Lord be thy word my rule

St John the Evangelist Catholic Academy

October 2026 Newsletter

St Gabriel the Archangel

Catholic Multi-Academy Trust

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been wonderful to welcome our children and families back to school this half term. The children look very smart in their uniforms and the atmosphere around the school has been filled with excitement about the year ahead. Their behaviour has been excellent and they have all jumped straight back in with their learning.

A big warm welcome to all of our new children and parents, we hope you have settled into St. John's and are looking forward to this academic year with you.

Thank you to all the parents who attended our induction meetings at the beginning of term, we hope you found these useful in supporting your child.

Over the past few weeks, a number of children have represented our school at Key Stage Two football and netball tournaments. A super well done to our Year 3 and 4 and our Year 5 and 6 representatives who played amazingly well. A huge thank you and well done to all the children who showed not only great skill but more importantly great sportsmanship. Well done children, we are very proud of you!

This week, our Year 6 children went to Standon Bowers outdoor education centre. All of the children had a wonderful time and have made memories that will last forever. As always, they were great ambassadors for our school with their fantastic attitudes and behaviour – thank you and well done Year 6! We are all very proud of you.

From Monday 12th October, we are asking the children to bring in food items for the food bank (please see the separate letter sent out today). We will then hold a Harvest celebration in school on Thursday 15th October at 2.30pm, all family, friends and parishioners are invited. Please donate, if you are able to, it would be lovely if we could create a wonderful display of harvest offerings.

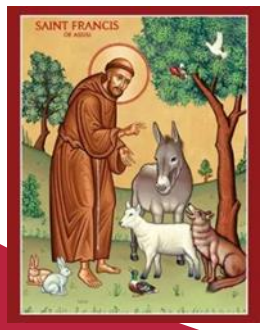
On Monday 23rd November we are holding an EYFS open afternoon and evening for any prospective parents who would like to come and see our EYFS and learn about what we have to offer. If you are or know anyone who is looking for a Nursery or Reception place please come along at 1.30pm and 5.00pm.

A gentle reminder, we kindly ask that parents and carers do not contact members of staff through their personal social media accounts regarding school matters. We completely understand that questions can sometimes arise outside of the school day; however, staff members' personal accounts are private and we ask that all school-related communication is made through the appropriate school channels during school hours. Please also be aware that our school social media pages are not monitored at all times, particularly during evenings and weekends, as our staff are enjoying important time with their own families.

Thank you, as always, for your understanding, respect and continued support.

Mrs Rigby

Principal



Today is the feast of St. Francis of Assisi, in school we have celebrated our wonderful earth and are thinking about the role we have as stewards looking after it.

This weekend may St. Francis inspire us to protect our planet for future generations.



St. Francis of Assisi
Pray for us

Diary Dates

October

2nd October – Creation Day – Feast of St. Francis of Assisi Non Uniform Day and Activities
2nd October – KS2 Celebration Assembly 9:10am
6th October – Y6 Children & Parents Open Morning at St Margaret Ward Catholic Academy
8th October – Reception – Y6 Flu Vaccination in School
8th October – Combined Schools Mass at St. Gregory's Longton 6pm
9th October – Hello Yellow – Young Minds Wear Yellow Day – World Mental Health Day
9th October – Reception & KS1 Celebration Assembly 9:10am
14th October – First Reconciliation Parents Information Session & Mass at St. Joseph's Church 6pm
15th October – KS2 Mass 9:30am
15th October – Whole School Harvest Assembly 2:30pm
16th October – KS2 Celebration Assembly
21st October – Spooky Disco
23rd October – INSET DAY (School closed to pupils)
26th October – 30th October – HALF TERM

November

2nd November – INSET DAY (School closed to pupils)
6th November – Reception & KS1 Celebration Assembly 9:10am
13th November – KS2 Celebration Assembly 9:10am
16th November – School Photographs
17th November – Y5 Class Saint Day Assembly 2:45pm
18th November – 20th November – Y5 Residential Trip to Alton Castle
19th November – KS2 Mass 9:30am
20th November – Reception & KS1 Celebration Assembly 9:10am
23rd November – EYFS Open Afternoon 1:30pm & 5:00pm
25th November – KS1 & KS2 Christmas Theatre Trip
26th November – Nursery & Reception Inspire Workshops
27th November – KS2 Celebration Assembly
29th November – Family Mass at St Joseph's Church, Goldenhill 11:00am
30th November – Start of Advent Prayer Sessions

