



ST GEORGE AND ST MARTIN CATHOLIC ACADEMY



Weekly Newsletter – w.e. 12.01.24

Class Attendance this week ...

Nursery	89.50%	Year 3	100.00%
Reception	98.08%	Year 4	93.53%
Year 1	97.08%	Year 5	94.17%
Year 2	96.67%	Year 6	95.42%

Congratulations!
Year 3 have the
best
attendance this
week!



Class Attendance this year ...

Congratulations!
Year 3 have the
best
attendance this
year (so far)!

Nursery	92.00%	Year 3	97.81%
Reception	93.87%	Year 4	94.95%
Year 1	95.37%	Year 5	96.62%
Year 2	96.31%	Year 6	96.64%

Class Awards

Values & Virtues

Nursery -	Fope Akinyele
Reception -	Joshua Chijoke
Year 1 -	Nella Crutchley
Year 2 -	Elloise Faulkner-Poole
Year 3 -	Rhys Underwood
Year 4 -	Ryan Underwood
Year 5 -	Ava Cummins
Year 6 -	Chloe Gulasova

Reading

Nursery -	Willow Guinivan
Reception -	Bella Rigby
Year 1 -	Grayson Seaman
Year 2 -	Wilson Shaw
Year 3 -	Woody Hughes
Year 4 -	Vincenzina Gravano
Year 5 -	James Farmer
Year 6 -	Ella Anson

Headteacher

Nursery -	Carter Dennis-Benn
Reception -	Mylo Wood
Year 1 -	Lindan Bagnall
Year 2 -	Harrison Lee
Year 3 -	Max Edwards
Year 4 -	Lennox Johnson
Year 5 -	Alfie Plant
Year 6 -	Jacob Harding

Most DoJo's



Nursery -	Florence Peart
Reception -	Jessica Hamnett
Year 1 -	Ted Wilbraham
Year 2 -	Elloise Faulkner-Poole
Year 3 -	Ellis Affui
Year 4 -	Eliyas Soleimani
Year 5 -	El-Spencer Affui
Year 6 -	Merielle Vitug

Citizenship

Nursery -	Barborka Huostikova
Reception -	Archer Jones
Year 1 -	Reuben Soleimani
Year 2 -	Sam Harding
Year 3 -	Jessica Ramos
Year 4 -	Theo Wilson
Year 5 -	Akshi Arulrajah
Year 6 -	Scarlett Foxall



Happy New Year!

I hope that you had a happy and Holy Christmas, and enjoyed spending time with your lovely children.

I wish you all the best for this new year of 2024.

Staffing Update

We have several staffing changes this half term.

Miss Rushton will be leaving us at the end of this half term, and Mrs Brownsword will return following her maternity leave. Mrs Brownsword will take over the teaching of Year 3 from Monday to Friday. Miss Rushton is taking on a brand new role supporting adults with additional needs. We wish her lots of luck in this new adventure.

Miss Meaney leaves us as Teaching Assistant and Breakfast Club Assistant today. She is returning to University to further her education with a focus on social work. Miss Meaney will continue as After-School



Care Club Assistant. We wish Miss Meaney lots of luck.

We welcome Miss Humphrey as Teaching Assistant from Monday. She will take up post in Reception class and Ms Pang will move to Year 1.

This week, we have welcomed Mrs Barlow. Mrs Barlow will be teaching across the school.

Our safeguarding officer, Mrs Kelsall, will be leaving us on 26th January. She will be moving to St Margaret Ward, so will be remaining in the Collegiate. We welcome Mrs Taylor as her replacement from 22nd January.

We are so pleased to announce Miss. Mason is expecting her first baby in June.

Congratulations to Miss. Mason and family!!



Sunday's Gospel

A reading from the Gospel according to John

As John stood with two of his disciples, Jesus passed, and John stared hard at him and said, 'Look, there is the lamb of God.' Hearing this, the two disciples followed Jesus. Jesus turned round, saw them following and said, 'What do you want?' They answered, 'Rabbi,' – which means Teacher – 'where do you live?' 'Come and see' he replied; so they went and saw where he lived, and stayed with him the rest of that day.

It was about the tenth hour. One of these two who became followers of Jesus after hearing what John had said was Andrew, the brother of Simon Peter. Early next morning, Andrew met his brother and said to him, 'We have found the Messiah' – which means the Christ – and he took Simon to Jesus. Jesus looked hard at him and said, 'You are Simon son of John; you are to be called Cephas' – meaning Rock.

