

# St. Ann's Catholic Primary School Newsletter

Friday 16<sup>th</sup> January 2026



## Upcoming Events...

Tuesday 20 <sup>th</sup> January (3:15pm – 5:15pm)	Parents' Evening
Wednesday 21 <sup>st</sup> January (3:15pm – 5:15pm)	Parents' Evening
Wednesday 28 <sup>th</sup> January (3pm-3:30pm)	Y3/4 Thornbridge Meeting for Parents and Children
Friday 30 <sup>th</sup> January	St Benedict's Winning House Treat Afternoon
Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> February	Y3/4 Mass at St Ann's Church
Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup> February	Safer Internet Day
Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup> February	Y3/4 First Swimming Lesson
Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup> February (8:50am)	Y3/4 Celebration of the Word: Galilee
Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> February (3pm)	School breaks up for the February Half Term Holiday

## After School Club Cancellations...

Occasionally, staff training or school events may conflict with our club schedule. To stay informed about planned cancellations, please check this section of our weekly newsletter, where we aim to list known clashes a half-term in advance. In the event of an unavoidable last-minute cancellation (such as staff illness), we will notify you directly via email.

After School Clubs that are cancelled – Spring 1 half term:	Teacher	Date:
Super SPAG (3-3:30pm)	Mrs Marshall	Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> January
Year 3/4/5 TT Rock Stars (3-3:30pm)	Mrs Marshall	Tuesday 20 <sup>th</sup> January
Year 6 Mega Maths (3-3:30pm)	Miss Edwards	Tuesday 20 <sup>th</sup> January
Phonics Booster (3-3:30pm)	Mrs Brotherton	Wednesday 21 <sup>st</sup> January
Phonics Booster (3-3:30pm)	Mrs Brotherton	Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> February
Phonics Booster (3-3:30pm)	Mrs Brotherton	Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup> February
Y3/4 Marvellous Maths (3-3:30pm)	Mrs Marshall	Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> February

**Proud to be Me...** 'People today listen more willingly to witnesses than to teachers, and if they do listen to teachers, it is because they are witnesses.' Pope Paul VI. Through our words and especially through our actions, we can be God's witnesses, through living our lives the way Jesus shows us. Choose a special way to be God's witnesses – sharing and showing love to everyone you meet this week. Perhaps you can: be kind and loving in your simple everyday words and actions.

Reception	Teddy	Well done for trying your very best in class! You wrote a fantastic sentence about the panda and remembered to use a capital letter and a full stop!
Year 1	Rory	For showing perseverance in his writing this week producing a fantastic sentence about the Panda!
Year 2	Evan	Evan has been brilliant this week. He has worked with Ms Cawthorne during English and Maths lessons and has also joined whole-class sessions, where he engaged well and completed his tasks. He played nicely with other children at the playground and showed excellent social skills.
Year 3 Year 4	All of Y3/4	Well done to all of Year 3 and 4 for their fantastic enthusiasm during our work on Makar Sankranti. They learnt a joyful celebratory dance and crafted colourful kites, filling the sessions with fun and excitement. Later today, they will be creating an information page all about Makar Sankranti.
Year 5	Laylah	Laylah has worked really hard this week in maths and has produced some excellent work in our fractions topic. She has shown confidence sharing her reasoning with the class. Well done!
Year 6	Carter	Carter has shown an excellent attitude to his learning in all of our lessons this week. He is always keen to share his brilliant ideas with the class and can always be relied on to be listening to what is taught. Well done Carter!

## Proud to be Me Continued...

**PE:** Alex For his determination to improve his catching skills Well Done! Milo has had a really good start to the year and his improving all skills all of the time. Jacob W has improved his hand eye coordination so much in such a short space of time which demonstrates his good listening and attention skills. Evie C showed real determination and resilience today. Climbing to the top of the rope ladders and the climbing frames. Lottie is a pleasure to teach. Lottie demonstrated her skills on the equipment and delighted Mr Pritchard and Miss Gill with her infectious exuberant manner. Vincent really was a superstar during PE. Vincent climbed, balanced, jumped and even glided over the equipment. Nancy was amazing in PE as well. Nancy really can climb. Up and down the ropes putting the rest of us to shame with her ability.

**Spanish:** Olivia has been trying really hard in Spanish learning the songs and joining in with all the actions. Zach always has wonderful enthusiasm in Spanish joining in with all the activities and giving his best. Bobi showed wonderful understanding today to use numbers with nouns when talking about more than one animal. Laylah showed wonderful determination in leading our Spanish game trying really hard with her pronunciation. Great job!

**Music:** Alfie showed super listening skills this week in music. He was able to recognise sounds from last week and suggest musical instruments to match sounds of autumn/winter. Israel for his enthusiastic participation in our Chinese music lesson this week. All Year 2 for their body percussion and boom whacker work inspired by the opening of Beethoven's 5th symphony. Savannah for her great work in our African call and response song and her drumming. Nancy for her super work incorporating some of the elements of Baroque music into her composing and performance.

**Bronze Awards go to:** Dougie, Jacob D, Israel, Adam, Alex, Kathaleana, Teddy and Ruari for earning 100 *Monster Effort* points – Well done!

