

ST. GEORGE'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

At St George's, God calls us by name to love,
learn and achieve together, safe in the palm of His hands.

'I have called you by your name; you are mine' Isaiah 43



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To our wonderful community,

As we reach the end of the first half of the spring term, I would like to thank everyone for their hard work, enthusiasm and commitment during this half term. I don't think I have ever seen so many house stars on the board in such a short space of time! I wish you all a very happy and safe half term break, and I look forward to welcoming everyone back after the holiday. Let's hope the weather has improved by then!

See you on Monday 23rd February.

Mrs Delgado

New Payment System

After February half term, we will be moving to a new payment system - MCAS - My Child at School. All parents will need to download this App ready for their invitation to join which should come on 23rd or 24th February

Any outstanding balances owing for school trips will be transferred to MCAS - however they may not be showing on the first day, so thank you in advance for your patience.

We ask parents to continue booking Breakfast and After School Club on the School Comms App for w/c 23rd Feb and w/c 2nd March - bookings after that date will be made in the MCAS app. There will be spaces available.

Parents ordering school lunches will continue using the Google Form up until 27th February.

DOWNLOAD MCAS
Coming in February 2026

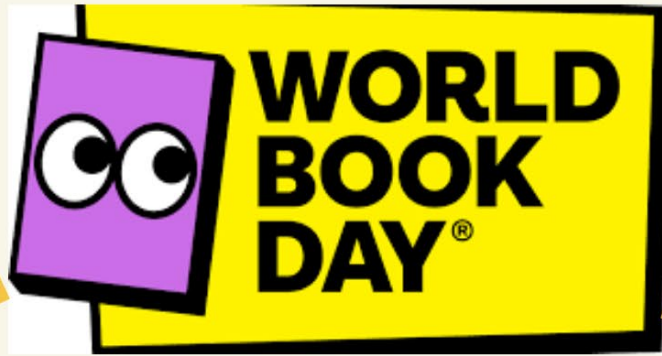
View everything in one place:

- Announcements & Messages
- Attendance Tracking
- Achievements
- Academic Information
- Online Payments
- Bookings & Consent
- Contact Information
- Multi-Child Access

Google Play App Store

ASSISI CATHOLIC TRUST





THURSDAY 5TH MARCH



Dress up as
your favourite
book
character.

Create a
book in a
box



Produce your
own book
sleeve, of a
book you love.





Head Teachers Award

Congratulations to our winners this week.

Henry ~ (St Francis) ~ Henry has been playing with his friends during the week, building with blocks and enjoying reading together

Aarujaan ~ (St Therese) ~ What an incredible week for Aaruj! He has worked so hard on his phonics, maths, reading, writing—everything! We are all so very proud of you, Aaruj!

Theodore ~ (St Elizabeth) ~ for writing a great story about celebrating The Chinese New Year. He worked hard and used his phonics skills to sound out words independently, showing fantastic determination.

St Bernadette Class ~ for representing our school brilliantly on our school trip. They were so respectful of members of the public and fantastic at following instructions. Mrs Lawrence was very proud of you.

Isabella ~ (St Joseph) ~ for a brilliant week! She has worked well in all lessons and demonstrated enthusiasm and perseverance, also displaying focus and independence. Well done, Isabella!

Ruby (St Anthony) ~ for enthusiastically engaging in class discussions, producing excellent English work and being a wonderful role model. Well done, Ruby!

Sinela ~ (St Peter) ~ for always being a wonderful role model to others in her behaviour, manners, and work ethic. She always takes an active role in class discussions, and her work is consistently completed to the best of her ability - well done!

Year 3 Trip

Year 3 had a brilliant time on their trip to the Pompeii Immersive Experience in London, where history truly came to life! The children were fascinated as they stepped back in time to explore the sights and sounds of ancient Pompeii, learning all about Roman life, powerful volcanoes, and the dramatic events of Mount Vesuvius. They were fully immersed in Roman life through the use of VR technology, walking round an ancient villa, riding a chariot and adding their names to an ancient Graffiti wall. They asked thoughtful questions, showed fantastic enthusiasm and exceptional behaviour throughout the experience. It was a great day which we all enjoyed.

