



ST GEORGE AND ST MARTIN CATHOLIC ACADEMY



Spring 2 2024 Newsletter

Class Attendance this week ...

Nursery	91.49%	Year 3	97.59%
Reception	95.36%	Year 4	93.67%
Year 1	90.67%	Year 5	95.33%
Year 2	97.00%	Year 6	95.67%

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	92.07%	Year 3	97.62%
Reception	94.25%	Year 4	94.94%
Year 1	95.47%	Year 5	96.78%
Year 2	96.57%	Year 6	96.89%

Class Awards Values & Virtues

Reading

Nursery -	Florence Peart
Reception -	Laila Shakil
Year 1 -	Booker Mutare
Year 2 -	Zayaan Mirza
Year 3 -	Jessica Ramos
Year 4 -	Elliott Tomkinson
Year 5 -	Ivy Wilbraham
Year 6 -	Minuki Ariyadasa

Nursery -	Willow Guinivan
Reception -	Haniya Masood
Year 1 -	Oakley Bowman
Year 2 -	Alessia Allen
Year 3 -	Lola Schwamberger
Year 4 -	Billy Crutchley
Year 5 -	Saalih Shamil Al-Athari
Year 6 -	Abigail Williams

Citizenship

Nursery -	Harper Cummins
Reception -	Prince Igbo
Year 1 -	Subhaan Asad
Year 2 -	Hashim Babar
Year 3 -	Woody Hughes
Year 4 -	Abigail Beru
Year 5 -	Violet Barlow
Year 6 -	Louie Glass

Most DoJo's



Nursery -	No permission
Reception -	Oluchi Nwabueze
Year 1 -	Eric Opritoiu
Year 2 -	Noah Eric-Famogun
Year 3 -	Ellis Affui
Year 4 -	Gabriela Labuda
Year 5 -	El-Spencer Affui
Year 6 -	Minuki Ariyadasa

Headteacher

Nursery -	George Rawlinson
Reception -	Myroslava Shkolna & Victoria Gkourra
Year 1 -	Ododo-Ife Jegede
Year 2 -	Ikenna Nwabueze
Year 3 -	Princess Rumbidzo
Year 4 -	Naomi Asiegbu
Year 5 -	Archie Dunn
Year 6 -	Meriel Vitug



Goodbye

Today we say goodbye to Miss Rushton after 10 years. We wish her lots of luck in her new adventure working with vulnerable adults and thank her for all she has done for our school over the last 10 years.



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>

Parents' Evening

On Wednesday 28th and Thursday 29th February, you will have the opportunity to meet with your child's classteacher to discuss the progress they have made so far this year, as well as ideas for how you can support them at home. You will be able to book on School Cloud from 8am Monday 19th February until 3:30pm Friday 23rd February.



Message from our Mental Health Support Team

'Hello, we are Isabel Cooper and Maisie Bairstow the Trainee Educational Mental Health Practitioners for St George & St Martin Catholic Academy. We work for NHS North Staffordshire Combined Healthcare, within the Mental Health Support Team. We are a team that works in schools to provide support for children and young people with their mental health. We will be talking at the parent coffee morning held on the 23rd of February to introduce ourselves and our services. We look forward to seeing you and working with the school.'

Sunday's Gospel

A reading from the Gospel according to Mark

A leper came to Jesus and pleaded on his knees: "If you want to", he said, "you can cure me." Feeling sorry for Him, Jesus stretched out His hand and touched him. "Of course I want to!" He said. "Be cured!" And the leprosy left him at once and he was cured. Jesus immediately sent him away and sternly ordered him, "Mind you say nothing to anyone, but go and show yourself to the priest, and make the offering for your healing prescribed by Moses as evidence of your recovery." The man went away but then started talking about it freely and telling the story everywhere, so that Jesus could no longer go openly into any town, but had to stay outside in places where nobody lived. Even so, people from all around would come to Him.

The Gospel of the Lord

Mark 1:40 - 45

This Sunday's Gospel fits perfectly into our values and virtues for this half term – compassionate and loving. Jesus shows compassion for the leper and cured him. Leprosy is a disease that people were afraid of due it being highly contagious and so people with leprosy were banished from the town; nobody cared for them or loved them.

This week, think of the compassion that you can show to others. Simply sharing a smile with someone might be the only smile they've had all day. Saying hello to someone might be the first words they've heard all day.

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. As we are about to enter Lent, try and say the Act of Contrition (sorry prayer):



Oh my God,
Because you are so good,
I am very sorry that I have sinned against you,
And by the help of your Grace,
I will not sin again.
Amen



Ash Wednesday

On Wednesday 14th February, Lent begins with Ash Wednesday.