The Gospel of the Lord

John 1:35 – 42

In Sunday's Gospel, we hear of John and his disciples seeing Jesus. John knew instantly who Jesus was and upon hearing that this was the Lamb of God, his disciples followed Jesus. They left what they knew with John and made a new start with Jesus. This is the perfect Gospel reading for the start of a New Year, where we can all make a new start. What things are you going to do in this New Year? Are you going to get fit and healthy? Are you going to spend time praying? Are you going to spend more time as a family?

This week, talk as a family about the things you can do in this New Year.

Year of Prayer

In 2025 we celebrate a Jubilee Year of the Church. To prepare for this special occasion, Pope Francis has dedicated the year of 2024 to the Year of Prayer. Throughout the year, we will be sharing prayers with children, supporting them in prayer and teaching them ways to pray. We would love for you to share in this too. When we share the prayers of the month, say them as a family. Prayers can be simple and said at any time. Prayers can be to ask God for help, to thank God, to ask for forgiveness. They can be for ourselves, our friends, our family, people from around the world.

We can all pray the prayer that Jesus taught us:

Our Father,
Who art in Heaven,
hallowed be Thy name;
Thy Kingdom come,
Thy will be done
on earth as it is in Heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
Amen.



Diary Dates ...

Monday 15th January

Clubs start

Tuesday 16th January

9 – 11am Nursery Inspire morning

Thursday 18th January

9 – 11am Family Learning for Years 3 and 4 – Paintbrush Adventures

3:30pm and 5:30pm Phonics meeting for parents of children in Year 1

Friday 19th January

9am Year 5 class assembly – 2 places reserved per child

10am onwards Reception vision screening

Sunday 21st Mass

9:30am Family Mass – all welcome to attend. Children wanting to receive the Sacraments this year must attend this Mass

Monday 22nd January

Stoke Gotta Sing tickets go on sale

11 – 12 Year 5 visit Northwood Day Care Centre

Wednesday 24th January

8:50 – 9:20am Stay and read – all welcome to attend

6pm Meeting for children wanting to receive the Sacraments of Reconciliation and First Holy Communion and their parents

Thursday 25th January

9:15am Whole-school Mass – all welcome to attend

Dates to Remember

What's happening ...

Phonics Meeting

As you may know, our Year 1 children will have a phonics assessment in June. In order to help you to support your child at home with this, we will be holding a meeting for parents on Thursday 18th January at 3:30pm and 5:30pm.

Please complete the Microsoft Form to book in to one of the meetings:

https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=ff_X21JOLUqrNU74XKfvxHt7rKpnpEZGvU_RPolISf5UQjVQWjRLTTc0WThaMIJDVkJZSQ1ZDTFRGNi4u

Currently, only two parents are booked on. It is very important that ALL parents attend this session.

Key Stage 1 and 2 SATS meeting

There will be a meeting for parents of children in Years 2 and 6 on Thursday 25th January at 3:30pm and 5:20pm. Both year group sessions will run at the same time. It is very important that parents attend this meeting, so that they are able to support their child.

At the meeting, parents will be given information about what the SATS tests will involve, will look at example papers and will find out how best to support their child during the SATS tests.

Please complete the Microsoft Form to book in for one of the meetings:

https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=ff_X21JOLUqrNU74XKfvxHt7rKpnpEZGvU_RPolISf5UNzBYWkRCSk1MVkNYVVA1NVIPMlpIWlhENi4u

Children's University

We are very excited that we are now part of Children's University. You can find out information about this by clicking on the link below. In a nutshell, children earn credits for clubs and activities that they do outside of school. With these credits, children earn certificates and ultimately graduate from Children's University!

[Children's university - Staffordshire University \(staffs.ac.uk\)](https://www.staffs.ac.uk/childrens-university)

Your child will be coming home with a log in next week. Here, you and your child can log the activities that they take part in.

100 things to do before leaving SGSM

At SGSM, we have a list of 100 things to do before leaving SGSM. The idea is that children take part in these and tick them off as they go with a date of when they did it. If you know your child has done these things, it is fine to tick and put today's date.

Once children have completed the 100, they can return their sheet and will be given a 100 badge if they are able to talk about the activities that they have completed.

50 things to do before leaving Early Years

In order to get our Early Years children (Nursery and Reception) started on 100 things to do, we have our 25 things to do. Again, these are ticked off and dated.

Once children have completed the 50, they can return their sheet and will be given a 25 badge.

Stoke 25 Reads and 100 Reads

25 Reads is also aimed at our younger children and is something for our Early Years children and Key Stage 1 children. Children need to have read the book or been read the book.

There is also a list of 100 books that children should read by the time they leave primary school.

Tick and date when these books have been read. If you know your child has already read a book, tick it and put today's date, as I know you won't remember when they read some of the books.

Children will be given a 25 or 100 badge when they bring their completed sheet in and will be asked to talk about one or two of the books.

