



St Mary's Catholic Primary School Newsletter

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Lent Term 2026 Newsletter 14



"With Christ as our guide, we let our light shine."

A Message from Mrs Yuen...

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back, and a very Happy New Year to you all. I hope you had a restful and enjoyable Christmas and 2026 has started well for you all.

It has been a pleasure to welcome the children back to school this week. They have returned with a positive attitude and a real enthusiasm for learning. Although the cold weather has certainly made itself known, the snowfall has added an extra sense of excitement and wonder to the week, enhancing the children's experience and creating some lovely, shared moments across the school.

As we return, we are delighted to also welcome Mrs Buck to the St Mary's team. I'm sure you will join me in welcoming her as she starts in her role as Assistant Headteacher.

We have been especially pleased with our Year 5 and 6 pupils who attended the Young Voices concert in Birmingham. Taking part in the largest children's choir in the world was a truly memorable experience, and the children represented our school superbly. Their behaviour, commitment, and joy in performing were a credit to them and to our whole community.

This week also included a special spiritual moment for our school, as Fr. Jithu visited to bless our classrooms for the Feast of the Epiphany. This was a meaningful opportunity to reflect, give thanks, and begin the new year with a sense of purpose and unity.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. I wish you all a wonderful weekend

Best Wishes
Mrs Yuen

Aspiration-Resilience-Awareness-Compassion



Fun in the snow



The children returned to school full of excitement and were thrilled to discover a slither of snow waiting for them. Breaktimes were filled with laughter and joy as they made the most of the wintery surprise, rolling snow and creating snowmen with their friends. It was a lovely opportunity for the children to enjoy the season together.

Key Dates

Lent Term 2026

INSET Day: Monday 5th January 2026

Term starts: Tuesday 6th January 2026

7th January – Young Voices Concert Y5+6

19th January – Y6 Parents SATs meeting 2.30pm

20th January- Zumba whole school event

20th January- Book Look for Parents 3.30-4pm

21st January- Eco Assembly Presentation

21st January – Sports Festival at Benham

3rd February – New age Kurling Competition

13th February – Fit Fence whole school Event

Half Term:

Monday 16th February 2026-Friday 20th February 2026

18th February – Ash Wednesday

16th March – Rise Theatre whole school event day

27th March – End of term

Bright Lights, Big City Exploration in Year 1



Our Year 1 children have enjoyed an exciting and interactive start to their new topic. They have been learning about key London landmarks, exploring their features and discussing why they are important. The children have also been busy creating their own representations of famous landmarks and designing flags, showing great creativity and enthusiasm. It has been a fantastic start to the topic, with lots of curiosity, discussion and hands-on learning taking place.

Epiphany Blessing



On Thursday, Fr Jithu blessed each classroom. The children were able to share their understanding of the Epiphany blessing and ask thoughtful questions, making it a meaningful and reflective experience for everyone involved. We discussed the meaning of the Epiphany inscription 20 + C + M + B + 26, sharing that it represents both the names of the Three Kings— Caspar, Melchior and Balthazar— and the Latin phrase "Christus Mansionem Benedicat" meaning "May Christ bless this home."



Young Voices Concert – Years 5+6

Birmingham 2026



Year 5 and 6 children, had an unforgettable time taking part in the Young Voices experience. The children performed alongside thousands of other pupils in a truly inspiring arena setting. They sang their hearts out, supported one another, and represented the school brilliantly. The excitement of performing as part of such a huge choir, combined with the professional lighting, live music and special guests, made the day a memorable and confidence-boosting experience that the children will be talking about for a long time to come.

