



### **St Mary's Catholic Primary School**

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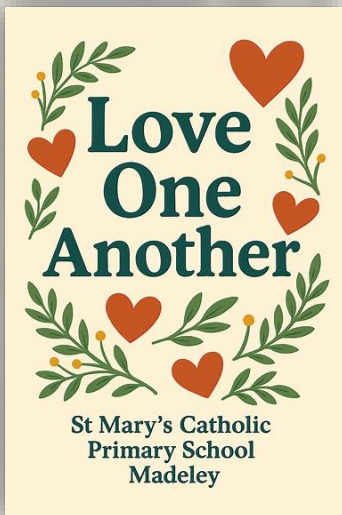
Headteacher: Samantha Griffiths

Assistant Headteacher: Helen Lambie

School Business Manager: Nicola Pryce

## **St Mary's Catholic Primary School**

### **Newsletter**



Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to school. It has been a pleasure to see the children return and settle so positively into routines. They have made an excellent start to the term, showing enthusiasm, focus, and a real eagerness to learn. The sunshine has certainly helped too, it really does make a difference to how we all feel and learn in school.

#### **Promoting Our School – A Parent Appeal**

We are currently in a position where we have a small number of places remaining for a September start, and following such encouraging inspections, we are keen that local children benefit from the strong teaching and excellent pastoral care on offer at Saint Mary's.

We know that some families living very close to the school choose other settings, and we feel this is sometimes because parents are unsure whether our school is open to them. We would like to reassure families that children do not need to be Catholic to attend St Mary's, and families of all faiths, or none, are very welcome.

Birth rates are currently lower, and with newer housing developments built further away from the school, we now need to promote our school more actively. We would be extremely grateful if you could recommend St Mary's to friends, neighbours, or anyone you know who may be considering a new school or starting their child in September.

If you know anyone who might be interested, please encourage them to make an appointment. I would be very happy to show them around the school myself, or Nicola

Pryce would be delighted to do so. Visiting families are under no obligation to apply, they are simply welcome to come and see our wonderful school.

Many of you already recommend St Mary's to others, and we are truly grateful for your support.



### **A More Comfortable Learning Environment**

As you may have noticed, the Governors have recently invested in air conditioning across the classrooms. Over the last few years, changes in the climate have meant that classroom temperatures have often become uncomfortably warm, impacting both teaching and learning. This investment will make a significant difference to

staff and pupils alike, creating a more comfortable and productive learning environment for everyone going forward.

### **Sugary Treats – A Growing Concern**

We are becoming increasingly concerned about the amount of sugar children are consuming throughout the school day. As a school, we have worked hard to significantly reduce sugary foods at breakfast club and lunchtimes. However, children often report eating grab bags of sweets or regularly having sugary treats.

High levels of sugar can:

- Lead to sharp fluctuations in energy levels and concentration
- Affect behaviour and emotional regulation
- Contribute to tooth decay and longer-term health concerns
- Disrupt sleep, making learning the following day more difficult



We kindly ask for your support in limiting sugary snacks during the school week, as small changes can make a big difference to children's health and wellbeing.

## **Library Visits and a Love of Reading**

Recently, groups of children visited the local library and took great delight in choosing books to bring back to school. Some even signed up to become library members, which was lovely to see.

We encourage families to visit the library together and consider joining if you are not already members. Access to a wide range of books helps foster a lifelong love of reading and supports learning across the curriculum.

## **Reading Books, Records, and Water Bottles**

We have noticed that a significant number of children are not bringing their reading books and reading records into school each morning, with some reported as lost. These resources are expensive for the school to replace, so we kindly ask parents to make a concerted effort to locate them and ensure they are brought in daily.

Please ensure your child comes to school every day with:

- Their reading book
- Their reading record
- A named water bottle

## **Why reading at home is so important:**

- Builds fluency, comprehension, and vocabulary
- Supports writing and learning across all subjects
- Boosts confidence and independence
- Provides valuable shared time between children and adults

Even just 10 minutes of reading each day makes a noticeable difference to progress.

## Keeping Children Safe in the Sunshine



As temperatures rise, children are spending more time outdoors. Please ensure sunscreen is applied at home before school using a once-daily, long-lasting sunscreen. For safeguarding and medical reasons, staff are unable to apply or reapply sunscreen during the school day.

We also ask that children:

- Wear suitable clothing for warm weather
- Bring a sun hat where possible
- Have a named water bottle every day

These simple measures help keep children safe, comfortable, and able to enjoy outdoor learning.

## Attendance and Safeguarding

There is a strong national emphasis on school attendance, and we feel it is important that parents understand why attendance is closely linked to safeguarding.

Poor or irregular attendance can be considered a safeguarding concern, as frequent absences may raise questions about a child's wellbeing, safety, or the level of support a family may be receiving. In some situations, absence can unintentionally mask concerns or indicate that families are struggling and may need help.

We recognise that absences can occur for genuine reasons and always aim to work in partnership with parents. However, school staff have a duty of care to follow up where attendance becomes a concern. Many parents are not aware of this link, and we share this information to help explain our responsibilities.

If you are experiencing difficulties that are affecting attendance, please speak to us as early as possible so that we can support you.

## Thank You to Parents

Thank you to all the parents and carers who attended the Year 4 curriculum assembly. It was wonderful to see so many of you, and the children were incredibly proud to

share the work they have been completing over the term. Your support and encouragement mean a great deal to them.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support and partnership. Working together ensures that all children at Saint Mary's are safe, happy, and able to thrive.