December

4th December – Reception & KS1 Celebration Assembly 9:10am
8th December – EYFS & KS1 Nativity Performance 9:15am
9th December – EYFS & KS1 Nativity Performance 9:15am
10th December – Reception & KS1 Liturgy of the Word 9:30am
11th December – KS2 Celebration Assembly 9:10am
11th December – Christmas Fair
16th December – Whole School End of Term Mass 9:30am
17th December – Whole School Carol Concert (led by KS2) 2:00pm
18th December – No Celebration Assembly
18th December – School Closes for the Christmas Holidays

Terms Dates 2026/2027

Tuesday 1st September	INSET
Wednesday 2nd September	INSET
Thursday 3rd September	First day of school
Thursday 22nd October	Last day of term
Friday 23rd October	INSET
Monday 2nd November	INSET
Tuesday 3rd November	School open to pupils
Friday 18th December	Last day of term
Tuesday 5th January	INSET
Wednesday 6th January	School open to pupils
Friday 12th February	Last day of term
Monday 22nd February	School open to pupils
Thursday 25th March	Last day of term
Monday 12th April	School open to pupils
Monday 3rd May	Bank Holiday
Friday 28th May	Last day of term
Monday 7th June	School open to pupils
Wednesday 21st July	Last day of term

September Attendance

Nursery	94.08%
Reception	95.00%
Year 1	99.47%
Year 2	98.26%
Year 3	98.82%
Year 4	95.50%
Year 5	97.95%
Year 6	98.02%

Well done Year 1!



CARECLUB

Please ensure you book your Child/ren's place in advance on Arbor, we have limited places and can't guarantee a space if you don't book in.

Bookings have to be made on Arbor 48 Hours in advance.

Late fees are now applied to accounts if your child is not booked in in advance.

Emergency Bookings via the Office. 01782 367267

IMPORTANT

If your address/telephone/email has changed, please ensure this is updated on Arbor

ABSENCE ....IF YOUR CHILD IS ABSENT FROM SCHOOL YOU MUST TELEPHONE SCHOOL ON 01782 367267 AND LEAVE A MESSAGE ON THE ABSENCE LINE. BEFORE 09.30am stating the reason for absence.

Please be mindful of other road users, local residents and the safety of our children when parking around school. Please do not block residents driveways or park on the zig zag lines.

Thank you for you cooperation .

CAR PARKS

The car parks in the school grounds are for staff cars only, please do not use them for dropping off/picking up careclub and afterschool clubs. There is a car park lower down for parent use.

