



St. Mary's C.E. Primary School
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Thursday 22nd January 2026

Dear Families,

Our commitment to being an Eco-School and our Eco Council are a very important part of our school community. We have relaunched our 'Travel Tracker', to raise the profile of travelling to school sustainably i.e. walking, scootering and cycling. Thank you once to again to the families who consistently support us with this it is greatly appreciated. As previously shared, I successfully gained a grant from TFGM to provide a covered cycle shelter to keep bikes protected from the elements. In addition, we will be 'Parking and Striding' from the Carousel on Wednesday 28th January. We will meet you there at 8:30am, alternatively walk, scoot or cycle from home!

Our new Family Support Worker, Beth Jowett, will be available for a 'drop in' on Tuesday 27th January in the afternoon should you wish to discuss any concerns or request support with any aspect of family life. Please let me know if you would like to make an appointment.

Please remember all wrap around care, must be booked and payment made in advance on SchoolMoney. The booking for the following day ends at midnight. We cannot guarantee any care if this is not done in advance. This change is an essential part of improvements to our current financial systems and will ensure systems are more robust and time efficient.

The School Council have already sent information regarding, 'Dress up for Digits.' Wear an item of clothing with number on, or you could get creative if you wish! All donations of £1 will be sent to the NSPCC, the important children's charity.

Overall attendance here at St May's is wonderful, with our families showing a huge commitment to this. I am sharing with you the latest message in the Greater Manchester school attendance campaign which focusses on back-to-school worries after the holidays and how best to support children.

Clinical psychologist Dr Nihara Krause suggests:

1. Rebuild routine early – Reset sleep schedules 3–5 days before school and reintroduce familiar habits like reading before bed. Limit screens an hour before sleep.
2. Plan a calm first morning – Prepare uniforms, lunches, and bags the night before. Wake up slightly earlier, share breakfast, and keep the tone relaxed.
3. Talk and validate feelings – Check in regularly, listen, and break concerns into manageable steps. Highlight positives like seeing friends and favourite activities. Normalise nerves—they're common when shifting from holiday mode.

More help to support attendance at school is available at <https://www.greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk/what-we-do/children-and-young-people/school-is-more-than-schoolwork>

The staff have again updated information on the school website and the curriculum maps are also there detailing our curriculum content throughout the school, as well as the current and previous newsletters. There is a school calendar with events happening throughout school that is easily accessible.

Parent consultations take place on, Tuesday 10th February 3:30pm until 6pm. We will again be using a paper-based booking system. Letters will be sent out (and emailed) on Monday 2nd February. Please look out for this. You will then

request a time slot via your child's class teacher and be allocated an appointment. Appointments will be allocated on a first come, first served basis.

Our next parent's morning (when parents are warmly welcomed into school) will be Friday February 13th, 9-10am, the focus is 'The Big Draw.' There will be no celebration assembly on this date.

We are currently working on the term dates for next academic year 2026 – 2027 and will have these with families before we break for half term on Friday 13th February.

If you have any questions or queries regarding anything in this letter or any other aspect of school life please speak to me or your child's class teacher.

Any questions please let me know.

With the warmest wishes,

Mrs Faryniarz