Sports Round Up

This week we had three of our teams in action. On Monday, our year 5 & 6 netball team played 6 league games at Cecil Jones. Even though the girls hadn't played for a couple of weeks, due to the weather, they instantly clicked again as a team. As ever, they gave 100% and Mrs Irons and I were very proud of them. Well done to:



Sinela, Darcey, Erin, Chloe, Abigail, Sophia, Sophie & Ellie



Then on Thursday, our year 5 & 6 boys football team were in league action. They travelled to Milton Hall to play their first league fixture. The boys played extremely well and secured a 2-0 win, a great result. Well done to:

Zayaan, Folami, Spencer, Freddie, Albie, Ronnie, Zachariah & Teddy

And finally, this morning our Key Stage 1 football team played in their first ever event. It was a little wet, but that didn't dampen their spirits. It was super to watch the boys play their first tournament together, and although they didn't come in the top three, they showed super skills. Well done to:

John-Luke, Reuben, Freddie, Jacob, Conor, Noah & Beau



We have a fantastic second half term to look forward to—more football, tag rugby, indoor athletics, cross country, as well as Prom Praise with the choir.

A reminder to everyone attending these events that you are representatives of our school. St George's has an excellent reputation, and we are proud of the way our pupils conduct

themselves. We want that to continue long into the future. Other schools enjoy playing against us, singing alongside us, and I consistently receive positive feedback wherever we go. We strive to demonstrate the values of sportsmanship, fairness, respect, and to be gracious in both victory and defeat. We expect everyone—children, staff, and spectators—to model these values at all times.

Thank you for your continued support in helping us maintain a positive and rewarding experience for everyone involved.

Sports Award

This week we have TWO sports awards, both from St Anthony's Class. **Seby** has been recognised for his engagement and effort in our 80's dance lesson. **Aviya** has also been recognised for her pace, fluidity, and skill in our 80's dance lesson. Well done to both of you.

Punctuality Percentages

Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
96%	98%	96%	98%	100%	99%	99%

Times Table Rock Stars

Congratulations to our TOP TEN rockstars this week.

1 st	2 nd	3 rd	4 th	5 th
Kyle - Year 6	Sophia - Year 5	Abigail - Year 5	Baffuor - Year 2	Ella - Year 4
6 th	7 th	8 th	9 th	10 th
Reu'ven - Year 2	Fiachra - Year 5	Sophie - Year 5	Mia - Year 2	Jacob - Year 2

Reading Awards

Well done to **Annabelle & Joshua** (St Francis) **Raven** (St Bernadette) and **Scarlett, Michelle & Vinnie** (St Anthony) who received their **BRONZE** award this week.

And well done to the children who received their **SILVER** reading award.

Dylan & Eddie (St Francis), **Florence** (St Bernadette) and **Ryan** (St Anthony)

This week we awarded our **FIRST GOLD** reading awards which recognised children reaching
150 READS

Isabella-Ava & Albie (St Francis), **Sienna, Reyna, Harry & Aarujaan** (St Therese),

Edie & Reuben (St Elizabeth), **Nyla** (St Bernadette),

Jason (St Joseph), **Sophie** (St Anthony) and **Sinela** (St Peter)

Birthdays

Congratulations to **Eryn Rae** (St Francis) and **Lolade** (St Elizabeth)

and those celebrating their birthdays during half term

Thomas (St Therese), **Rosie** (St Joseph), **River-Jane** (St Anthony),

Folami & Amaya (St Peter)



Prayers



This week, we ask for your prayers for Edie from St Elizabeth class and for all her family. Sadly, her wonderful grandad, Steve, passed away at the beginning of this week. He was a deeply loved father and grandfather who will be greatly missed. Our love and prayers are with the whole family at this very difficult time.

*Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord,
And let perpetual light shine upon him.
May he rest in peace.*

God Bless, *Mrs Delgado*

Diary Dates

Further activities/dates will be added as soon as they have been finalised and will be in **BOLD**

<u>Date:</u>	<u>Event:</u>
HALF TERM HOLIDAY ~ MONDAY 16TH – FRIDAY 20TH FEBRUARY 2026	
Wednesday 25 th February	Netball tournament @ Cecil Jones
Friday 27 th February	Year 3 & 4 Girls Football @ Len Forge
Monday 2 nd March	Spring Open afternoon 3.30pm-5pm
	Parent-Carer Consultation week begins
Tuesday 3 rd March	'Hot Cross Run' @ St Thomas More
Wednesday 4 th March	Key Stage 1 Tag Rugby tournament @ Southend Rugby Club
Thursday 5 th March	Football Match V Friars
Tuesday 10 th March	Year 3/4 Sportshall Athletics
Wednesday 11 th March	Year 3/4 Tag Rugby tournament @ Southend Rugby Club
Thursday 12 th March	Football Match V Sacred Heart
	Year 5 Trip
Friday 13 th March	KS1 Girls Football @ Len Forge
Monday 16 th March	Netball League matches after school @ Cecil Jones
Tuesday 17 th – 20 th March	Year 6 Residential trip
	Choir event ~ Royal Albert Hall
Thursday 19 th March	Feast of St Joseph
Monday 23 rd March	Non uniform day for winning house team
Wednesday 25 th March	Rocksteady Concert 9.30am
	Year 3 & 4 Stations of the Cross @ St George's Church 2pm
Friday 27 th March	Last day of Spring Term

**EASTER HOLIDAY ~
MONDAY 30TH MARCH – FRIDAY 10TH APRIL 2026**

*Friday 3rd April ~ Good Friday
Sunday 5th April ~ Easter Sunday*

Monday 13 th April	First Day of Summer Term 2026
	Year 6 Bikeability
Tuesday 14 th April	Year 6 Bikeability
Thursday 16 th April	Feast of St Bernadette
Thursday 23 rd April	St George's Day
Monday 4 th May	Bank holiday
w/b 11 th May	Year 6 SATS WEEK
Tuesday 19 th May	Crowning of Mary school celebration – details to follow
Wednesday 20 th May	Science Fayre 2pm
Thursday 21 st May	KS1 Cross Country – Pentecost Dash! @ St Teresa's, Rochford
Friday 22 nd May	INSET DAY ~ SCHOOL CLOSED TO PUPILS
HALF TERM HOLIDAY ~ MONDAY 25TH MAY – FRIDAY 29TH MAY 2026	
Monday 1 st June	Back to school
w/b 8 th June	Year 1 Phonics Screening
Tuesday 9 th June	KS2 Borough Sports @ Garons (afternoon session)
Wednesday 10 th June	School Class Photographs
Saturday 13 th June	Feast of St Anthony of Padua
Tuesday 16 th June	Induction afternoon for Reception 2026
Friday 19 th June	INSET DAY ~ SCHOOL CLOSED TO PUPILS
Monday 22 nd June	INSET DAY ~ SCHOOL CLOSED TO PUPILS
Wednesday 24 th June	KS2 Assisi Catholic Sports @ St Thomas More 9.30am
Friday 26 th June	St George's Celebration Day from 9am – all families welcome
Tuesday 30 th June	Year 5 & 6 End of Year Performance 1.45pm
Wednesday 1 st July	Year 5 & 6 End of Year Performance 9.15am & 6pm
Thursday 2 nd July	KS1 Assisi Catholic Sports @ St Teresa's 10am – noon
Friday 3 rd July	Year 6 Transition Day TBC
Friday 10 th July	Year 6 Leavers Assembly 9.05am
Monday 13 th July	Non uniform day for winning house team
Tuesday 14 th July	Year 6 Leavers Mass 2pm @ St George's Church
Wednesday 15 th July	Rocksteady Concert 9.30am
Friday 17 th July	Last day of term

SUMMER HOLIDAY MONDAY 20TH JULY 2026

10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators

FOSTERING A SENSE OF BELONGING

Helping children feel like they belong is vital for their emotional wellbeing, academic success, and overall development. A true sense of belonging reduces anxiety, builds confidence, and supports resilience. These ten tips are designed to help parents and educators create inclusive, caring environments where children feel accepted, safe, and valued.

