



MORE NEWS 16th OCTOBER 2026



SAINT THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

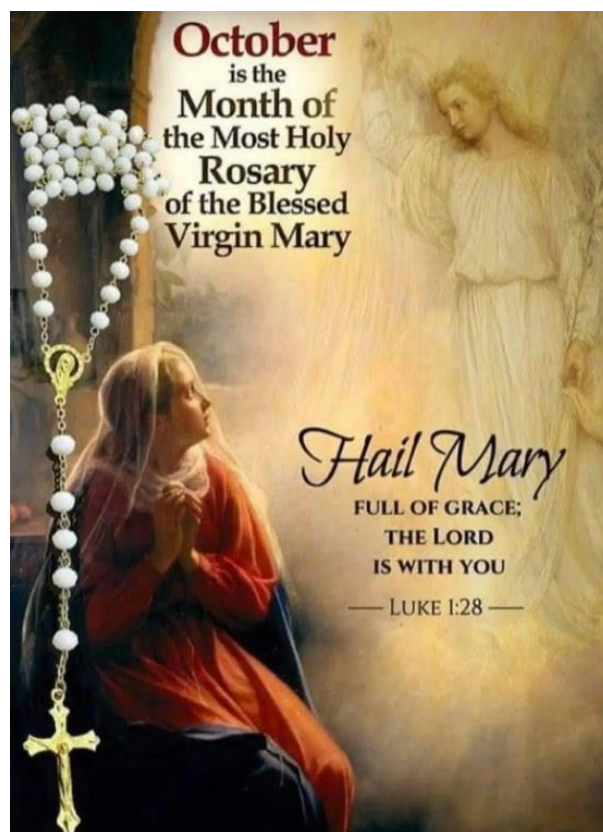
Celebration of the Word - The Kingdom of God



In Monday's celebration of the word we listened to another parable from Jesus and how God was likened to the King who invited people to come to his son's wedding. The invited guests did not go to the wedding and instead went on with their busy lives. So the King asked everyone and anyone. This is like God's invitation to us. We are all invited to follow his teachings, be kind, loving, forgiving, and enjoy His kingdom. However we know not all of us are ready- we need to make time for God in our lives by praying, reading his word from the bible, going to church. Can we show we are ready by trying to be one kind act of kindness a day.



October - The month of the Holy Rosary



It has been so lovely seeing children walk around with their Rosary beads this week and seeing them pray a decade together in the prayer garden at break time or in the playground/ forest school- being still in this wonderful creation God has entrusted to us.

October is the month of the Holy Rosary, and we invite all our children and families to take part in the Rosary Challenge 2026 i.e. to pray a decade of the Rosary daily from Monday to Friday during this month . This is a lovely opportunity to pray along with Mother Mary, grow closer to Jesus and make time for prayer each day. Children can use the [Rosary Challenge Record Sheet](#) to keep track of their progress throughout the month. Let us come together in prayer and grow in faith as a school community.