What's happening ...

Family Learning

Our next Family Learning session is for Years 3 and 4 and is titled 'Paintbrush Adventures'.

In this session, children will create dragons, masks and wax relief pictures.

If you would like to book a place, please complete the Microsoft Form by 3:30pm Monday 15th January:

https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=ff_X21JOLUqrNU74XKfvxHt7rKpnpEZGvU_RPolISf5UMjk1OThNUkFEMIVTT0YxSkdPR0ZGWjBZUi4u

Stoke Schools Sing

Our school choir will be performing at The Mitchell Memorial Theatre again this year on Wednesday 6th March. This is an evening concert and is a great opportunity for the children to sing on a big stage.

Tickets to this event go on sale on Monday 22nd January and can be purchased from The Mitchell Memorial Theatre box office.

SHARP system

We have recently become a part of SHARP System. The SHARP system allows your child to make an **anonymous report about anything that is troubling them**. This can be personal, for example, they may be having difficulties with schoolwork, friendships or their mental well-being. The SHARP system can also be used for them to share a concern for someone else. The SHARP system can be accessed by following:

<https://sgsmnewman.thesharpsystem.com/admin>

Nursery Inspire Morning

On Tuesday 16th January, we will be holding our Nursery Inspire morning. We'd love for you to come along and spend time learning with your child. There's no need to book a place, just turn up. We really hope you come along to this fantastic opportunity. Unfortunately, we can only accept one family member per child and cannot accept younger siblings.

Reminders ...

We are having a number of children arriving late to school. Please ensure your child arrives before 8.50am when the second bell sounds. If your child arrives after this time they will be marked as late in the register.

Lateness = Lost Learning

5 minutes late each day 3 days lost!

10 minutes late each day 6.5 days lost!

15 minutes late each day 10 days lost!

20 minutes late each day 13 days lost!

30 minutes late each day 19 days lost!

If your child arrives late for class:

- They miss out on important learning, which could effect their achievement.
- They don't have the social time to settle into class.
- It can be embarrassing for them.
- They may disrupt the learning of the rest of the class.

If you are experiencing any problems then please do not hesitate to contact the academy.



Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely

D. Farmer

Mrs. Farmer (Principal)



Can you complete the challenge?

At St George and St Martin's we want our children to learn as many skills as possible and have as many different experiences as they can during their time with us. We have therefore created.....

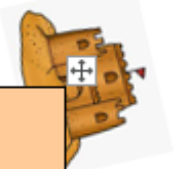
100 things to do before you leave St George and St Martin's

Bake a cake	Visit Hanley Museum	Go on a residential trip	Eat an oatcake	Build a snowman	Visit the Spitfire	Take part in Bikeability .	Read at Mass	Climb Forest <u>Park hill</u>	Take part in sports day
Make a clay pot	Make a musical instrument	Paddle in the sea	Make a den	Jump in autumn leaves	Follow a recipe	Perform on a stage	Make an Easter Bonnet	Perform in the Nativity	Perform a talent
Have a teddy bears picnic	Do something for another person	Build a sandcastle	Fly a kite	Go on an Easter egg hunt	Go to the pantomime	Go to a disco	Splash in a muddle	Learn a poem	Visit a place of worship
Take part in an <u>after school</u> club	Create art with nature	Make playdough	Make a birthday card for someone special	Play hide and seek	Dress up for World Book Day	Follow a map	Grow and look after a plant	Learn how to sow a button	Hold an animal
Make a sock puppet	Visit the library	Represent the school in an activity	Play I Spy	Visit the seaside	Learn how to say hello in another language	Learn how to cross the road safely	Create an origami animal	Learn how to play an instrument	Read a story to someone younger
Learn a new nursery rhyme	Dance in the rain	Dough Disco	Watch the clouds on a sunny day and look for pictures	Make a bird feeder	Learn how to tie shoe laces	Have your face painted	Write a thank you letter	Finger paint	Use chopsticks
Make a paper aeroplane	Play in the snow	Have a picnic in the park	Blow bubbles and catch them	Learn how to ride a bike	Complete a treasure hunt	Go to the zoo	Raise money for a charity	Complete a jigsaw	Play a board game
Watch the fireworks	Go pond dipping	Play musical statues	Visit the woods	Look at the stars at night	Draw a self portrait	Go on a mini beast hunt	Have a <u>Pyrama</u> <u>day</u>	Be a superhero for a day	Overcome a fear
Play pass the parcel	Cosmic Kids Yoga	Learn how to swim	Build a tower taller than you	Go sledging	Make a daisy chain	Learn how to ride a bike	Write a poem	Make a healthy packed lunch	Learn how to 'sign' your name
Visit Santa	Go on a boat trip	Feed the ducks	Go on a bear hunt	Make a fruit smoothie	Tell a joke	Recycle something	Take part in a debate	Order food in a restaurant	Learn how to skip with a rope

Can you complete the challenge?

