



St Mary's Catholic Primary School

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Friday 27th June 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

It brings me such joy to begin this newsletter by sharing some brilliant news from across our school community.

Our Year 1 children achieved an incredible 82% pass rate in the national Phonics Screening Check. This reflects their enthusiasm, resilience, and determination. Behind every child is the unwavering support of families at home and a team of staff who give their all, every single day. Thank you for being such a vital part of that success.

We're also thrilled to share that 83% of our Year 4 pupils passed the Multiplication Tables Check, showing impressive confidence and fluency with number facts. We are so proud of each and every child. These achievements are not just about data but about personal growth and a love of learning that continues to grow.

However, I also need to share some more difficult news. With great reluctance, I have made the decision to cancel the Year 1 trip to Dudley Castle. Despite our efforts to plan ahead and offer flexible payment options, contributions only reached 50% of the total needed. Unfortunately, the school cannot cover the remaining cost from our budget.

Please know this decision was not made lightly. As a school, we are deeply committed to keeping costs as low as possible and ensuring access for all children. We cover the full cost of all afterschool clubs and fund the Year 6 prom in full, showing our dedication to giving every pupil enriching and memorable opportunities. Every trip contribution, no matter how small, helps bring these experiences to life. It's also important to mention that non-payment came from families in a wide range of financial situations, not only those facing hardship.

We are incredibly grateful to the families who did contribute. Refunds will be issued shortly, and this afternoon Mrs Lambie will gently speak to the children to help them understand the change in a supportive and reassuring way. We are already planning a fun in-school experience to ensure the children still enjoy something special.

In brighter news, this week a group of our amazing girls represented our school at a football tournament in Lilleshall, and they were simply exceptional. They played with skill, confidence, and incredible teamwork. Their positivity was infectious, and they demonstrated outstanding sportsmanship throughout. They returned glowing with pride and joy. A huge well done to them all.

As we approach the end of term, it is a lovely time to reflect on the many things we have accomplished together this year. We have continued to develop our curriculum, nurture our Catholic life, and help every child grow personally, academically, and spiritually. Our work on Catholic Social Teaching has encouraged children to explore values like dignity, compassion, and care for creation, inspiring them to make a positive difference.

From phonics and maths success to exciting trips, special theme days, and sporting events, this has been a year filled with growth, celebration, and service.

For full transparency, and as part of our legal obligations, we have attached a copy of our audited school accounts for your information.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support and encouragement. It means the world to us.

Mrs Griffiths

Community News from Telford & Wrekin Council

We're delighted to share some updates from the wider community that you may wish to get involved in:

Community Football Match and Fun Day – 21 June 2025 The event brought together young people from T&W Virtual School, Shropshire Virtual School, and Smashlife, in collaboration with Bridge Cheese. Despite the rain, the day was a huge success, with

Deputy Mayor Nathalie Page and Councillor Paul Davis joining in. Children thoroughly enjoyed themselves, particularly during the exciting rematch. A special thank you to Curtis, the VS Sports Lead, and all who supported the event.

Save the date for the next match: 20 June 2026

Telford Tall Tales – Drama Events with Moonstruck Astronaut This local theatre group is hosting a wonderful series of drama and storytelling events for 8–14 year olds in Telford Town Centre this summer and autumn, thanks to funding from Arts Council England. Activities aim to build confidence, communication, and creativity through theatre.

You can find details and book places via Eventbrite using the links below:

- Summer Storytelling Week (4–8 August): Summer Holiday Drama Camp
- Storytelling Saturday (13 September): Telford Tall Tales Storytelling Saturday
- Autumn Storytelling Workshops (starting 18 September): Autumn Drama Club – Evening Workshops

We hope many of our families will be able to enjoy these inspiring opportunities.

Thank you, as ever, for your support and for being a vital part of our school community.