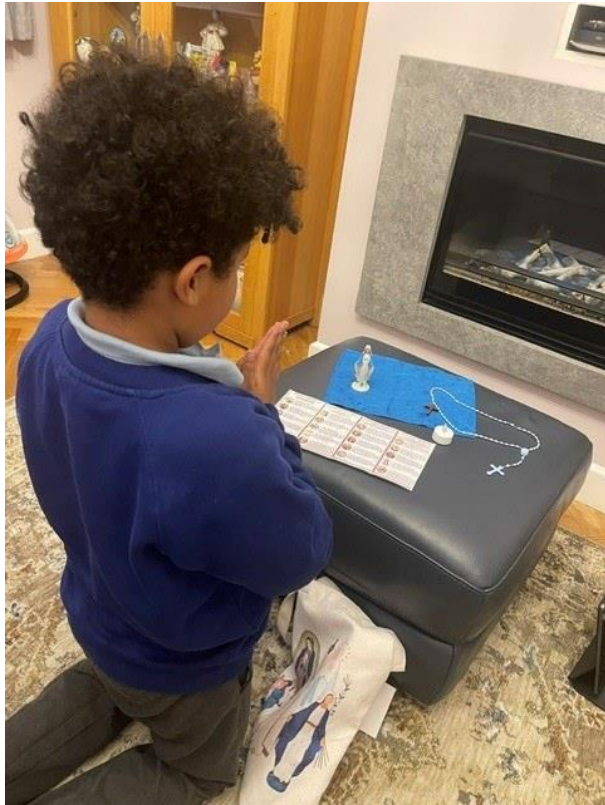
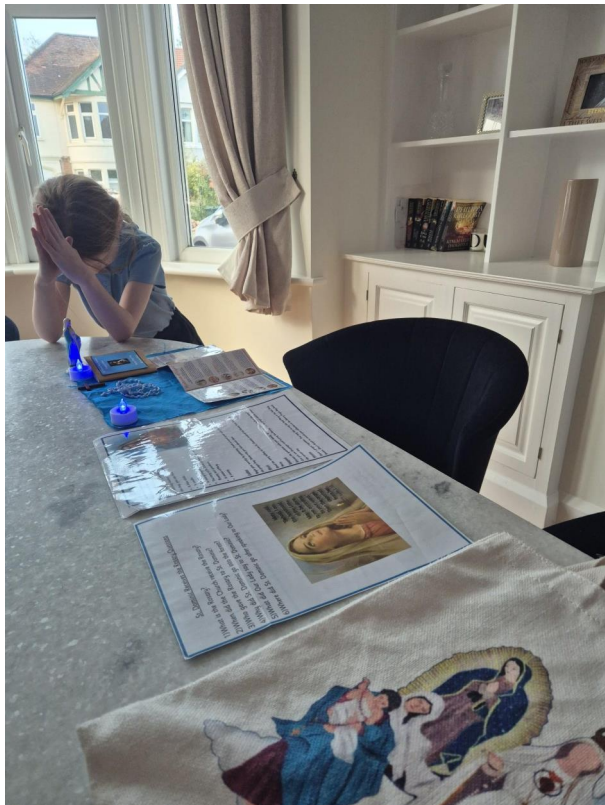
We would love any photos of shared experiences at home whilst using the prayer bags (without any faces) so we can share in the newsletter or display in the prayer room.

This week we have focussed on the Glorious mysteries.

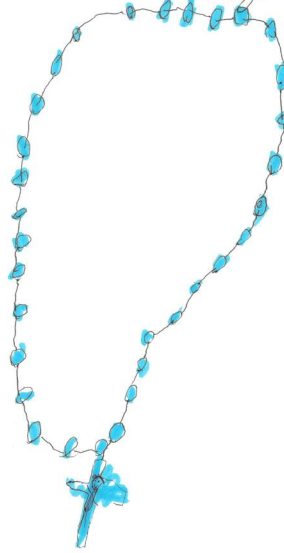
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- 1. The Resurrection*
 - 2. The Ascension*
 - 3. The Coming of the Holy Spirit*
 - 4. The Assumption of Mary*
 - 5. The Crowning of Mary*
-

Next week we will be praying the Sorrowful Mysteries; The Agony in the Garden, The scourging at the Pillar, The crowning with Thorns, The Carrying of the Cross and The Crucifixion.





This is the way to remember our
special lady by saying the wonderful
prayer she wrote the hail mary.



by Emmie mcgrane



THE ROSARY CHALLENGE

RECORD SHEET

The Rosary Challenge is to pray a decade of the Holy Rosary, each weekday in October.

SCAN ME



JOYFUL MYSTERIES

☐ THE ANNUNCIATION
 ☐ THE VISITATION
 ☐ THE NATIVITY
 ☐ THE PRESENTATION
 ☐ FINDING IN THE TEMPLE

GLORIOUS MYSTERIES

☐ THE RESURRECTION
 ☐ THE ASCENSION
 ☐ DESCENT OF THE HOLY SPIRIT
 ☐ ASSUMPTION OF MARY
 ☐ CROWNING OF MARY

SORROWFUL MYSTERIES

☐ AGONY IN THE GARDEN
 ☐ SCOURGING AT THE PILLAR
 ☐ CROWNING WITH THORNS
 ☐ CARRYING OF THE CROSS
 ☐ THE CRUCIFIXION

LUMINOUS MYSTERIES

☐ BAPTISM IN THE JORDAN
 ☐ WEDDING AT CANA
 ☐ PREACHING OF THE KINGDOM
 ☐ THE TRANSFIGURATION
 ☐ INSTITUTION OF THE EUCHARIST

Father Simon's 10th Anniversary Mass- Saturday 17th October 12noon

*As I am sure you are all aware we are extremely blessed to have Father Simon as our Parish Priest. He is a regular visitor in school and takes the children for hymn practice. A mass of thanksgiving will be offered by Father Simon on **Saturday 17th October at 12 noon** to celebrate the 10th anniversary since his ordination to the Sacred Priesthood. (His actual anniversary was 16th July and classes made cards for Father Simon). After the mass refreshments will be served in the school hall. **It would be lovely to see our school community represented in thanksgiving for all Father Simons brings to STM.***

Parent/ Carer Consultations- Have you booked your slot?

