



## *Saint Winifred's R.C. Primary School*

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Friday 4<sup>th</sup> September 2026

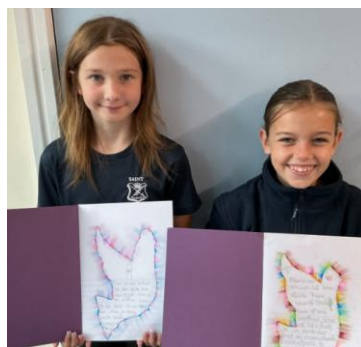
### **Sunday Gospel**

In this Sunday's Gospel, Jesus explains to his disciples the best way to respond when we fall out with people and how forgiving others is a strength. We know that forgiveness can be difficult, but with Jesus to help and guide us, we can choose forgiveness even when it's hard.

"For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them."  
Matthew 18:20



### **Religion in Year Five**



Mrs Kendry has loved meeting her new class this week - they have worked so hard. In Religion, they have written their school prayer inside a dove and talked about the meaning of the words to each of us. A lovely start to the year 5K.

## **Welcome to the 2026-2027 Academic Year**

I hope you enjoyed spending time with your family and had a lovely summer break. I would like to warmly welcome our whole school community back to St Winifred's. A particularly warm welcome to our new Reception children and their families. We are delighted that you have joined the St Winifred's family and hope that you will quickly feel at home as part of our wonderful school community.

We have settled well into the new school year, and everyone has been busy getting to know new routines, making new friends and getting back into the rhythm of school life. It has been lovely to see the children returning with such enthusiasm and excitement. We are sure that this will be another exciting and successful year, filled with new experiences, opportunities to learn and grow, and plenty of exciting learning challenges. We look forward to working closely with you throughout the year as we continue to help every child truly flourish.

## **Prayer for the start of term**

Lord God, bless our school as we enter a new academic year.

May ours be a community of welcome and hope.

Watch over our pupils, so that they grow in understanding and love.

Encourage our staff, so that their service reveals your generosity and mercy.

Inspire our leaders, so that their actions show your wisdom and justice.

Loving Father, through the Trinity, you teach us the importance of relationships,

Help us work together to accomplish your mission:

That all your children may have life to the full.

Amen

## **Mrs Willoughby's Bulb Bonanza needs your help!**



Many of you will know Mrs Willoughby, our wonderful resident gardener, who works her magic around the school grounds and helps make St Winifred's look so colourful and welcoming throughout the year.

As she begins planning for next spring and summer's floral displays, Mrs Willoughby is hoping to stock up on plenty of bulbs this autumn. Ever the savvy shopper, she has a Pensioner's Discount Card for a well-known home improvement store and has worked out that if she buys the bulbs herself, she can make your pounds go even further!

With this in mind, she is asking whether families might like to make a **voluntary contribution of £1 per family** towards the cost of the bulbs. Every pound donated will help her fill our planters, borders and flower beds with even more beautiful blooms next year.

Please do not feel under any pressure to contribute. This is entirely voluntary, and we are incredibly grateful for any support you may wish to offer.

Thank you in advance for helping Mrs Willoughby keep our school looking blooming marvellous!

## **Interventions**

Miss Wildgoose would like to inform parents and carers that intervention groups will begin this week, commencing **Monday 7th September**.

We deliberately waited until now to start these sessions so that all staff could be fully available during the first week of term to help settle our pupils back into school routines, classrooms, and learning.

The children have made a fantastic start to the new academic year, and we are now ready to begin our intervention programmes, which are designed to provide additional support and help pupils make the very best progress. Thank you for your continued support as we work together to ensure every child thrives and succeeds.

## **Group Parent Teacher Meetings**



A gentle reminder to all parents and carers that our Group Parent Teacher Meetings will take place on Monday 7th September. To make attendance easier for families with more than one child in school, each session will be run twice, at 3:30pm and again at 4:00pm, allowing you the opportunity to attend multiple meetings if needed.

These meetings are a valuable opportunity to:

- \*Meet your child's class teacher
- \*Receive an overview of the curriculum for the Autumn 1 term
- \*Ask any questions you may have about the year ahead

We strongly encourage all parents and carers to attend and look forward to welcoming you as we begin another exciting year of learning together. Thank you for your continued support.

## **Window Improvement Update**

You will no doubt have noticed that the final stage of our window replacement programme is now underway. The transformation has been remarkable, and I am sure you will agree that the new windows look absolutely fantastic!

The scaffolding will remain in place outside the school hall while the external cladding is completed, and work is expected to continue until the October half-term break. During the holiday period, the old windows outside the Year 5 and Year 6 classrooms will also be replaced. As part of the wider improvement project, a number of internal doors throughout the school will be upgraded too.

While building work inevitably brings a degree of disruption, these improvements will make a significant difference to our school environment for many years to come. I would like to take this opportunity to sincerely thank all parents and carers for your patience, understanding and support while the work is being carried out. We can already see the difference, and I am certain it will all be worth it once the project is fully completed!

## **Upcoming Dates**

- \*Monday 7<sup>th</sup> September - Mr Pontifex (Headteacher of St James') meeting Years 5 and 6
- \*Monday 7<sup>th</sup> September - Curriculum meeting, 2 sessions, one starting at 3.30 and second at 4pm. All parents/carers welcome to join their class teacher in the classroom.
- \*Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> September - Welcome Mass in school for staff and pupils

## **Pupil Attendance**

Please see below the figures for pupil attendance for last week. Our school target is 97% pupil attendance. Our whole school attendance for last academic year 95.48% Please remember that school begins at 8:40am, with the gates being open from 8:40am-8:50am. Below are the attendance figures for each class for last academic year:

| Student Group   | : | Present R/C |
|-----------------|---|-------------|
|                 |   | Marks (%)   |
| RC (2025/2026)  |   | 93.81%      |
| RG (2025/2026)  |   | 95.67%      |
| 1BD (2025/2026) |   | 96.46%      |
| 1M (2025/2026)  |   | 96.4%       |
| 2MS (2025/2026) |   | 93.82%      |
| 2MY (2025/2026) |   | 96.15%      |
| 3D (2025/2026)  |   | 96.05%      |
| 3J (2025/2026)  |   | 92.85%      |
| 4D (2025/2026)  |   | 94.76%      |
| 4H (2025/2026)  |   | 95.88%      |
| 5M (2025/2026)  |   | 95.2%       |
| 5P (2025/2026)  |   | 95.68%      |
| 6K (2025/2026)  |   | 97.33%      |
| 6L (2025/2026)  |   | 96.21%      |

We warmly welcome parents to approach us with any questions about school life. Please note that your first point of contact is always your class teacher.

In addition, Mrs Bird (Deputy Head Teacher), Mrs Gibb (Early Years), Mr Hanvey (Lower Key Stage Two), Mrs Kendry (Upper Key Stage Two) and I are always available to work in to support your child's learning and wellbeing.

We value open communication and welcome all to work together for the benefit of all our pupils.

Yours sincerely,  
Mrs A Duffy  
Headteacher

