



ST MARY'S CATHOLIC SCHOOL

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Summer Term 2026: Term 5, Week 1

Friday 17th April 2026

Values points (Spring 2026)

We would like to congratulate all the children on their efforts across the spring terms. As you will be aware, pupils are awarded Values Points (linked to the core school values of Love, Learn & Serve).

In total, the children were awarded a mammoth 16,234 points across the eleven weeks of the spring term.

The class average was 2,319 points (earning year group reward events such as extra trim trail sessions, cake & cookies, board game sessions etc.).

On average, each child earned 74 points!

Values Champions

These children are the top Values Point scorers in each class and have excelled in consistently demonstrating the school values of Love, Learn & Serve and being role models for their peers.

To acknowledge their achievement, the children received a Values Champion wristband and were treated to a celebration squash and biscuits party.

Reception	Year 1	Year 2
Phoebe	Harry	Annabel
Rory	Imogen	O
Dasia	Eleanor	Edward
David	Finn	Francisco
Daniel	Phoebe	Ottilia
Hailey	Oliver	Emily
Janaya	Melinda	Maisie
	Izaak	Ahana
	Sephora	

Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Lucy	Margot	Conor	Henry
Sophia	Raphael	Reuben	Molly
Harry G	Anna	Hugo	Millie
Kaitlin	Lillie	Finley	Valentine
MacAllan	Shyla-Mai	Hortense	Cohen
Jesse	Maeve	Michelle	Giorgia
Sebastian	Seb	Rome	Anna
Ted		Luke	Jenny

The points totals reset at the start of each term (so children all start on a level playing field) and new Values Champions will be crowned for the summer term.

Free Parent Webinar: Sensory Needs & Behaviours: Strategies for Everyday Success

All children experience the world through their senses, but for some, everyday sensory input can feel overwhelming or difficult to manage. This can have an impact on behaviour, emotions, and learning.

This webinar will help parents and carers to:

- Better understand sensory needs and how they can affect behaviour
- Recognise possible signs of sensory overload
- Learn practical strategies they can use straight away at home

The session will be delivered by Marijana, Head of Family Support at Move More.

Registration link: <https://www.move-more.org/events/parent-webinar-sensory-needs-and-behaviours/>



First Mathematics Challenge

Year 3 and Year 4 had the option over Easter to dive into a **Maths Challenge**. This is a national paper which asks 20 quirky questions designed around logic and mathematics and the results were incredible! Here is an example of a crazy question...

4 cherries weigh the same as 1 apricot. 2 apricots weigh the same as 1 apple. How many cherries weigh the same as 3 apples?

Well done to Daniel, Lizzie and Macallan in Year 3 and Nilax, Margot, Darla, Adeline, Harvey, Shriyan, Henry, Maeve, Anna K, Seb, Farai and Honor who faced the challenge!

Look out for more Maths challenges coming soon...

Mrs Crowley- Maths Subject Leader.

Values Role Models

Each week, class staff identify three pupils who are truly representative of the school values (in their learning, play and / or by contributing to the wider life of the school).

This week's values role models are:

			
Reception	Xiah	Faye	Delilah
Year 1	Sephora	Imogen	C
Year 2	Francisco	Josh	Chidalu
Year 3	Leo	Ethan	Seren
Year 4	Seb	Maria	Elias
Year 5	Ellie	Rome	Luca
Year 6	Jenny	Emily	Giorgia

Forest School fun

Year 4 had a fantastic time cooking (and eating!) campfire bread during their forest school session, this week.



AFTER SCHOOL ACTIVITY CLUBS (Summer 2026)

Summer clubs start next week, beginning 20th April (T5W2) > Thursday football starts in Week 3 (27th April)

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
Gymnastics Y2 – Y6 Infant Football Y1-Y2	Chaplaincy Y2 – Y6 Netball Club Y5 Rounders Club Y6	Rugby Club Y3 – Y6 Nature Club Y1 – Y3	Football Club Y1 – Y6

Please refer to the information email / school website for details of club availability and, how to sign up for clubs in the summer terms.