Parent/carers consultations will take place in the hall on:

Tuesday 03rd November 2026 from 3:40pm - 5:40pm

Thursday 05th November 2026 from 3:40pm - 5:40pm

The focus of these consultations is to discuss how your child has settled in to their school year so far and to consider how best to support your child in moving forward in their learning. Consultations will be limited to 10 minutes and will be with your child's class teacher.

If your child is in the SEND register, you will be requested to book in separately. Please do not book in at these evenings.

To book an appointment with your child's class teacher, please do so via the Arbor App.

Academisation Development Consultation

*HCCMAC is currently consulting parents, carers, parishes and communities as part of the proposed next phase of the development of St Raphael the Archangel Catholic Multi-Academy Trust. The proposal is for Pope Francis CMAC, Holy Cross CMAC, Romero Catholic Academy and eleven Voluntary Aided schools to join St Raphael the Archangel on 1 September 2027. The consultation runs until **Friday 16 October 2026**, and further information about the proposal and how to submit comments can be found on [our website](#).*

Loving and Compassionate

Our virtues this half term are 'loving and compassionate'. These are appropriate for the beginning of the school year when we review our school mission and school rules. We know we need to love one another and we show this by being safe in school, being kind, caring, helpful. Many children have been showing their love for others by the way they have been playing and talking to one another.

I asked staff to nominate anyone who has been particularly loving and compassionate this week.

Y2- Séa kindly gave Theo some of his Rosary beads as Theo didn't have any of his own.

Y3- Leon has been very kind to his peers but has made Miss Dixon's week, by the lovely artwork he has been making for her.



A word cloud in the shape of a cross, featuring various adjectives in different colors. The words are arranged in a cross shape, with 'loving' at the top, 'truthful' at the bottom, 'faith-filled' on the left, and 'hopeful' on the right. The central word is 'prophetic'. Other words include 'attentive', 'generous', 'eloquent', 'intentional', 'learned', 'wise', 'grateful', 'discerning', 'compassionate', and 'active'.

Word	Color
loving	Green
hopeful	Purple
attentive	Red
faith-filled	Blue
generous	Green
eloquent	Orange
intentional	Yellow
learned	Green
prophetic	Yellow
wise	Blue
grateful	Green
discerning	Red
compassionate	Green
active	Blue
truthful	Orange

Catholic Social Teaching- Stewardship



Stewardship

To link with the beautiful Season of Creation in the Church's year, this half term we will be focusing on how we can be good stewards. A steward is someone who takes care of something that has been entrusted to them. As stewards of God's creation, we are all called

to think carefully about how our actions affect the world around us. By making thoughtful choices and caring for our environment, we can help to protect and cherish the beautiful world that God created for us to share and enjoy.

We would love for you to share some actions you are making to demonstrate how you are being excellent Stewards. (We will only be able to publish photos that do not show faces but can share others in assemblies).

Year 3** this week in RE have really thought about actions they can take and the impact they would have in helping look after God's creation such as recycling, making sure litter is put in the bin so animals are kept safe and the environment looks how God intended, growing and watering plants to help ecosystems. **Well done Year 3!

Sustainability News

*A warm welcome back to our **Sustainability Team in KS2** and to our newest members in year 3. This is the name now given to our Eco Team.*

Children from yr3 -6 with a keen interest in looking after the environment volunteer to meet up at lunchtimes on a regular basis to work out ways we can do this, from litter picking, encouraging "reduce, reuse recycle" to gardening.

They also have termly opportunities to meet other Sustainability Team members from across the MAC to share ideas, take part in workshops and celebrate their achievements.

Last term we focused on preparing part of our school allotment area and started to grow some vegetables and flowers, with mixed results. However despite the challenging growing conditions over the Summer Term the

Team are enthusiastic to grow even more this year!

This week we harvested our pumpkin and planted out some sweet William seedlings and would love to pot on and plant out more .

If you would like to support our team we would be very grateful for any donations of ... compost ! Even partially used bags would be very much appreciated thank you !



