICES ALLOWED

ALL CHILDREN TO BE SIGNED IN & COLLECTED BY AN ADULT
NURSERY & RECEPTION PARENTS MUST STAY



St Thomas More
Catholic School

Bag 2 School

Donation Dates:

Monday 8th June to Wednesday 10th June

Collection Date:

Thursday 11th June

Donate your pre loved clothes,
shoes and accessories to raise
funds for the PTFA!

The more we collect, the more we raise.

Drop off point:
School Office

**2 House
Points for
each bag**



Clothes



Paired shoes



Handbags



Hats



Bags



Scarves and ties



Bras



Jewellery



Socks



Belts





ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

DATE



6th July 2026

VENUE



STM / MST

TIME



18:30 - 20:00

ALL WELCOME



For up to date information please scan the QR code to join the PTFA WhatsApp



If you would like to contact the PTFA directly please email: STM-PTFA@hccmac.co.uk

If you haven't signed up to the PTFA lottery please use the QR code to follow the steps to sign up. You have the chance to win the first prize of £50!!

Congratulations to the April Lotto Draw Winners

1st Place No. 16 Christopher McNally

2nd Place No. 86 Natasha Hindmarsh

3rd Place No. 55 Quinita Colaco

FOR FULL DETAILS & TO SIGN UP SCAN THE QR CODE OR GO TO: <https://forms.gle/Huw9CCvrlqzq5k47>
ANY QUERIES PLEASE EMAIL: stm-ptfa@hccmac.co.uk

	<p>£1 month 11 draws a year Sept-July Allocated number No number limit Must be aged 16+</p>		<p>WINNER</p> <p>1st prize £50 2nd prize £10 3rd prize £5 Amazon e-Gift Voucher</p>
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ATTENDANCE IS IMPORTANT!

As the summer months approach please remember that term time holidays will not be authorised and fines issued. Whilst we know how important holidays are we are very aware of the missed learning children experience. We aim to achieve 95% or more each year. We monitor all pupils' attendance and will contact you (often by letter and text message) if their attendance is getting lower than we'd expect or your child has had low attendance in the past. Please don't be offended - we have a duty to keep you informed of things that can affect your child's progress and/or wellbeing.

*Please remember that **term-time holidays will not be authorised** and, in many cases, will result in a Fixed Penalty Notice (fine) being issued.*

Whole school attendance so far this year is 95.28%

Attendance this week is as follows:

- Year Reception - 98.75%
 - Year 1 - 98.33%
 - Year 2 - 95%
 - Year 3 - 96.09%
 - Year 4 - 96.88%
 - Year 5 - 95.78%
 - Year 6 - 98.57%
-

IMPORTANT DATES

MAY

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- *Monday 11th- Friday 15th May Year 6 SATs week.*
 - ***Thursday 14th May- Ascension Day- Holy Day of Obligation - Mass at 9:15***
 - *Friday 15th - PTFA 'End of SATS' School Disco*
 - *Sunday 17th May 9am First Holy Communion*
 - *Monday 18th - 22nd May Walk to School Week*
 - *Tuesday 19th May 10:30am in Church- Marian Procession*
 - *Friday 22nd May- PTFA Tuck Shop*
 - ***Mon 25 to Fri 29 - Half Term Break***
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JUNE

- *Sunday 7th June- STM's Open Gardens 12-3pm*
- *Monday 8th June to Wednesday 10th June - Bag 2 School donation.*
- *Friday 12th June- Feast of Sacred Heart- Adoration in church at 10:30am followed by Corpus Christie Procession and then Benediction in school grounds. Children from **Year 3** are invited to wear their First Holy Communion clothes and will lead the procession.*
 - *Sunday 14th June- Children's Mile*
- *Tuesday 23rd June 10:30 75th Anniversary Mass followed by picnic*
- *Tuesday 23rd June Saint Thomas More 'Festival' 3:30-5:30pm*
- *Thursday 25th June Open Evening 5:30pm for children's families joining Nursery and Reception in September 2026.*

- *Friday 26th June Sport's Day Afternoon (all classes in the afternoon) followed by The Colour Run at the end of the day.*
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JULY

- *Wednesday 1st July- Transition Day*
 - *Thursday 2nd July 75th Anniversary STM's Got Talent- more info to follow*
 - *Fri 03 July- INSET DAY (School closed for students)*
 - *Friday 17th July Leavers Mass 9:15am*
 - *Mon 20 Jul - INSET DAY (School closed for students)*
-