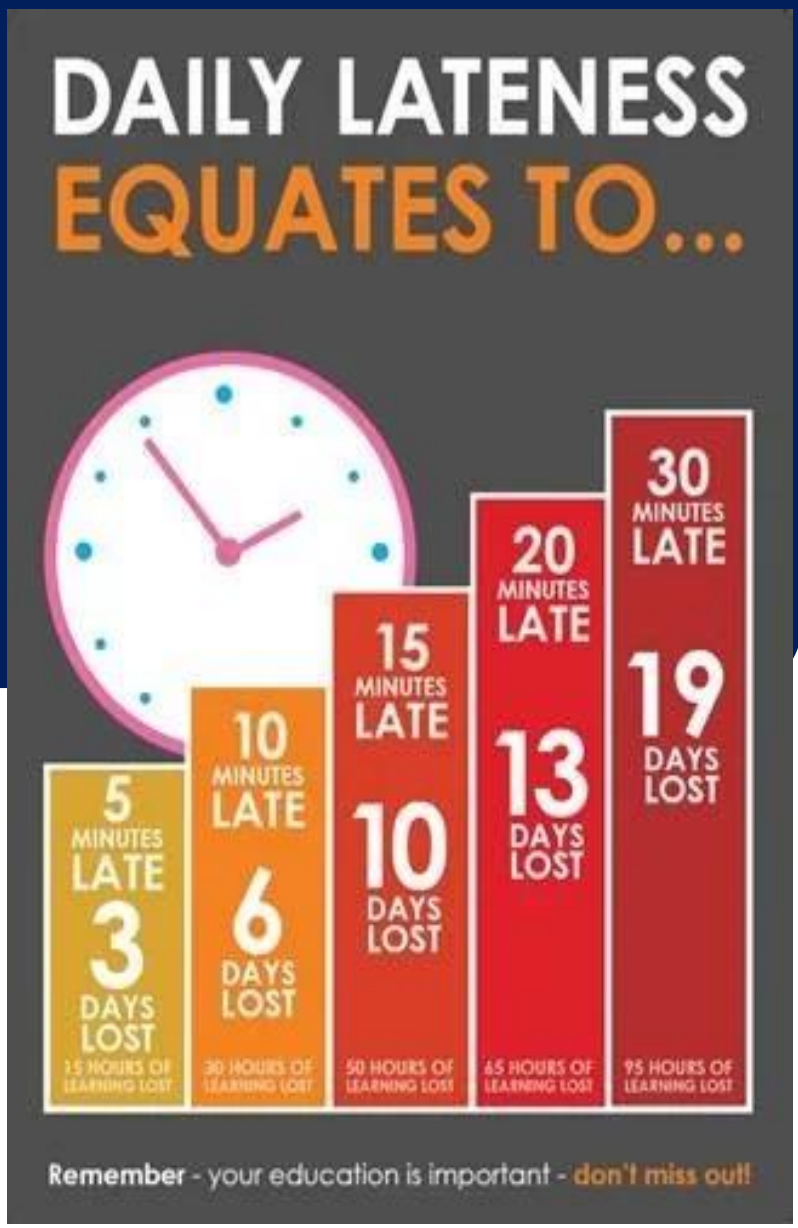


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Its important that we hold up to date information on our pupils.

Changes can be made by yourselves.

All you need to do is log into the account and make the changes, we will receive a notification of those changes and approve them.

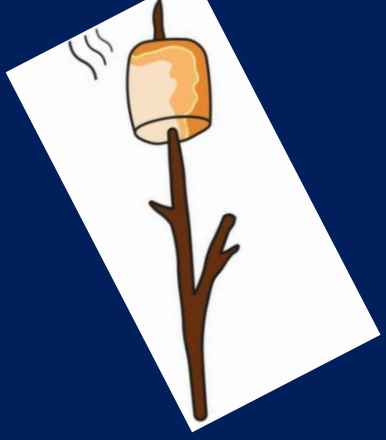


<u>Trip reminder</u>

Please ensure if you are required to give consent for an upcoming trip that you log into Arbor by the deadline date which appears on the letter.

Thank you for your co-operation.





Outdoor Education dates to remember!

Autumn Term:

Thursday 8th October – Year 3

Thursday 22nd October – Year 2 & Year 6

Thursday 5th November - Year 3

Thursday 19th November – Year 2 & Reception

Thursday 3rd December – Year 5

Thursday 10th December – Year 6

WOW

WOW – the walk to school challenge is delivered by Living Streets, the UK charity for everyday walking, to help as many children as possible to experience the benefits of walking to school.

We are hoping to encourage more children and their families to be active when travelling to school. We know how important being active is to both our physical and mental health, so this is an exciting challenge.

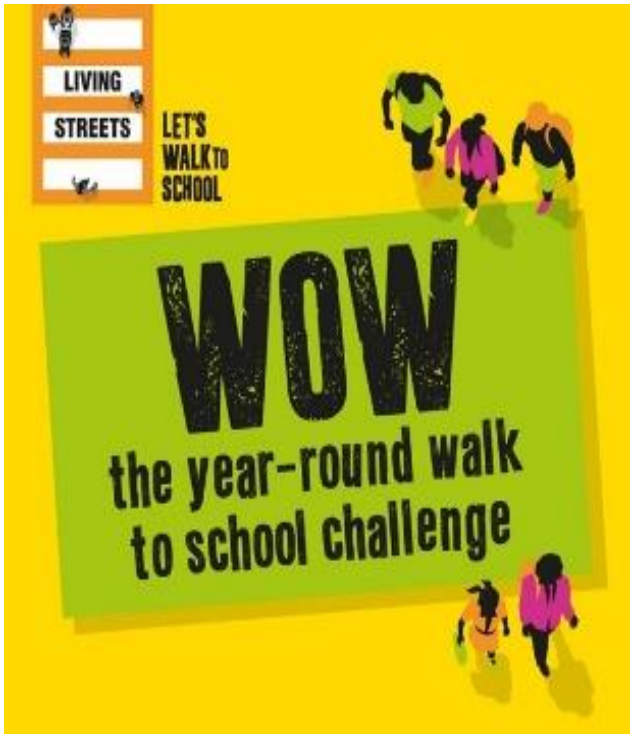
WOW is a pupil-led initiative where the children can self-report how they get to school every day. If you child walks, cycles, scoots, park and stride at least twice a week, for a month, they get rewarded with a badge.

Walking to school helps children to feel happier and healthier and they arrive feeling refreshed, fit and ready to learn. More families walking also means fewer cars on the road during the school run, helping to reduce congestion.