FOREST SCHOOL TIMETABLE (Term 5): For Forest School children should wear their basic kit, with shoes, to school and bring wellies & waterproofs (plus any extra clothing items) in a separate (**named**) bag.

Term 5	Tuesday PM							Thursday PM						
	WK 1	WK 2	WK 3	WK 4	WK 5	WK 6		WK 1	WK 2	WK 3	WK 4	WK 4	WK 6	
	14/4	21/4	26/4	5/5	12/5	19/5		16/4	23/4	30/4	7/5	14/5	21/5	
	Y1	Y3	Y3	Y2	Y2	Y1		Y4	Y5	Y5	Y4	-	Y6	



Summer Term 5 Events Calendar

Term 5: Monday 13 th April – Friday 22 nd May 2026	
Term 5	-Year 5 Swimming. (Sessions: April: 13, 20, 27 / May: 11 & 18)
Thursday 16 th April	-9:15 Beginning of term (Easter) mass (Our Lady's) *
Monday 20 th – Friday 24 th April	-Summer Term after-school clubs commence (last session w/c 29 th June)
Thursday 23 rd April	-15:30-17:30 SEND reviews (parent meetings)
Monday 27 th April	-15:30-17:30 SEND reviews (parent meetings)
Thursday 30 th April	-9:00 Year 1 Phonics Screening Check parent meeting (hall)*
Monday 4 th May	-Bank Holiday
Monday 11 th – Thursday 14 th May	-Year 6 SATs tests week
Thursday 14 th May	-13:15 Ascension Day mass.
Thursday 21 st May	-Year 6 retreat day (Prinknash Abbey)
Friday 22 nd May	-Last Day of term. School closes at 15:15.
Half-term holiday: Monday 25th – Friday 29th May	
<i>Pupils return to school on Monday 1st June</i>	

Dinner Menus – Term 5, 2026

W/C : 13 & 27 APRIL, 11 MAY		W/C : 20 APRIL, 4 & 18 MAY	
Mon	Pork Hot Dog, Potato Wedges & Veg	Mon	Pork Sausages, Mash, Beans & Veg
Mon	Macaroni Cheese, Veg & Garlic Bread	Mon	Jacket Potato with Cheese/Beans & Veg
Tue	Chicken Korma, Rice, Veg & Pitta Bread	Tue	Pork Meatballs, Pasta, Veg & Garlic Bread
Tue	Jacket Potato with Cheese/Beans & Veg	Tue	Home Made Cheese & Bean Pasty, Potato & Veg
Wed	Roast Gammon, Yorkshire Pudding & Veg	Wed	Roast Beef, Yorkshire Pudding & Veg
Wed	Cheese and Tomato Pasta Bake & Veg	Wed	Veggie Sausage, Yorkshire Pudding & Veg
Thu	Pepperoni Pizza, Wedges & Veg	Thu	Home Made Chicken Nuggets, Wedges & Veg
Thu	Cheese & Tomato Pizza, Wedges & Veg	Thu	Jacket Potato with Cheese/Beans & Veg
Thu	Jacket Potato with Cheese/Beans & Veg	Fri	Fish Fingers, Chips & Veg
Fri	Fish Fingers, Chips & Veg	Fri	Cheese and Tomato Pizza, Chips & Veg
Fri	Quorn Nuggets, Chips & Veg		

CLASS EMAIL ADDRESSES

>If you need to contact your child's class teacher (to ask questions, share information or for general contact), you can do this directly by emailing the year group account:

Reception Class : reception@st-marys-churchdown.gloucs.sch.uk

YEAR 1: year1@st-marys-churchdown.gloucs.sch.uk

YEAR 2: year2@st-marys-churchdown.gloucs.sch.uk

YEAR 3: year3@st-marys-churchdown.gloucs.sch.uk

YEAR 4: year4@st-marys-churchdown.gloucs.sch.uk

YEAR 5: year5@st-marys-churchdown.gloucs.sch.uk

YEAR 6: year6@st-marys-churchdown.gloucs.sch.uk

REPORTING PUPIL ABSENCE:

