

# Newsletter



Guide Us O God To Be The Best We Can Be;  
In Every Thought, In Every Word And Every Deed

## February 2025



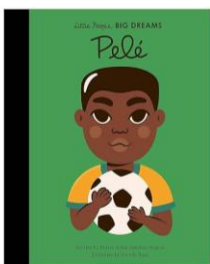
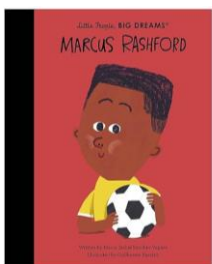
### *This Month's News:*

What a lovely half term this has been - we've had discos, music, sports and so much more! Thank you to our wonderful staff team for providing so many amazing opportunities for our children, and thank you to the children for getting stuck into everything in true SMSA fashion. It is so wonderful to see a bit of sunshine again – a very welcome change! I hope you are all keeping well as we come to the end of the first half of the school year. The children are enjoying school very much and are continuing to make wonderful progress.

### *World Book Day 2025:*

On Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> March, we will be celebrating World Book Day! Our theme this year is 'Hope' and we are using the 'Little People, Big Dreams' books as our inspiration for dressing up. The children will be encouraged to come dressed as their favourite inspirational person, or even just in inspiring, hopeful colours to celebrate the day! Please click on the link for a list of all people from this collection of books:

<https://toppsta.com/books/series/6926/little-people-big-dreams>



### *Sporting News:*

The kurling team did extremely well at their competition at west View Leisure Centre finishing in 6<sup>th</sup> place. Our girls football team has had a fabulous start to their matches. On the 13<sup>th</sup> Feb, we played three matches and saw goals from Isla (Y6) and Eliza J (Y5). Well done, team!

Some exciting events coming up in the next half term, including a year 3/4 gymnastics competition, year 5/6 swimming gala, tag rugby fixtures and a mixed y3/4 football tournament.

## Catholic Life of the School:

Our 'Walking together for CAFOD' Fridays will begin on 7<sup>th</sup> March.

This year, we walk together as Pilgrims of Hope in solidarity with our sisters and brothers around the world who are fighting poverty, by asking friends and family to sponsor us.

When we embark upon a pilgrimage, we begin a journey of faith that imitates the journey of our own Christian life. The journey is not always easy or straight, but by walking towards our final destination with resilience and determination, we are encouraged to keep going towards our ultimate destination.

## Events Coming Up:

We continue to encourage all families to check our school calendar for the most up-to-date information on all goings-on in school: <https://www.st-mary-st-andrews.lancs.sch.uk/calendar/?calid=2,1,3,4&pid=10&viewid=2>

24<sup>th</sup> February – INSET for staff

25<sup>th</sup> February – Children start back

3<sup>rd</sup> March – Whole School Mass (2pm)

6<sup>th</sup> March – World Book Day

7<sup>th</sup> March – CAFOD Walking Fridays begins (every Friday 8:15am)

12<sup>th</sup> March – Let's Go Sing @ Winter Gardens

24<sup>th</sup> March – Eagles trip to Gawthorpe Hall

31<sup>st</sup> March – Rocksteady Concert

1<sup>st</sup> April – Whole School Art Day (Jubilee Celebrations)

2<sup>nd</sup> April – Family Easter Bonnet Craft Afternoon

3<sup>rd</sup> April – Parents Evening

4<sup>th</sup> April – Finish for Easter at 1:15pm

## Attendance:

Please find this school year's attendance so far.

Please do help us by bringing your child to school every day unless they are unwell and by booking holidays outside of term time. Well done, and thank you, for continuing to be above 97% overall!

## St Mary and St Andrew's Catholic Primary School, ...

Current academic year up to Thursday 13 February 2025

Number of pupils	Overall attendance %	Overall absence %	Unauthorised absence %
133	97.2%	2.8%	0.3%
Persistently absent		Severely absent	
Number of persistently absent pupils	Percentage of persistently absent pupils	Number of severely absent pupils	Percentage of severely absent pupils
8	6.0%	0	0.0%

Last 5 days (07 February 2025 to 13 February 2025)

Overall attendance %	Overall absence %	Unauthorised absence %
95.9%	4.1%	0.1%

## Health & Safety:

Jewellery in PE - Following legal advice, we cannot allow children to wear earrings during PE; new piercings cannot be taped or covered. Children must be able to remove their earrings - staff cannot do this. We encourage children not to wear their simple studs on PE days. If they cannot remove their earrings, they cannot join in the PE session. They may be able to join in if the session allows (i.e. refereeing/counting/setting up equipment etc.) but we cannot guarantee this involvement. This information is applicable to all jewellery.

Parking - Please can we ask again that no-one parks by the silver gates of school; this is used as a turning circle and is the only safe place we can offer parents to turn around on Station Lane. Parking remains a challenge to us all and we ask for your continued patience and kindness to one another.



## *A Message from Mrs Feeny for Robins:*

I am so excited to be returning to Robins and can't wait to see the children. I just wanted to send you a quick email with an update with what we will be working towards this half term so that you are able to help your children further at home if you would like to.

### Our Learning:

In maths this half term, we will be learning about multiplication and division. This will be with a focus on the 2s, 5s and 10 times tables. In English this half term, our writing and stories will all be about farms! We will be using 'The Sheep Pig' by Dick King Smith as our main text.

PE will be on a Tuesday and a Thursday. Please can families ensure that their children are appropriately dressed, with no jewellery. Spellings will continue to be sent out via email. We encourage children to read every night and have an adult sign their reading record. Without the reading record signed, we cannot move your children forward within their book bands.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to ask. I look forward to seeing lots of development throughout the rest of the year.

## *British Science Week poster competition:*

The British Science Week poster competition theme for 2025 is 'Change and Adapt'.

Pupils could create a poster showing:

- how plants and animals adapt to changing seasons or surroundings,
- how humans have adapted to changing technology
- climate change and how we can adapt our behaviours to protect the environment
- or their favourite science experiment and how it shows change.

The more creative the interpretation of the theme, the better!

Please submit your entries to Mrs Williams, Science Subject Leader, by Monday 31<sup>st</sup> March.

A maximum of five entries can then be entered into the national competition for a chance to win some amazing prizes. In addition, there is a competition for year 5 and 6 children to enter run by scientists at University College London. All details can be found on the competition information sheet attached in the newsletter email.

Get creative and good luck!