If you live too far away or don't have time to walk the whole way to school, you can 'park and stride'. This means parking or getting off public transport at least **five** minutes away from the school and walking the rest of the way.

Let's swap those school runs for school walks!

If you have any questions, please speak to the office or find more information and useful videos at livingstreets.org.uk/wowlaunch





HERE
EVERY DAY
READY
ON TIME

Be In SCHOOL
Be On TIME

Reminders to Parents

- **School Uniforms—Our full uniform range is now available at National Schoolwear, Hanley (including Ties and book bags).**

- **School Dinners** -
  Price per meal **£2.50 for** Nursery.
  Price per meal **£3.25 for** years 3/4/5 & 6.

- **Breakfast Club** - **Staffed by Mrs Copeland & Miss Hancock**
- Places must be booked and paid for in advance via Arbor

Breakfast Club per child; from 7.30am £5.00 or £20 for the whole week—Children must be in by 8.30am
Drop off at 8.30am cost £1.00

- **After school care club—Mon-Fri 3pm-5.45pm –Snack included. Staffed by Mrs Bennett & Mrs Copeland**
- Places must be booked and paid for in advance via Arbor

Care Club per child:

from 3.00pm to 4.30pm	£5.00
from 3.00pm to 5.45pm	£7.50

St Margaret Ward Siblings can be dropped off **from 8.10am and picked up by 3.40pm** no charge. Before or after this time charges above apply.

- We are a cashless school—all bookings and payments are to be made in advance via your child`s Arbor account.

Late Arrivals / Early Leaving - please bring/collect your child to/from the school office. It is important that your child attends school regularly and on time in order to ensure good academic achievement. Please ensure that where possible, medical appointments are arranged outside school hours.

Please note the school has a strict no smoking policy on its grounds. This includes E-cigarettes or any other nicotine based products.

If you see anyone on the school premises when the school is closed please call the police on **101** and report the incident. Thank you for your support and cooperation

Would Parents and Carers please note that dinner money, careclub and afterschool clubs are payable in advance and should be paid online via your child`s Arbor account.

School Hours: EYFS/KS1 - children need to be in school for 840am registration, please ensure you are outside the classroom doors/on the EYFS playground by 8.35am, the gates for EYFS/door for KS1 will be closed at 8.42am.

Nursery doors open 3.00pm Reception & KS1 Collection at 3.10pm

KS2 Doors open at 8.45am need to be in by 8.50am, school gates are locked at 8.52am. Collection at 3.20pm

Office Opening Hours Monday - Thursday 08.00-16.00 Friday 08.00 - 15.30



Please note Dogs should not be brought onto school premises

Reminders to Parents

Uniform

Boys	Girls
School Navy woollen jumper (school colours on the V neck) White school shirt (polo shirts for Nursery) School tie Dark grey flannel trousers Grey, black or white socks Black shoes Black boots (only during winter months and must be no more than ankle height) PE Kit Navy T-shirt (with/without school logo) Navy cotton shorts Navy sweatshirt/hoodie (with/without school logo) Navy jogging bottoms (Winter) Black plimsolls or Trainers Summer Term only Boys may wear dark grey flannel shorts	School Navy Cardigan (school colours around the edge) White school shirt (polo shirts for Nursery) School tie Dark grey skirt, pinafore or trousers Grey, black or white socks or grey or black tights Black shoes Black boots (only during winter months and must be no more than ankle height) PE Kit Navy T-shirt (with/without school logo) Navy cotton shorts Navy sweatshirt/hoodie (with/without school logo) Navy jogging bottoms (Winter) Black plimsolls or Trainers Summer Term only Girls may wear navy and white checked summer dresses

The wearing of correct school uniform is considered to be an important part in establishing a sense of community
and standards in school. Children are encouraged to take pride in wearing appropriate uniform, including PE kit.

Hair and Accessories

Hair should be conventionally cut with no visible lines and should be an appropriate length (not shaven or less than grade 2).
Shoulder length hair should be tied back at all times using a navy bow or plain bobble in the school colours (navy and white) or black.
Highlights/Lowlights and any additional hairpieces (eg braids/hair tinsel) are not permitted.
A small bow or hair bands may be worn but these must be in school colours (navy and white).

Tattoos, Make up and Nail Varnish

Temporary transfer tattoos, make up and nail varnish are not allowed.

Jewellery

In the interest of Health and Safety, jewellery must not be worn. This includes earrings, which are not permitted even if covered with a plaster.



Please note Dogs should not be brought onto school premises