Lent is a time where we prepare for Jesus's dying and rising from the dead at Easter. Lent will last for 40 days and traditionally Christians 'give something up'. Lent is a time where we remember Jesus in the desert for 40 days, preparing himself to take on the work that God wanted him to do. He was tempted by the devil three times, but refused each time. The idea of giving something up is so that we think about Jesus fasting for those 40 days and nights. We often talk to the children that Lent is a time of not only giving something up, but also taking something up and a time of prayer. The things that we may 'take up' could be related to a charity, could be visiting people who we know don't have lots of family, could be making a cake for a neighbour.

Lent is a time to say sorry for the things that we have done wrong and a time to prepare our hearts for Jesus rising from the dead on Easter Sunday.

On Ash Wednesday, we receive the ashes made from the palm leaves from last year. A cross is drawn on our forehead and the words 'Repent and believe in the Gospel' and said by Fr.

Over half term, spend time as a family praying, think about what you can give up (mine is chocolate!), and what you can take up (mine is checking in with my elderly neighbours).



Young Voices

Back in January Miss Rushton and I took 13 of our children to Birmingham to take part in a choir of 6000 and perform to another 4000 people. We had a fantastic time and loved every second.



Celebrating this Half Term

Our Year 6 football team took part in the **Utilita Cup**.



Diary Dates

Monday 19th February

8:50am School opens

Tuesday 20th February

9 – 11am Year 2 Inspire morning – all Year 2 parents welcome to attend

Wednesday 21st February

2:30pm Values and virtues assembly for Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 – parents welcome to attend

6pm Meeting for children in Year 3 and their parents receiving the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Holy Communion

Thursday 22nd February

Nursery visit Peak Wildlife Park

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

2:45pm Values and virtues assembly for Years 3 – 6 – parents welcome to attend

Monday 26th February

11 – 12 Year 2 visit Northwood Day Care Centre

Tuesday 27th February

8:50 – 9:20am Stay and do maths

1:15 – 3:15 Family Learning session for Year 2 and Year 3 – The Day the Crayons Quit

Wednesday 28th February

Year 2 visit Stanley Head

1 – 3pm Year 5 visit St Margaret Ward

5 – 7:30pm Parents' Evening

Thursday 29th February

9 – 11am Family Learning for Nursery and Reception – Rhymetime

3:30 – 5:30pm Parents' Evening

Friday 1st March

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

Family Learning

Our next family learning session takes place on Tuesday 27th November from 1:15 – 3:15pm. This session is for Year 2 and 3 children and is based on the book 'The Day the Crayons Quit'. You'll be involved craft activities based on the book. If you would like to book on this session, please complete the online form by Friday 23rd February. There are places for 15 families and once these places are taken, the online form will close.

[https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?](https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=ff_X21JOLUqrNU74XKfvxHt7rKpnpEZGvU_RPolISf5UREVDSUtUVU9GNEpCT0VEQVNOVTVaVzdLVy4u)

[id=ff_X21JOLUqrNU74XKfvxHt7rKpnpEZGvU_RPolISf5UREVDSUtUVU9GNEpCT0VEQVNOVTVaVzdLVy4u](https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=ff_X21JOLUqrNU74XKfvxHt7rKpnpEZGvU_RPolISf5UREVDSUtUVU9GNEpCT0VEQVNOVTVaVzdLVy4u)



There is also a family learning session on Thursday 29th February from 9 – 11am. This session is for Nursery and Reception children and will be an opportunity to share in Nursery rhymes. If you would like to book on this session, please complete the online form by Tuesday 27th February. There are places for 15 families and once these places are taken, the online form will close.

[https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?](https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=ff_X21JOLUqrNU74XKfvxHt7rKpnpEZGvU_RPolISf5UNEhGUUtGSKhQOUtRRkg1VzNMS0ExRzVXWS4u)

[id=ff_X21JOLUqrNU74XKfvxHt7rKpnpEZGvU_RPolISf5UNEhGUUtGSKhQOUtRRkg1VzNMS0ExRzVXWS4u](https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=ff_X21JOLUqrNU74XKfvxHt7rKpnpEZGvU_RPolISf5UNEhGUUtGSKhQOUtRRkg1VzNMS0ExRzVXWS4u)

Inspire Day

On Tuesday 18th December, we are giving Year 2 parents the opportunity to spend time with their child in the classroom, finding out more about the curriculum. There will be lots of fun activities planned and this is a fantastic opportunity for you to spend quality time with your child. If you would like to come along, there is no need to book a place, just turn up. We hope to see you there!

School Dinners

If you would like your child to change from sandwiches to school dinners or vice versa, now is the time to do so. When your child returns to school after half term, your child's classteacher will ask them what their dinner choice is for Spring 2 term. Your child will need to stay with that choice for the half term. School dinners need to be paid in advance of receiving a meal.



Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely

D. Farmer

Mrs. Farmer (Principal)

