

St Mary's Catholic Primary School

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Joshua 1:9

"I command you: be strong and steadfast! Do not fear nor be dismayed, for the Lord, your God, is with you wherever you go."

Dear Year 6,

As we approach Monday and the start of your SATs, I wanted to take a moment to speak directly to each and every one of you.

First and foremost: I am incredibly proud of you. All year long, you've worked hard, asked questions, taken on challenges, and supported one another. You've shown commitment, maturity, and a determination that goes far beyond any test paper. Now, the time has come to show what you can do - and I know you'll shine.



SATs are an opportunity to demonstrate all the brilliant learning you've done during your time in primary school. They're a chance to show off your skills in reading, maths, grammar, punctuation, and spelling. But please

remember: SATs do not measure your worth, your kindness, your creativity, or your sense of humour. They do not tell us how talented you are at music, art, drama, football, Minecraft, or making your friends laugh. They simply give you a chance to show how much progress you've made in a few subjects - and that's just one small part of who you are.

As you prepare for this week, I want you to remember that God is with you every step of the way, and He is smiling on you. When you walk into the exam room, know that God sees all the hard work you've put in, and He is proud of you too. His love and guidance are always there, surrounding you with peace and strength. So, hold your head high, because you are never alone.

As we head into the weekend, one important reminder: please take care of yourselves. If the weather is sunny and warm, make sure you stay out of the strong sun for long periods, wear sunscreen, and keep well hydrated by drinking plenty of water. Feeling tired, dehydrated, or sunburnt on Monday morning could affect how you feel during the tests, so look after your body and give yourself the best chance to feel great and focused.



What matters most next week is that you try your best. No more, no less. Some questions might feel tricky. Some you'll breeze through. Stay calm, take your time, and remember all the strategies you've practised together. You're ready.

A few reminders:

- Get a good night's sleep each night.
- Eat a healthy breakfast in the morning (we'll have some snacks ready in school too!).
- Arrive on time and bring that lovely smile of yours.

- And most importantly, believe in yourself. We certainly do.

I also want to thank your families. They've been cheering you on, helping with homework, and giving you the encouragement you need every step of the way. We appreciate their support more than words can say.



After SATs, we have so much to look forward to - school trips, sports day, the prom, and those final memories you'll make with your classmates before moving on to your new adventures in secondary school.

This song is very special to me, and I listen to it if I ever have things that are unsettling me or making me feel a little worried or nervous... have a listen too.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HqpNGYbcy3U>

So go into next week with your heads held high. You've got this.

With all my best wishes and a huge amount of pride,

God Bless,

Mrs Griffiths x

Reception Trip to Home Farm



This week, our Reception children enjoyed a truly memorable trip to **Home Farm at Attingham Park**—a wonderful day full of exploration, learning, and laughter!

From the moment we arrived, the children were full of excitement. They were eager to meet the animals, and they weren't disappointed! We saw cows, pigs, chickens, and even got up close with some very friendly sheep. The children loved learning about how the animals are cared for, what they eat, and the important role they play on the farm.

A highlight of the visit was watching the children's eyes light

up during a hands-on session where they had the chance to feed some of the animals and feel the texture of wool and hay. It was a fantastic opportunity to bring our classroom learning to life and connect with nature in a safe, engaging environment.

The team at Attingham Park also guided us through the farmyard, sharing fascinating facts and answering lots of curious questions. The children were brilliant ambassadors for our school - polite, enthusiastic, and full of wonder.

We're so proud of how well they represented our Reception class. Thank you, as always, for your continued support in making these enriching experiences possible.

Prayer Packs



We are excited to inform you that, as part of our ongoing efforts to encourage faith and prayer within our school community, we will be sending home Prayer Packs with one child from each class at a time. These packs are designed to help families grow in faith together and provide an opportunity for your child to introduce prayer into your home. Each child will have the opportunity to take the pack home for a week

before passing it along to another student in the class.

