



# ST GEORGE AND ST MARTIN CATHOLIC ACADEMY



## Weekly Newsletter – w.e. 19.01.24

### Class Attendance this week ...

Nursery	95.65%	<b>Year 3</b>	<b>99.33%</b>
Reception	96.15%	Year 4	97.33%
Year 1	96.00%	Year 5	96.00%
<b>Year 2</b>	<b>99.33%</b>	<b>Year 6</b>	<b>99.33%</b>

Congratulations!  
**Years 2, 3 & 6**  
have the best  
attendance this  
week!



### Class Attendance this year ...

Nursery	92.22%	<b>Year 3</b>	<b>97.91%</b>
Reception	94.01%	Year 4	95.09%
Year 1	95.39%	Year 5	96.62%
Year 2	96.51%	Year 6	96.81%

## Class Awards

### Values & Virtues

Nursery -	Obiora Nwankwo
Reception -	Hendrix Johnson
Year 1 -	Edward Mountford
Year 2 -	Alessia Allen
Year 3 -	Annabel Osunde
Year 4 -	Mahlia James
Year 5 -	Leon Kaminski
Year 6 -	Minuki Aryadasa

### Reading

Nursery -	Tommy Carroll
Reception -	Nolan Osunde
Year 1 -	Skylar Woolley
Year 2 -	Belvya Biju
Year 3 -	Callum Lowe
Year 4 -	Miryam Yohanis Belay
Year 5 -	Violet Barlow
Year 6 -	Ellie Simpson

### Citizenship

Nursery -	Iyla Sellars
Reception -	Prosper Omotosho
Year 1 -	Elijah Rata
Year 2 -	Harrison Lee
Year 3 -	Makanaka Nhambu
Year 4 -	Philip Okoye
Year 5 -	Sophie Thompson
Year 6 -	Gracie-Jae Lyons

### Most DoJo's



Nursery -	Oliver Farrell
Reception -	Mylo Wood
Year 1 -	Alana Rogers
Year 2 -	Ben Cartlidge
Year 3 -	James Hyett
Year 4 -	Leia Chomanicz
Year 5 -	Oba Eric-Famogun
Year 6 -	Louie Glass

### Headteacher

Nursery -	Leyla Szalas
Reception -	Poppy Baskeyfield/Alexandru Tanase
Year 1 -	Lola Booth
Year 2 -	Noah Gravano
Year 3 -	Evelyn George
Year 4 -	Gabriela Labuda
Year 5 -	Ben Saunders
Year 6 -	Jack Lovatt



### 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 Thursday. Miss Rushton is taking on a brand new role supporting adults with additional needs. We wish her lots of luck in this new adventure.

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

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

Congratulations to Miss. Mason and family!!



### 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**

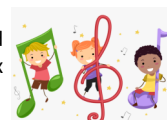
**troubling them.** This can be personal, for example, they may be having difficulties with schoolwork, friendships or their mental well-being. The SHARP system can also be used for them to share a concern for someone else. The SHARP system can be accessed by following:

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

### Stoke Schools Sing

Our school choir will be performing at The Mitchell Memorial Theatre again this year on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> 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 22<sup>nd</sup> January and can be purchased from The Mitchell Memorial Theatre box office.



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## Sunday's Gospel

A reading from the Gospel according to Mark

*After John had been arrested, Jesus went into Galilee. There He proclaimed the Good News from God. "The time has come," He said, "and the Kingdom of God is close at hand. Repent, and believe the Good News." As He was walking along by the Sea of Galilee He saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net in the lake – for they were fishermen. And Jesus said to them, "Follow me and I will make you into fishers of men." And at once they left their nets and followed Him. Going on a little further, He saw James, son of Zebedee and His brother John; they too were in their boat, mending their nets. He called them at once and, leaving their father Zebedee in the boat with the men he employed, they went after Him.*

The Gospel of the Lord

Mark 1:14 - 20

In Sunday's Gospel, we hear Jesus call his first disciples. When Jesus called each of his disciples, they followed Jesus without question or hesitation. They trusted in Jesus and recognised that this man was the Son of God. I often think what would my answer have been? Would I have been able to leave my family to follow Jesus? Jesus knew that these men would follow him; he had a plan for each of them and chose them each for a specific purpose. Jesus has a plan for each of us. Often we may question why things happen to us, but we should trust in God's plan.

This week take time to reflect on what God's plan is for you. Are you doing all you can to follow God's plan?

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## 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.

This year, we will share prayers with you each week that you can say as a family. This week we are sharing our Morning Prayer. You could say this with your child when you get up or before you leave for school. This is the prayer that we say before lunch. You could say this at home before meal times:



Bless us O God, as we sit together,

Bless the food we eat today,

Bless the hands that make the food,

Bless us O God.

Amen



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## Diary Dates ...

### Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> January

Stoke Gotta Sing tickets go on sale

11 – 12 Year 5 visit Northwood Day Care Centre

### Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> 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 25<sup>th</sup> January

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

9 – 12 Utilita Kids football cup

3:30pm and 5:30pm Key Stage 1 and 2 SATS meeting

### Friday 26<sup>th</sup> January

9am Year 4 class assembly – 2 places reserved per child

### Monday 29<sup>th</sup> January – Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> February

Year 6—Stanley Head Residential

### Monday 29<sup>th</sup> January

10 – 11am Year 3 visit Hanley library

1:30 – 2:30pm Year 5 visit Hanley library

### Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> January

11 – 12 Year 4 visit Northwood Day Care Centre

### Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> February

9am Year 3 class assembly – 2 places reserved per child

## Dates to Remember

# What's happening ...

## **Key Stage 1 and 2 SATS meeting**

There will be a meeting for parents of children in Years 2 and 6 on Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> 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](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 should have come home with a log in this 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.

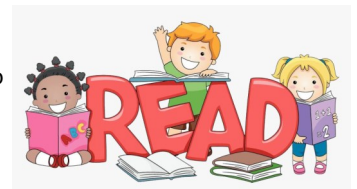
## **Stoke 25 Reads and 100 Reads**

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.



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.....

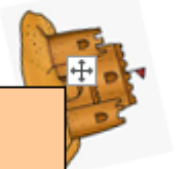
100 things to do before you leave St George and St Martin's

Bake a cake	Visit Hanley Museum	Go on a residential trip	Eat an oatcake	Build a snowman	Visit the Spitfire	Take part in <del>Bikeability</del> .	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	

Child .....has 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](http://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](http://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.