Absences should be reported **daily**, by 9.15am **via email** to admin@st-marys-churchdown.gloucs.sch.uk please put your child's full name and year group in the subject line. Also include: **pupil name & year group with reason for absence, including symptoms of illness** (not just unwell/under the weather)

'You Won't Know Until You Ask': Helping Families Talk About Online Content:

The government has launched a new campaign called You Won't Know Until You Ask. It is designed to help parents and carers talk to children about harmful or upsetting content they may see online — things like body-shaming, unkind posts, or videos designed to shock. Research shows that many parents have never talked to their child about this, even though most 11-year-olds now have a smartphone. Many adults say they are not sure what their child is seeing online.

The campaign gives simple, easy-to-use help, including:

- step-by-step guides for safety settings
- quick conversation ideas
- tips for talking about false or harmful information



These small conversations can make a big difference. They help children understand what they see online and know they can talk to a trusted adult.

You can find the campaign here: <https://kidsonlinesafety.campaign.gov.uk>



Five Rivers

FOSTERING IN GLOUCESTERSHIRE

>There are Children in **Gloucestershire and surrounding areas right now** who need a safe loving home.

>You don't need to be perfect – just patient, caring and willing to learn.

>Could fostering be something you've never considered... but should?

Fostering Myths-Busted!

You must be married **X**

You need a spare mansion **X**

You must be a stay-at-home parent **X**

You **can** be single ✓

You **can** work ✓

You just need a spare room and a big heart  ✓

Contact Five Rivers Fostering – 0333 0603 962

carer.enquiries@thefosteringcompanyneltld.co.uk

NHS Pharmacy First Service

Did you know that the NHS Pharmacy First Service enables children and adults to get convenient access to healthcare advice and treatment where appropriate, for seven common conditions without the potential delay of having to wait for a GP appointment? Accessing the service may mean that can help children feel better and back to school as quickly as possible, as well as supporting parents/carers to also get better if they are unwell with one of the conditions covered under the service.

There is no need to make an appointment; parents or carers can go to their local pharmacy with their child and ask for help.

Support for the following conditions can be accessed under the service, free of charge (unless NHS prescription charges apply):

<u>Common condition</u>	<u>Patient eligibility</u>
Earache	1 to 17 years
Impetigo	1 year and over
Infected insect bites and stings	1 year and over
Sore throats	5 years and over
Sinusitis	12 years and over
Uncomplicated urinary tract	Women 16 to 64 years
Shingles	18 years and over

Online Safety advice / guidance for parents. What you need to know to keep your child SAFE online

Here are some reputable resources offering comprehensive advice for parents:

1. NSPCC: Online Safety

The NSPCC provides guidance on supporting children of different ages with technology use and offers tips on initiating conversations about online safety.

 <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety>

2. Internet Matters: Online Safety Guide

Internet Matters offers a detailed guide covering topics like setting parental controls, managing privacy settings, and addressing online issues your child may encounter.

 <https://www.internetmatters.org/resources/online-safety-guide>

3. UNICEF: Keeping Your Child Safe Online

UNICEF provides advice on setting clear ground rules, having honest conversations about online interactions, and helping children understand the importance of a positive digital footprint.

 <https://www.unicef.org/parenting/child-care/keep-your-child-safe-online>

4. Childnet: Parents and Carers Toolkit

Childnet offers resources to help parents and carers support their children in navigating the online world safely, including guidance on various online safety topics.

 <https://www.childnet.com/parents-and-carers>

5. UK Safer Internet Centre: Advice for Parents and Carers

The UK Safer Internet Centre provides free internet safety resources tailored for parents, helping you stay informed about the latest online safety practices.

 <https://saferinternet.org.uk/guide-and-resource/parents-and-carers>