1 USE EVERYDAY MOMENTS



Belonging is built in the small moments. Use daily routines such as meals, school drop-offs, or quiet times, to check in, offer praise, or listen. These interactions don't need to be lengthy to be meaningful. Consistent gestures of connection and warmth show children they are important, making them feel seen, appreciated, and truly part of the home or classroom community.

2 INVOLVE THEM IN RULE-MAKING



Inviting children to help create rules or routines gives them a sense of shared ownership and responsibility. When their voices are heard, they feel respected and included in the decision-making process. This empowers children, fosters cooperation, and reduces resistance. Whether at home or school, co-created expectations are more likely to be followed because they come from a place of mutual respect.

3 VALIDATE ALL EMOTIONS



Acknowledging a child's emotions, whether positive or challenging, helps them feel accepted as they are. Validating statements like "I can see that made you upset," or "That sounds really exciting," support emotional expression and connection. Children who feel emotionally safe are more likely to seek help, participate openly, and trust the adults around them – all of which contribute to a sense of belonging.

4 HIGHLIGHT HIDDEN STRENGTHS



Go beyond academic success or good behaviour and take time to recognise a child's less visible qualities, such as thoughtfulness, resilience, or humour. Noticing these strengths sends a powerful message that they are valued for who they are, not just for what they do. This boosts self-esteem and helps children feel accepted in a world that often focuses on external achievements.

5 SHOW CURIOSITY ABOUT CULTURE



Ask respectful, open questions about a child's cultural background, family customs, or celebrations. These conversations create opportunities for children to share what matters to them and to feel proud of their identity. Whether at home or in school, valuing cultural experiences helps all children feel that their heritage is respected, and that they belong in a diverse, inclusive environment where every voice counts.

6 BELONGING BUDDIES



Pairing children with a peer they might not typically choose can foster new connections and break down social barriers. Assigning short projects, games, or shared responsibilities gives them a reason to interact. Buddy systems help quieter or less confident children feel included and supported. Over time, these intentional connections can develop into meaningful friendships, strengthening the wider sense of community and inclusion.

7 AVOID LABELS AND COMPARISONS



Avoid labelling children by behaviour or comparing them to others, as this can damage self-esteem and foster exclusion. Statements like "Why can't you be more like..." may unintentionally make a child feel less worthy. Instead, focus on individual progress and strengths. Encouraging children to celebrate their own achievements, however small, helps them develop confidence and feel valued for being themselves.

8 MAKE TIME FOR ONE-TO-ONES



Spending regular one-to-one time with a child shows that they matter on an individual level. These moments can be as simple as reading a book together or chatting during a walk. Focused attention, free from distraction, builds trust and emotional connection. It lets the child know they are important and cared for, which is crucial for developing a strong sense of belonging.

9 REFLECT THEIR INTERESTS



Whether at home or in school, including children's interests in daily life reinforces their importance. Display their artwork, talk about their favourite books, or include their hobbies in family activities or lesson plans. Seeing their identity reflected in their environment tells children they belong. It shows that their passions, preferences, and contributions are valued and that they have a place in the group.

10 EMPHASISE 'WE' OVER 'THEY'



Use inclusive language that reinforces unity and shared identity. Phrases like "Let's figure it out together," or "We all help each other here," promote collective responsibility and connection. Avoiding divisive terms like "those children," or "that class" helps children feel part of a supportive group. Language shapes experience, and inclusive language fosters environments where every child feels safe, welcomed, and included.

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