

St. Marie's Catholic Primary School

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NEWSLETTER

18th July 2025

Dear Families,

This is the last newsletter of this academic year.

As we come to the end of this year, we reflect with gratitude on all that we have achieved and look forward with hope to new challenges ahead.

Our Year 6 will be leaving us to move up to their high schools. Please pray for these wonderful children -

Loving God,

Bless these children as they leave our school.

May they take with them all they have learned and experienced.

Keep them safe and help them grow into the people you have created them to be.

May their dreams be big and their light shine brightly in the world.

Amen



**LEARNING THROUGH FAITH, LOVE AND
RESPECT**

Leavers' Mass

Thank you to Year 6 and Father Joseph for the wonderful Leavers' Mass on Monday evening. It was a truly special Mass of thanksgiving.

Well done to Evie who was awarded the **Emma Scott Kindness Cup** and to Francesca who was awarded the **Harry Meadows Attendance Shield** for 99% attendance throughout her time at Saint Marie's.



Mr Burgess, Chair of Governors,
presenting The Attendance Award



The Scott family presenting the Emma Scott
Kindness Cup

The Year 6 Leavers' Festival

Year 6 celebrated the end of their Saint Marie's journey with a festival last Friday evening. They loved every minute of celebrating with their friends!



The Edwards Family

The Edwards family will also be leaving us this time as Jenson and Layla are starting a new school. The family have been a big part of our school community for the past three years and we are sad to see them go but we know this is best for the children. Year 1 and Year 4 did a wonderful presentation of songs and poems on Wednesday which ended in a guard of honour for the family.

You will always have a special place in our hearts.



Field Work Fun

In all classes, the children have been developing their Geography skills over the last two weeks and presented what they have found out to our former Mayor of Wigan, Councillor Debbie Parkinson. Councillor Parkinson listened to the pupils' feedback from the Fieldwork Fun activities. She will take their suggestions back to Wigan Council.



Planting in the new garden

All of the children in school have planted seeds with the volunteers from Murphy's Group. Hopefully, we will have seedlings which will be ready for planting in the school garden in September.

Thank you to these volunteers as well as Mr Keating and the garden gang who tend to our lovely garden each week.



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PTFA

Many thanks to our PTFA who have worked so hard over this year to organise and plan a whole range of fun events which have raised money for school. Please see the letter further on in this newsletter from Mrs Keating, the Chair of the PTFA.

Staff versus Year 6 netball match

Winners for 2025 - the staff! Well done and well done to the children who played fantastically as a team.



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St. Marie's P.T.F.A – letter from Mrs Keating

As this academic year comes to a close, I should like to send a heartfelt 'thank you' to you all for your support and generosity for the P.T.F.A. We have had another successful year, not only raising much needed money for school, but hopefully running events that the children and families have all enjoyed! Some of these have been the annual Tea with Santa, disco, Easter Bingo (always a sell out!), hot dog Wednesdays, 'break the rules' day, Mothers' Day gifts and our last event of the year, the Summer Picnic. A big thank you also to all the families who have stepped into lend a hand when we are short of help!

The PTFA is a very small group of teachers, parents and grandparents who meet every two or three months to plan events and experiences to raise funds to support the children's learning. Since becoming chairperson, it has given me a real insight into seeing how just offering to help in any way you can, whether it be to attend meetings, share ideas, or give an hour to help at of the fundraising events, is of such benefit for our children. We desperately need more help though!

School budgets these days are so tight, PTFA funds are able to provide money for equipment, experiences that perhaps the school is not able to afford. Over this last year the PTFA have been able to:

- subsidise school educational visits capping most at £10 per child
- purchase a new microphone/ sound system, chess sets, gazebos
- purchase the boat bench for the new prayer garden
- contribute towards the beautiful piece of artwork in school.

In the future we would like to raise money towards a 'trim trail'.

So really this is a plea for your help and support. No matter how much or little of your time you can spare, it is really appreciated. We all have very busy lives trying to balance work and parenting but the opportunities to support our children and to be involved are so rewarding. Here are some ways you can help:

- Attend PTFA meetings (please feel under no pressure to attend every one!) and share your ideas for future events and fundraisers
- Offer to help in serving refreshments at events
- Help in the organisation/ running of events.

Our next meeting is Friday 19th September @ 9am in school. You are all invited to attend and will be very welcome.

Attendance Matters at Saint Marie's

Class	Attendance %
Reception	94.5
Year 1	94.8
Year 2	96.9
Year 3	96.0
Year 4	93.7
Year 5	96.5
Year 6	94.2

Our school target is 96.5%. Please be mindful of not booking holidays in term time – they will be unauthorised. When a child has 5 school days of unauthorised absence, Wigan will issue a Penalty Notice of £80 (per child per parent) which rises to £160 for a second unauthorised absence.

A final thankyou to everyone involved in making our school such a wonderful place. This year has been filled with incredible achievements and many proud moments. Thank you to our children, parents and carers, parish community, Governors, volunteers and to our staff who go above and beyond every day. Have a wonderful summer everyone and see you in September for another exciting year!

School returns on Tuesday 2nd September at the usual time. Monday 1st is an INSET day just for teachers.



Wishing you all a happy summer break!

Mrs Jackson

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