**Happy Birthday:** Evie M-O, Savannah, Melchi and Teddy

**Attendance:** Year 1 with 97.8%

**House of the Week:** St Catherine with 309 points

## Plugs for Parents...

**Parents' Evening 20/21.01.26:** Allocation emails were sent out on 8<sup>th</sup> January to parents/carers who requested an appointment. Reception Class parents/carers do not need a Parents' Evening slot as they have had Parent/Teacher meetings in the Autumn Term; invitation emails have been sent out on 13<sup>th</sup> January. Parents of children with Special Educational Needs also do not need to attend Parents' Evening, as they have regular SEND reviews.

**Y3/4 Thornbridge Meeting for Parents and Children 28.01.26:** Y3/4 parents are invited to attend this meeting to find out more about this Residential and ask questions. Please see the email that was sent out on 15.01.26 for more details.

**Y3/4 Mass at St Ann's Church 03.02.26:** Year 3/4 will be walking to St Ann's church to celebrate Mass with our parish. The class will be leaving School at 9am to be at church ready to start Mass at 9:30am. Parents are welcome to join us; please complete [this form](#) so that we get an idea of numbers.

**Safer Internet Day 10.02.26:** Safer Internet Day 2026 will take place on the 10th of February 2026, with celebrations and learning based around the theme 'Smart tech, safe choices – Exploring the safe and responsible use of AI'. Everyone's talking about AI, and with many children and young people hearing about and using AI online, it's important they have the skills and confidence to make safe choices when they are using smart technology. This Safer Internet Day we are exploring the impact of AI on all of our lives, looking at how AI can be used for good, and giving advice and guidance that empowers people to use AI safely and responsibly. For more information visit [saferinternet.org](https://saferinternet.org) for *Top Tips for parents and carers*.

**Y3/4 First Swimming Lesson 10.02.26:** Please see the email that was sent out today regarding Year 3/4 starting swimming lessons.

**Y3/4 Celebration of the Word: Galilee 11.02.26:** Family and friends are welcome to join us in the School Hall for this Celebration of the Word.

**First Holy Communion:** Are you interested in having your child receive their First Holy Communion? If so, and your child is of the appropriate age (generally between 7 and 9 years old, but this is not exclusive), please contact School to express your interest.

**Willersley Castle Residential – Year 5/6:** The tenth instalment was due on 11<sup>th</sup> January via [ParentPay](#).

**Thornbridge Residential – Year 3/4:** The final instalment will be due on 31<sup>st</sup> January via [ParentPay](#).

## Plugs for Parents Continued...

**Change to Year 2 PE Day:** Just a reminder, starting in January, Year 2 will no longer have PE on a Friday, instead they will have PE on a Monday. So now, Year 2 PE days will be Mondays and Thursdays.

**SAFFA Feedback:** We (SAFFA) are looking for your honest feedback. Whether you are a regular volunteer or have never been to a meeting, we want to hear from you! The survey is anonymous and will help us make the PTA work better for every parent/carer. And... to say thank you, we're offering a bottle of wine to one lucky winner! So please complete this short [questionnaire](#) to submit your valued feedback before Monday 26<sup>th</sup> January – thank you!

**Phone Free School:** We would like to gently remind all adults and visitors to please put mobile phones away while waiting for the *Proud to be Me* assembly to begin. Thank you for your cooperation.

**Jewellery Reminder:** Children may wear only a pair of stud earrings and a watch: No hooped earrings, necklaces, rings or bracelets are allowed. However, children may wear a small crucifix, for religious purposes, but this must be worn underneath their shirt and not worn for PE. Please ensure that earrings are removed for PE and swimming days. If earrings cannot be removed, then they need to be taped both front and back. No smart watches are allowed in school, as they quite often make noises and are a distraction in the classroom – thank you.

**National Online Safety:** Digital devices are woven into everyday life for children and young people, but balancing the benefits with potential risks can feel challenging. This #WakeUpWednesday guide explores how screen use can influence sleep, emotional regulation, physical health and online experiences, offering clear context around why concerns about wellbeing are growing. Written with schools and families in mind, the guide shares practical, realistic advice for setting boundaries, encouraging open conversations and building digital literacy. With insights from an experienced mental health professional, it supports adults to help children develop healthier, more mindful relationships with technology.

## Picture News...

This is the question that we will be deliberating:



## In the news this week

Recently, a new award, called the Jane Goodall Earth Medal, has been created to celebrate people who work to help others and care for the world. It is named after Dr Jane Goodall, who spent her life protecting animals and encouraging people to look after nature. The award recognises kind and caring actions that make a positive difference, even when people are not looking for praise.

### Things to talk about at home ...

- What do you think about the new award? Share with someone at home. Do you believe it's important to recognise kind actions?
- Can you think of someone you know who helps others or cares for the world in everyday ways?
- Can you come up with other ways that people can be recognised for their actions?

Please note any interesting thoughts or comments

Share your thoughts and read the opinions of others

[www.picture-news.co.uk/discuss](http://www.picture-news.co.uk/discuss)



#### With this Newsletter...

- National Online Safety – What Parents and Educators Need to Know about Digital Devices & Wellbeing
- [Ten:Ten Parent Newsletter - December](#)
- [Wednesday Word](#)
- St Ann's School [Grown Out of It](#) page (Please use to sell and buy pre-loved St Ann's uniform)
- St Ann's Church and St Mary's Church Newsletter
- SAFFA School Lottery – [Your School Lottery](#)
- Stocksbridge Community Leisure Centre – Ultimate Activity Camp
- Family Adult Community Education Service (FACES) – Courses Available
- Community Basketball sessions
- [Best Start in Life – School Readiness](#)