Parish Mass Times

Year 4 will attend 10am Parish mass on Thursday 22nd October. All are very welcome to attend.

A reminder weekend Mass times are:

Saturday

5:00pm - Vigil Saint Thomas More

Sunday

9:00am - Saint Thomas More (includes Little Church)

11:00am - Saint Joseph the Worker

Little Church- Sunday 9am- This is the Liturgy of the Word with children, offering them the opportunity to listen and respond to the Sunday Gospel at an age appropriate level. The Children and a Prayer Leader are called forward at the beginning of Mass and process to their sacred space where the scriptures are explored through reflection, discussion, song and other appropriate activities. An adult may accompany a very young child until they are settled. All return to Mass at the Procession of Gifts for the Liturgy of the Eucharist.



Year 6 Confirmation

CONFIRMATION ENROLMENT FORMS

The Mass of Enrolment with Act of Commitment will take place this **Sunday 18th October at 9.00am.**

Dates for the Saturday Sacramental Preparations are as follows;

Sunday 18th October 9am Sunday Mass of Commitment

Saturday 14th November 4pm Session 2

Saturday 5th December 4pm Session 3

Saturday 9th January 4pm Session 4

Saturday 27th February 4pm Session 5, 5pm Vigil Mass followed by rehearsal with sponsors

Thursday 4th March 7pm Confirmation

Community Day- Autumnal Demolish and Build!

*Following the wonderful success of our Community Days last year, we are delighted to invite families, friends and members of our wider community to our first Community Day of the academic year on **Sunday 8th November, from 10.00am to 3.00pm.***

*This year's theme is "**Demolish and Build**", as we work together to create exciting new opportunities for our children. We plan to build a dedicated storage unit for construction materials, enabling our older pupils to enjoy more hands-on building and design experiences. We will also be demolishing several old sheds to make way for a brand-new replacement shed, generously purchased and donated by a kind anonymous benefactor.*

In addition, we hope to continue developing our Forest School area by creating new planting beds and enhancing this valuable outdoor learning space.

Whether you can spare an hour or stay for the whole day, your support would make a tremendous difference. Community Days are always a wonderful opportunity to work together, meet other families, and help improve our school environment for all of our children. We would be delighted to see as many volunteers as possible join us.

Calling All Diwali Celebrators!

After half term, we will be learning about Diwali and how it is celebrated by people around the world. Throughout the week, children across the school will explore the festival in a variety of ways, including listening to traditional stories, creating colourful rangoli patterns, and learning about the importance of light overcoming darkness.

We would love to hear from any parents or family members who celebrate Diwali and would be willing to come into school to share their experiences, traditions, or stories with our children. If you think you may be able to help, please let us know. We would be delighted to hear from you.





Sports News

-
-  **St Thomas More 3–3 Christ the King**
-

A hard-fought draw against very tough opponents, with the boys battling their hardest to earn a deserved point. Joseph opened the scoring before Oryn doubled our lead. Arty then converted a penalty to put us 3–0 ahead! Credit to Christ the King for a fantastic comeback

to level the score at 3–3. The boys showed great determination throughout. Plenty of positives to take forward! 🤝❤️

 **Player of the Match: Arty** — well done for a great performance and a crucial penalty!

No Room for Racism Workshop – CBS Arena

On Monday, our pupils had a fantastic opportunity to attend a 'No Room for Racism' workshop at the CBS Arena.

Throughout the day, pupils took part in four engaging activities focused on inclusion, diversity and tackling racism. The sessions encouraged everyone to reflect, share ideas and understand the importance of respecting differences, celebrating diversity and ensuring sport is a welcoming environment for all.

The day was rounded off with a fantastic behind-the-scenes tour of the stadium, giving pupils a unique insight into the home of Coventry City Football Club! 🏟️

A brilliant and valuable experience for everyone involved, helping our pupils understand that sport is for everyone and that we all have a responsibility to stand against discrimination. 🤝❤️

School Holiday Fun Days - 27th to 29th October



Parent Teacher and Friends Association (PTFA)

The PTFA held their AGM meeting on Monday evening. A huge thank you to those who attended especially some new faces.

The committee were elected and we would like to pass on our congratulations to the following and wish them our support and best wishes in their new or repeated roles helping to serve the community of STM.

