

3rd July 2026

Saint Mary's RC Primary School Weekly Newsletter



Our week...

We've had another great week in school which has been much more comfortable and cooler than last week! Finally we managed to get sports day done for both key stages! This was a wonderful day and was lovely to see lots of happy, smiling faces on our pupils. A huge thank you to Miss Woodcock for arranging all our activities!

We have once again been awarded the Green Flag Award with distinction! This is a result of brilliant work which takes place from everyone across school helping to reduce food waste, be more energy efficient and recycle more. Thank you to Mrs Fenn who puts together all our evidence. We are really proud of our eco status as a school and know this is such an important area for our pupils.

You will have seen a letter go home regarding allergies and anaphylaxis as a result of updates in government guidance. Please read this really carefully and complete the form for your child if necessary.

On Monday 6th July we are holding our book swap! Bring a book, wrapped up, and swap with someone else! Don't judge a book by its cover!

This month's worship newsletter for families:

This newsletter gives a great overview of what our school assemblies will cover this July 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 11: 25-30
**"I am gentle and
lowly in heart"**



3rd July 2026

Attendance

Meerkats-94%
Ladybirds-90%
Wallabies- 92%
Rhinos-97%
Wolf Cubs-99%
Eagles- 97%
Dolphins-99%
Quackers-93%
Lobsters- 97%
Whole School- 96%



Stars of the Week- for being respectful by looking after school property

Meerkats- Anthony
Ladybirds- Eligha
Wallabies- Ayesha
Rhinos-Isabella M
Wolf Cubs- Hallie
Eagles- Sean
Dolphins- Hallie
Quackers-Fariha
Lobsters- Maya



Team Points



Arrowsmith

5390

5010



Campion



Barlow

4990

4955



Southworth

3rd July 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.

3rd July 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

**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**



Top Tips for SETTING BOUNDARIES AROUND GAMING

If your child loves video games, then you'll probably be aware that how long they spend gaming – and what they're actually playing – can occasionally become a source of concern or conflict. The UK's trade body for interactive entertainment, Ukie, has recently launched a campaign to promote safer and more responsible gaming among young people – with parents and carers helping by setting sensible and fair boundaries. Our guide has tips on key areas where you could agree some healthy ground rules for your child's gaming activity.

PROMOTE SAFER GAME CHOICES

Deciding which online games are OK – and which should be avoided – is tricky. Some titles allow children to cooperate or compete with strangers, which creates potential risks. Watching your child play online for a while could provide more insight into a particular game, while the parental controls on most consoles allow you to limit who can chat to your child or send them friend requests. Remind your child of the hazards around strangers online when you discuss this boundary with them.

ENCOURAGE REGULAR BREAKS

Help your child understand the need to take regular breaks, playing in shorter bursts rather than marathon sessions. Bear in mind that some games (such as role-playing games) require time investment from the player, while others (online team games, for example) can't be stopped or paused at a moment's notice. A quick break every hour or so is good practice, and you could suggest some things to do in these breaks, such as having a drink of water or getting some fresh air.

AGREE SPENDING LIMITS

There's no doubt that gaming can be expensive, and younger players often don't realise how much paying for digital items and subscriptions can add up to. Many young gamers love to buy new skins or upgrades for their character, so you could settle on a fixed amount that your child is allowed to spend on in-game items each week or month. This sort of boundary will not only help your child to manage their expectations but will also make you more aware of the price of these items.

DISCUSS AGE RATINGS

Children often ignore the age ratings on games – or are unaware they even exist. If you're happy with your child playing a particular game even though it's rated above their age, then establish that as a boundary: emphasise that you've made an exception, and talk about what age ratings mean and why they're important. You could add context to this boundary by browsing games' boxes together while shopping, discussing why some games might have earned certain age ratings.

FACTOR IN FRIENDS

If your child is a keen video gamer, the chances are that they'll have other gamers among their social circle, too. When friends visit, do they instantly dash to their console or computer? You could put boundaries in place before their guests arrive by agreeing on a length of gaming time. Bear in mind, though, that they may try to extend this once they're together. Try coming up with activities or challenges for them during screen breaks – if they join in, they earn a little extra time on their game.

ENJOY GAMING TOGETHER

Setting time aside to play video games together can be an enjoyable bonding exercise. Undeniably, some young gamers may be less enthusiastic about a parent or carer joining in, but it can be a productive way of encouraging them to share their hobby with you. Setting goals or tasks might be useful: if they love Minecraft, choose something to build together; if Fortnite's their favourite, ask to try out some of the fun game modes, like Prop Hunt, which don't require high skill levels.

TALK ABOUT EMOTIONS

Help your child to monitor their emotions as they play. Discuss what is (and isn't) an acceptable level of competitiveness to show while gaming. Are they allowed to trash talk other players, for example? Can they notice when they get angry if they lose? Do they think these emotions are healthy? Some games can provoke anger, but others can bring joy, humour and the thrill of overcoming a challenge. Try to steer your child towards games that tend to produce these more positive feelings.

BE PREPARED FOR TROLLS

A frequent problem when gaming online is other players who are deliberately troublesome. Make sure your child knows how to report and block someone who makes their experience a negative one. Between you, decide if or how they should deal with these online trolls. Talk about where your child's boundaries are in terms of what they think is acceptable: what behaviour by other users is merely frustrating, and what crosses the line to become upsetting or abusive.

Meet Our Expert

Daniel Upscombe is a writer specialising in technology, video gaming, virtual reality and Web3. He has also written 15 guidebooks for children, covering games such as Fortnite, Apex Legends, Valorant, Roblox and Minecraft. With work published by the likes of PC Gamer, Kotaku, Pocket Gamer and VG247, he has reviewed more than 50 games and products over the past year.



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#WakeUpWednesday



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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