

26th June 2026

Saint Mary's RC Primary School Weekly Newsletter



Our week...

What a scorcher this week has been! The weather has dominated conversations of staff and pupils! We've carried on in our usual Saint Mary's style and we've still managed to achieve lots this week!

Rhinos and Quackers have both enjoyed school trips to Smithills Farm and Gulliver's World- even whilst hot the children have conducted themselves brilliantly!

We had Danny Hoyle in from LCC Road Safety speaking to KS2 children about the importance of wearing seatbelts for every trip they take- such an important message.

Some pupils attended an inter-school sporting event on Tuesday which included crown green bowling and a colour run!

Thankfully there was lots of shade and water!

Congratulations to Hanna and Nancy who have made the sacrament of Holy Communion!

Next Tuesday is Sports Day (weather permitting!). Meerkats, Ladybirds, Wallabies and Rhinos will take place at 9.30am and Wolf Cubs, Eagles, Dolphins, Quackers and Lobsters at 1.30pm. Please enter via the field gate on Hawthorn Avenue and please send hats and suncream for your child if the weather is sunny!

This month's worship newsletter for families:

This newsletter gives a great overview of what our school assemblies will cover this June and prayers for you to say together at home:

<https://www.tentenresources.co.uk/prayers-for-home/parent-newsletter/>

This week's Bible Scripture:

Matthew 16: 13-19

"You are Peter and I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven"



26th June 2026

Attendance

Meerkats- 96%
Ladybirds-92%
Wallabies-94%
Rhinos-93%
Wolf Cubs-94%
Eagles- 92%
Dolphins-94%
Quackers-89%
Lobsters- 96%
Whole School- 93%



Stars of the Week- for being ready by showing good self-belief

Meerkats- George
Ladybirds- Eliza
Wallabies- Jerry
Rhinos- Tymon
Wolf Cubs- Betsy
Eagles- Nancy
Dolphins- Isobel
Quackers- Ayan
Lobsters- Marcia



Team Points


Arrowsmith

4260

4825


Campion


Barlow

4345

4245


Southworth

26th June 2026

Wraparound Care

We now have full wrap around care led by Play and Learn Scheme.

Times are as follows:

- Breakfast Club 7.30am-8.35am £7 per day including breakfast
 - Breakfast Club 8am- 8.35am £4 per day including breakfast
 - Afterschool Club 3.15-5.30pm £11 per day including a snack
 - Afterschool Club 3.15-4.30pm £7 per day including a snack
 - Afterschool Club 4.30-5.30pm (if pupils have already been in a club e.g. choir and wish to join afterschool club after this) £7 per day including a snack
- To book, please click the link: <http://www.pals.schoolipal.co.uk/>

For any questions, please email playandlearnscheme@gmail.com or call 07930924993

Play and Learn Scheme have begun the running of the breakfast and after school club provision in school and this is going really well! Pupils who have attended this week have thoroughly enjoyed their sessions. Don't forget to register to use the service using the link so that you can book your child on at any time (more details below). If you are dropping pupils off at breakfast club or collecting from after school club please ring the black doorbell rather than the school doorbell.



School Uniform

At Saint Mary's we take pride in our appearance and know that first impressions count. We strive for all pupils to look smart and tidy when in school.

Our uniform policy can be found here:

Any pupil not wearing correct uniform will be asked to wear spare uniform from school until this can be rectified. Parents and carers will also be informed.



Safe Parking

Please respect that 260 children must enter and exit school safely each day. This partly relies upon everyone parking safely and with due regard for others, including our neighbours. Please do not park across drives or in restricted areas.

Please can we ask that the staff car park is kept clear for staff cars ONLY. Some parents/Carers are pulling into the entrance to the carpark, especially in a morning and this is preventing staff from parking and is causing traffic on Mayfield Avenue.

26th June 2026

**PE Days
1st June- 16th July**



**Meerkats- Thurs and Fri
Ladybirds- Wed and Thurs
Wallabies- Tues and Fri
Rhinos- Tues and Thurs
Wolf Cubs- Wed and Thurs
Eagles- Mon and Tues
Dolphins- Tues and Fri
Quackers- Mon and Fri
Lobsters-Friday (swimming)**

Upcoming Dates

30th June- Sports Day

**7th July- SATs results to
parents**

**8th July- Transition
Morning**

**13th July- Y6 Leaver's
Assembly 2pm**

**13th July- Reports sent
home**

**15th July- Leaver's Mass
in Church 2pm**

**THURSDAY 16th July-
School closes for
summer**

**THURSDAY 3rd Sept-
School Re-Opens**

Church News

Saturday Mass 6.30pm

Sunday Mass 10am

Baptisms by appointment

**If you have a child wishing
to make their First Holy
Communion please speak
to Father O'Brien**



10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators

CREATING FAMILY RULES FOR USING DEVICES

A set of family rules agreed on with children can promote the safe, responsible use of devices like tablets, smartphones, gaming consoles and computers. By developing rules around technology, it opens the conversation regarding boundaries and expectations, ensuring a healthy balance of screen time. This guide will help you to develop an age-appropriate family agreement to suit your household.