Chair: Michelle Walker, (Jack's mum Y2)

Treasurer: Laura Donvegan (Max Y6, Cara and Evie's mum Y3)

Vice Treasurer: Michell MacNally (Caitlyn's mum in Y3)

Secretary: Charlotte Davies (Felicity's mum Y3)

*We pass on a HUGE STM thank you to **Nicola Attridge** and **Martina McConville** as they attended their final PTFA meeting after many, many years of being active members and holding committee roles. They have really made a difference to all the children at STM.*

Thank you.

STM PTFA Lotto

*If you haven't already signed up for the **STM PTFA Lotto 2026–27**, there's still time to join! For just **£1 per month**, you'll have the chance to win prizes while helping to raise valuable funds for our school.*

Sign up or renew your membership here:

<https://forms.gle/KZASWVGaDud9UeDm6>

You can also scan the QR code on the attached poster.

STM PTFA PRESENTS



**FOR FULL DETAILS & TO SIGN UP
SCAN / PRESS THE QR CODE**

**£1 month
11 draws a year
Sept-July
Allocated number
No number limit
Must be aged 16+**



**1st prize £50
2nd prize £10
3rd prize £5
Amazon e-Gift
Voucher**

**ANY QUERIES EMAIL
stm-ptfa@hccmac.co.uk**

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 16TH OCTOBER 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



STM PTA

Tuck Shop

Friday 23/10/2026
@ 15:20 on the playground



**BAG 2
SCHOOL**



**St Thomas More
Catholic School**

Bag 2 School

Donation Dates:

Mon 9th Nov to Wed 11th Nov

Collection Date:

Thursday 12th November

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



Other Notices

CALL OUT FOR VOLUNTEERS

We are looking for parents and grandparents who may be able to volunteer a little of their time to support our children with activities such as reading, times tables and spelling practice.

If you would be interested in helping, please contact the school office. Volunteers will be required to complete the necessary DBS checks before supporting children in school.

IMPORTANT SAFETY REMINDER

For the safety of all our children, Nursery and Reception pupils must be accompanied by a parent or carer to their respective drop-off points. Thank you for your cooperation and for helping us keep all our children safe.

After the October half term any Y6 child attending an after school club will not be allowed to walk home on their own as the evenings will be getting much darker. Thank you for your understanding.

AUTUMN ESSENTIALS: COATS AND WELLIES

As the autumnal weather creeps in please send your child to school with a named coat as we go outside in all weathers. We would also encourage children to bring their own pair of wellies into school so they will be able to go into our forest school and mud kitchen. Children without wellies will not be allowed to use these areas.

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

*A gentle reminder to all parents and carers that, in line with our school attendance policy, **evidence of medical or other appointments should be provided to the school office** when a child needs to leave school during the school day.*

*If you are planning a holiday during term time, please email the school office in advance, stating the dates your child will be absent, their expected return date and the reason for the request. Please remember that **term-time holidays will not be authorised** and, in many cases, will result in a Fixed Penalty Notice (fine) being issued.*

Thank you for your cooperation and support in ensuring good attendance at school.

Coventry Family Hubs Digital Offer Discovery Event

Come along to our FREE family event for a fun-packed session with activities for all ages.



Tuesday 27 October 1.30pm to 3.30pm

At The Salvation Army, Upper Well Street, Coventry, CV1 4AG

The Coventry Family Portal is your one-stop place to discover services, activities and support for families across Coventry.

From family relationships advice and health support to activities for children and young people, there's something for everyone.

Take part in our Digital Treasure Hunt!

- Explore the Coventry Family Portal, follow the clues and see what you can discover. Complete the treasure hunt for your chance to WIN a special prize!
- **Free to attend - no booking required.**

Fun and activities for children

- Under 5s activity area
- Create your own tote bag
- LEGO
- Pool table
- Football table
- Crafts for older children
- And much more!



Give Gaelic Football a Go!

Gaelic football is growing locally, with a local Gaelic football club, Four Masters GAA, working closely with Bishop Ullathorne School to help introduce more young people to this exciting sport.

As Gaelic football becomes an increasingly important part of life at Bishop Ullathorne, the club is keen to build a pathway for young people to get involved, develop their skills and continue playing beyond school. They would love to see pupils from St Thomas More School join in too!