At St George and St Martin's we want our children to learn as many skills as possible and have as many different experiences as they can during their time with us. We have therefore created.....
50 things to do before you are 5 years old at St George and St Martin's

Bake a cake	Visit Hanley Museum	Go on a mini beast hunt	Splash in a muddle	Build a snowman
Go to the pantomime	Make a musical instrument	Paddle in the sea	Make a den	Jump in autumn leaves
Have a teddy bears picnic	Climb a hill	Build a sandcastle	Fly a kite	Go on an Easter egg hunt
Be a superhero for a day	Create art with nature	Make playdough	Make a birthday card for someone special	Play hide and seek
Make a sock puppet	Visit the library	Finger paint	Play I Spy	Visit the seaside
Learn a new nursery rhyme	Dance in the rain	Dough Disco	Watch the clouds on a sunny day and look for pictures	Make a bird feeder
Make a paper aeroplane	Play in the snow	Visit the park	Blow bubbles and catch them	Learn how to ride a bike
Watch the fireworks	Go pond dipping	Play musical statues	Visit the woods	Look at the stars at night
Play pass the parcel	Cosmic Kids Yoga	Learn how to swim	Build a tower taller than you	Go sledging
Visit Santa	Go on a boat trip	Feed the ducks	Go on a bear hunt	Make a fruit smoothie





Challenge for 0 – 5 year olds



Read the first 25 books on the Stoke 100 Reads list and receive a copy of
Barry the Fish with Fingers: Tickle Hide-and-Seek to keep!

1	Baby's Very First Black and White Book by Usborne	
2	Dear Zoo by Rod Campbell	
3	The Very Hungry Caterpillar by Eric Carle	
4	Peepo by Janet and Allan Ahlberg	
5	That's Not My Car by Fiona Watt	
6	We're Going on a Bear Hunt by Michael Rosen and Helen Oxenbury	
7	Dinosaur Roar! by Paul and Henrietta Stickland	
8	Fox's Socks by Julia Donaldson and Axel Scheffler	
9	Spot Bakes a Cake by Eric Hill	
10	Silly Suzy Goose by Petr Horacek	
11	Where's Spot? by Eric Hill	
12	Postman Bear by Julia Donaldson and Axel Scheffler	
13	Elmer by David McKee	
14	The Jolly Postman by Janet and Allan Ahlberg	
15	The Blue Balloon by Mick Inkpen	
16	Shark in the Park by Nick Sharratt	
17	Monkey and Me by Emily Gravett	
18	One Ted Falls out of Bed by Julia Donaldson and Anne Currey	
19	Old Bear by Jane Hissey	
20	What the Ladybird Heard by Julia Donaldson and Lydia Monks	
21	Bizzy Bear: Fun on the Farm by Benji Davies	
22	Guess How Much I Love You by Sam McBratney and Anita Jeram	
23	The Gruffalo by Julia Donaldson and Axel Scheffler	
24	All in One Piece (Large Family) by Jill Murphy	
25	Peace at Last by Jill Murphy	

Childhas read 25 books on the Stoke 100 Reads list

Signed

When you've completed the challenge, take this to one of the six libraries in Stoke-on-Trent
(details on the next page)

Keep reading the books on the Stoke 100 Reads list together. You can download it at
stokereads.org.uk

Just 10 minutes a day is enough to make a difference

All of the 100 book titles can be borrowed from your local library. If you would like further information on how to join the library please call 01782 238455 or visit www.stoke.gov.uk/libraries

and finally
to create
a general
buzz,
around
books!

- To encourage parents and children to **read together**
- Promote a **love of reading** across the City

The Stoke 100 reads project was launched so that it would

Once you have read a book, colour in the book spine or stick a sticker by the side of the book.



Where's Spot? **Eric Hill**

That's not my car **Fiona Watt**

Peepo **Janet and Allan Ahlberg**

Fox's Socks (Tales from Acorn Wood)
Julia Donaldson and Axel Scheffler

Polar bear, polar bear what do you hear? **Eric Carle**

Bizzy Bear - Fun on the Farm **Benji Davies**

Spot Bakes a Cake **Eric Hill**

Elmer **David McKee**

The Jolly Postman **Janet and Allan Ahlberg**

Baby's Very First Black and White book **Usbourne**

STOKE 100 READS

Children, parents and practitioners of Stoke-on-Trent have voted for the Top 100 books to read before you leave primary school.