**MADELEY CRICKET CLUB**  
1855

# MADELEY CRICKET CLUB

## GIRLS WANTED!

**FREE TRIAL**  
COME AND GIVE IT A GO!

### U12 & U15 GIRLS CRICKET TEAMS

ALL ABILITIES WELCOME – INCLUDING COMPLETE BEGINNERS!

- FRIENDLY TEAMMATES**  
Be part of a supportive and welcoming team
- FUN & ENGAGING SESSIONS**  
Learn, improve and enjoy the game
- EXPERT COACHING**  
Sessions led by ECB qualified coaches
- CLEAR PATHWAY**  
A clear pathway into adult cricket

**TRAINING EVERY FRIDAY**

U12	6:00PM – 7:00PM
U15	7:00PM – 8:00PM

**MADELEY CRICKET CLUB**  
PARK LANE, MADELEY, TF7 5JY

**COME PLAY. MAKE FRIENDS. LOVE CRICKET!**

**f** Madeley Cricket Club  
**@**madeleycricketclub  
**✉** dan.madeleycricketclub@gmail.com

★ **ALL ABILITIES WELCOME**  
INCLUDING COMPLETE BEGINNERS!  
♥ **ENGAGING & ENTHUSIASTIC**  
GIRLS CRICKET – JOIN US!



**MADELEY**  
**CRICKET CLUB**

# JUNIOR SECTION



*PLAY. LEARN. GROW.*

*BE PART OF THE MADELEY FAMILY!*



**GIRLS**  
AGED 8-15



**BOYS**  
AGED 8-15



**£30**  
PER SEASON  
MEMBERSHIP



LED BY  
ECB AWARD  
WINNING COACHES.



TRAINING  
FRIDAY EVENINGS  
FROM 6PM

*COME ALONG, MAKE FRIENDS,  
HAVE FUN AND LOVE CRICKET!*

*ALL ABILITIES  
WELCOME!*

School Dates for Your Diary

Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> April

Year 2 Curriculum Assembly – all parents welcome

May

Monday 4<sup>th</sup> May

Bank Holiday – School Closed

Monday 11<sup>th</sup> May

Year 6 SATs Week Begins

Monday 18<sup>th</sup> May

Walk to School Week

Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> May

Reception Trip to Home Farm Attingham

Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> May

Mr Morgan's Class Curriculum Assembly. Parents are warmly invited to attend.

Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> May

Year 6 Thanksgiving Leavers' Mass  
Held at the Cathedral in Shrewsbury.

Monday 25<sup>th</sup> May

Half Term Begins

June

Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June

Return to School

Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> June

Year 5/6 Cricket Competition

Wednesday 3rd June

Year 1 Curriculum Assembly – Mrs Lambie & Mrs Bright

Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> June

Year 1 Trip to Hoo Zoo

Monday 8<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> June

Parents' Evening – Parent/Class teacher individual meetings

Wednesday 10th June

Year 6 Curriculum Assembly – Mrs Bulkeley-Jones. All parents welcome.

Tuesday 16th June

Key Stage 1 Sports Day (*weather permitting*)

Wednesday 17th June

Key Stage 2 Sports Day

Thursday 18th June

Year 2 Trip to Wolverhampton Grand Theatre

Tuesday 23rd June

Year 3 Trip to Dudmaston Hall

July

Wednesday 1st July

Year 5 Curriculum Assembly – Miss Carver. Year 5 parents are invited to attend.

Year 4 Trip to Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery

Wednesday 8th July

Reception Curriculum Assembly – Miss Rushton. All Reception parents are invited.

Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> July

Chinese Dance Workshop with Year 4 and 5

Friday 10<sup>th</sup> July

Year 6 Prom

Year 6 Leavers' Assembly

The date and time will be confirmed nearer the time.

Friday 17<sup>th</sup> July

Break Up for Summer Holidays

### Key Catholic Dates – 2026

#### March

- 19 March – St Joseph, Spouse of Mary (Solemnity)
- 25 March – Annunciation of the Lord

#### Holy Week (2026)

- 29 March – Palm Sunday
- 2 April – Holy Thursday
- 3 April – Good Friday
- 4 April – Holy Saturday
- 5 April – Easter Sunday
- 12 April – Divine Mercy Sunday

#### April / May

- 13 May – Our Lady of Fatima
- 14 May – Ascension of the Lord *\*(often transferred to 17 May in some dioceses)*
- 24 May – Pentecost Sunday
- 31 May – Trinity Sunday

#### June

- 7 June – Corpus Christi
- 12 June – Sacred Heart of Jesus
- 13 June – Immaculate Heart of Mary
- 24 June – Nativity of St John the Baptist
- 29 June – Saints Peter and Paul

## July / August

- 16 July – Our Lady of Mount Carmel
- 6 August – Transfiguration of the Lord
- 15 August – Assumption of Mary
- 22 August – Queenship of Mary

## September

- 14 September – Exaltation of the Holy Cross
- 15 September – Our Lady of Sorrows
- 29 September – Feast of the Archangels

## October

- 8 October – Our Lady of the Rosary

## November

- 1 November – All Saints' Day
- 2 November – All Souls' Day
- 22 November – Christ the King

## December

- 8 December – Immaculate Conception (Holy Day)
- 12 December – Our Lady of Guadalupe
- 25 December – Christmas: Nativity of the Lord
- 30 December – Feast of the Holy Family