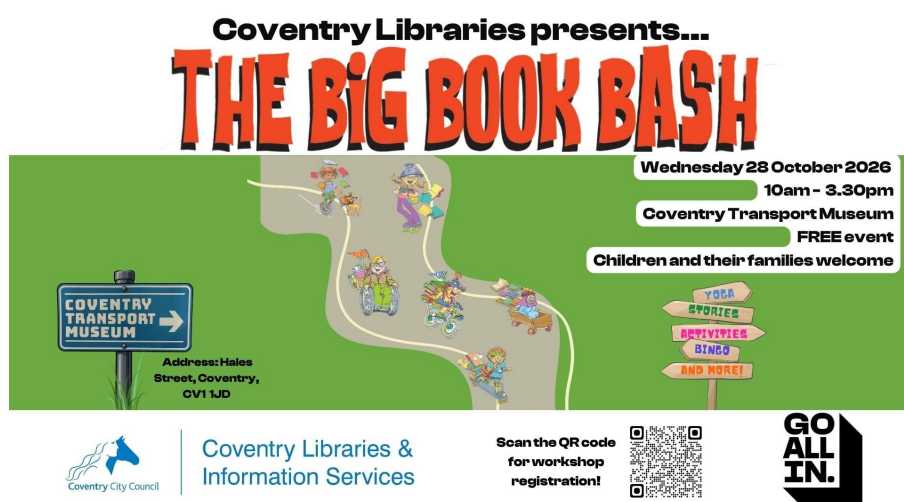
The club is an external organisation, with training sessions taking place at Finham Park Secondary School every Friday! Whether you have played before or are completely new to Gaelic football, everyone is welcome to come along, learn new skills, meet new people and enjoy trying something different.

The first session is FREE, so why not go along for a taster and see if you enjoy it?

*Please see the attached flyer for details of training times, locations and how to get involved.
It would be great to see some St Thomas More pupils giving Gaelic football a go!*



Coventry Libraries and Information Service



Baby week family events - save the date



Libraries will be attending the launch event for families on **Saturday 14 November, 11am to 2pm**, at **The Salvation Army, Upper Well Street, Coventry CV1 4AG** and will be taking along information encouraging families to join the library and participate in activities.

We will also be providing space for families to enjoy books, stories, and rhymes together. Do come and find us on the day!

Libraries have also been invited to host **Chat, Play, Read** sessions aimed at babies and toddlers. These are to take place at the following libraries during the week:

- **Aldermoor Library** – Tuesday 17 November, 10.30am to midday (rhymetime/stay and play is usually 10.30am to 11.30am)
- **Stoke Library** - Tuesday 17 November, 10.30am to midday (rhymetime/stay and play is usually 11am to midday)
- **Central Library** – Wednesday 18 November 10.30am to midday (rhymetime is usually at 11.30am)
- **Canley** - Friday 20 November. 10:30am to midday (rhymetime is usually at 11am)

1 - Families Hub <https://www.coventryfamilies.co.uk/>

ATTENDANCE IS IMPORTANT!

As you are aware attendance is crucial for your child to achieve their maximum potential. We aim to achieve 95% or more each year. It would be wonderful if we aim for each child was able to improve on last attendance by 1%. 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 96.31%.

Attendance this week is as follows:

-
- *Year Reception - 94.29%*
 - *Year 1 - 91.57%*
 - *Year 2 - 98.47%*
 - *Year 3 - 96.67%*
 - *Year 4 - 95.81%*
 - *Year 5 - 94.17%*
 - *Year 6 - 96.49%*
-

IMPORTANT DATES

October

- *Friday 16th October PTFA School Disco*
- *Saturday 17th October 12noon Mass of Thanksgiving for Fr Simon's 10th Anniversary*
- *Sunday 18th October 9am Mass of Commitment Year 6 Confirmandi*

- Thursday 22nd October 9am **Parent Tour** for prospective parents and carers.
 - Friday 23rd October PTFA Tuck Shop after school
 - **Half Term Break (26th to 30th October)**
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-

November

- **Tuesday 3rd November Parent/Carer Consultations 3:40-5:40pm**
 - Thursday 5th November 10am Mass of Remembrance Led by Y5
 - **Thursday 5th November Parent/Carer Consultations 3:40-5:40pm**
 - Sunday 8th November -Community Day 1- 10am-3pm All hands welcome.
 - Wednesday, 11th November - Individual and sibling photo session
 - Friday 13th November Parent. Carer Tour of school - please book place by contacting the school office
 - Saturday 14th November 4pm Session 2
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Please note an additional Teacher Training Day on **Friday 12th February** to enable all Holy Cross Staff to gather together.