What's Inside the Prayer Pack:

1. A Prayer Card

The pack will include a card with a simple, easy-to-remember prayer for your child. This could include familiar prayers such as the "Our Father" or "Hail Mary," or a special prayer related to school, peace, or other themes. The prayer card will be beautifully illustrated with images like a cross, dove, or a picture of Jesus.

2. A Candle

A small, safe-to-use votive candle (battery-operated) will be included, along with a prayer for peace. We encourage you to light this candle and pray together as a family. A suggested prayer is: "Lord, bless my family and help us to live in peace." This is a lovely way to create a peaceful prayer moment in your home.

3. A Prayer Cloth

The prayer pack will also contain a prayer cloth. This can be placed in a special prayer space or near your child's bed as a reminder to pray before sleeping.

4. A Small Rosary or Rosary Beads

We have included a child-friendly set of rosary beads (plastic or wooden) and easy-to-follow instructions for praying the Rosary. Your child can start by learning the opening prayers: Our Father, Hail Mary, and Glory Be. This is a wonderful introduction to the tradition of the Rosary.

5. A Parent Letter

Each pack will also include a letter for parents, explaining the purpose of the prayer pack and offering suggestions on how to integrate prayer into your daily family life. Simple practices such as praying before meals, bedtime prayers, or lighting the candle together can help strengthen your family's spiritual bond.

We hope that these Prayer Packs will help deepen your child's connection to God and provide a wonderful way for families to come together in prayer. Each week, one child will take the pack home, and we ask that it be returned in time for the next child in the class to receive it.






Thank you for your support and for being a part of this special faith experience with your child.

5 by 5

Big Adventures for Little Learners: Helping Your Child Be Ready for School

At St Mary's, we know that starting school is a big step - for children and for parents. That's why we're excited to share a special list of adventures and activities designed for children to try by the age of five, created to help them become happy, healthy, and confident as they take their first steps into reception.

These adventures aren't just fun, they're carefully built around five key themes to support your child's early development:

-  Find Their Voice – building language and communication skills
-  Make Friends – developing social and emotional confidence
-  Be Curious – encouraging discovery, imagination, and problem-solving
-  Be Creative – exploring music, movement, and art
-  Build Connections – understanding the world and forming bonds with family and community

By joining in with these activities and practising simple, everyday skills, children are better equipped to settle into school life with confidence, feeling emotionally secure and ready to learn and grow.

Best of all, many of these adventures are free and easy to do! You don't need to go far - they can be done at home, in the garden, at your local library, park, or community group, right here in Telford and Wrekin. From sharing a story and playing with new friends, to exploring nature or building something with blocks, these early experiences lay strong foundations for lifelong learning.

We encourage you to explore these activities with your child and make the most of the many resources available in our community. Together, we can help every child feel ready, supported, and excited for their school journey.

If you'd like a copy of the adventure list or more ideas for early learning activities, please contact the school office or visit your local Family Hub.

Take a look at the link below and let the adventures begin!

<https://5by5.telford.gov.uk/>

Dear God,

Today we remember with gratitude all the brave men and women who fought for freedom during the Second World War. On this 80th anniversary of VE Day, we thank You for their courage, their sacrifice, and their love for their families and for the world.

We pray for those who gave their lives so that we could live in peace. May their souls rest in Your eternal light. We pray for those who are still with us, that You continue to bless them with health, happiness, and the knowledge that their efforts will never be forgotten.



We ask You, Lord, to watch over our world today. Fill our hearts with peace, kindness, and a desire to always work together for the good of all. Help us to follow the examples of love and sacrifice shown by those who lived through this difficult time.

Bless our families, our communities, and all those who work for peace and justice. May we always be grateful for the freedom we have, and may we never forget the cost it took to achieve it.

We ask all this through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary, and in the name of Jesus Christ, Our Lord.

Amen.