1 WORK TOGETHER

Collaborating with children when setting rules around the use of technology is a valuable task that can encourage them to take more ownership. It's important to make rules which reflect your family and are age appropriate. Think about what you all enjoy doing online and what apps, games or devices children use most frequently.

2 AGREE TIME LIMITS AND SUITABLE TIMES

Be realistic when setting screen time limits. These can vary depending on the child's age, whether it's a weekday or weekend, and what they're actually doing online. If they're conducting research for homework, that might require more time than if they were playing games. Consider when screen time begins: does it come after chores and homework? Agree times when technology and phones must be put away.

3 ENCOURAGE HONESTY

Family rules ensure that everyone can have fun with their devices and be safe while doing so. Nonetheless, children may make mistakes as they learn to navigate the online world. Emphasise that if they ever feel worried, unsafe or upset about something they've done, sent, said or received, they should tell you immediately so you can help them resolve the problem.

4 CHARGING AND OVERNIGHT STORAGE

To ensure children get the downtime they need overnight, it's important that devices – especially smartphones – are kept in a common space, where possible. This reduces the chance of pointless late-night scrolling or sleep being disturbed by calls, messages or notifications. There are charging boxes you can purchase, or all gadgets could be charged in the kitchen overnight to avoid distractions.

5 REVIEW RULES REGULARLY

Anything you agree on isn't set in stone. These rules will likely alter as children get older and the way they use technology changes. Take time to review these as a family; discuss what's working, and what isn't. Communication is key – so by doing this, you involve the child in their own online safety while promoting an open dialogue.

6 PROTECT PERSONAL INFO

Discuss and demonstrate the importance of protecting your personal information. Talk about what details you share online and who with. Use parental controls to block children from connecting with strangers, so that any information they do share is among their real friends. Ask a child's permission before posting any photos of them on social media, as this demonstrates positive online behaviour that they should learn and remember.

7 BE RESPECTFUL

Highlight the importance of showing respect to others when using technology. Encourage children to speak kindly to others online – such as on social media, when playing multiplayer games or in group chats (which can often lead themselves to teasing behaviour). Explain that if they aren't treating others considerately, they might be made to stay away from their devices for a while.

8 "NO TECH" ZONES

Designating spaces in the house where technology isn't allowed (for example: bedrooms, bathrooms and at the dinner table) lets you keep an eye on what children are viewing and who they're communicating with. It gives you some quality, screen-free time with them, too. It also helps reduce any impulses to potentially engage with inappropriate content, as they're unlikely to do so in a common space within the home.

9 AGREE ON CONSEQUENCES

As a family, discuss why the rules are important: to balance their screen time, to ensure everyone enjoys gaming or interacting online, and that they are safe when doing so. Therefore, if these rules are broken, there has to be a consequence. Discuss what would be fair for certain breaches of the rules, as this can prevent a disproportionate response in the future.

10 KNOW ALL PASSWORDS

To protect children from inappropriate content, parents should have access to all passwords. Parents should also make it clear that they will check children's devices, should they have any concerns about their use. Emphasise that this isn't due to a lack of trust but is an extra way of keeping them safe.

Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant at BCyberAware. She has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety workshops and policies for schools in Australia and the UK. Claire has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian government comparing internet use and sexting behaviours of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.



#WakeUpWednesday®

The National College®

Source: See full reference list on guide page at: nationalcollege.com/guides/tips-for-creating-family-rules-for-using-devices

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BOOK YOUR CHILD'S

HOLIDAY CAMP

ages 4-12
years old

PROGRESSIVE
HOLIDAY
CAMPS

BOOK NOW

ARCHERY | DODGEBALL | NERF | FOOTBALL | CRAZY GOLF |
TENNIS | THEMED ACTIVITIES | CRAFTS + MUCH MORE...



VENUES ACROSS LANCASHIRE
21st July - 20th Aug | 7:30am - 6:00pm



We love, learn and grow together with Jesus

HOLIDAY LIST 2025/2026

AUTUMN TERM 2025

Re-open	Wednesday 3 rd September 2025
Closure after school on	Friday 24 th October 2025
Mid –term closure	Monday 27 th October- Friday 31 st October
Closure after school on	Friday 19 th December 2025

OPENINGS 73

SPRING TERM 2026

Re-open	Monday 5 th January 2026
Closure after school on	Thursday 12 th February 2026
Mid-term closure	Friday 13 th February – Friday 20 th February
Closure after school	Friday 27 th March 2026

OPENINGS 54

SUMMER TERM 2026

Re-open	Monday 13 th April 2026
May Day closure	Monday 4 th May 2026
Closure after school on	Friday 22 nd May 2026
Mid-term closure	Monday 25 th May – Friday 29 th May
Closure after school on	Thursday 16 th July 2026

OPENINGS 63

Total openings 190