



# St Mary of Charity Primary Weekly Newsletter Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2026

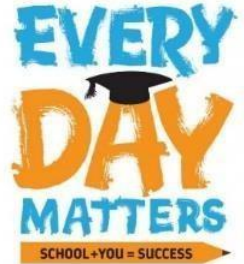


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# Attendance



EYFS Hamilton	Year 1 Donaldson	Year 2 Anning	Year 3 Malala	Year 4 Hockney	Year 5 Rosen	Year 6 Attenborough
92.2%	91.4%	96.4%	91.1%	96.1%	95%	95.2%
Term 3 95.1%		Year to Date 95.1%			Target 96%	

Dear Parents and Carers,

At the start of this term, we completed an evaluation on every child in the school which is linked to their well-being. This information has given us valuable insight into any concerns or worries individual children have and allows us to tailor the provision we provide to give the right support at the best time. We are extremely lucky at SMC to have a range of support that is in place for children, this includes quality first teaching, a range of physical resources, Drawing & Talking intervention, ELSA and Play therapy as well as NELFT support for parents. We operate a waiting list for all of the additional support that we offer and prioritise need based on the information we have in school.

This week Year R, 1 and 2 all attended a Road Safety workshop. They greatly enjoyed this and learnt important information regarding how to stay safe, especially in the darker weather where visibility is difficult. We asked that the children were specifically spoken to about maintaining vigilance and staying safe in car parks as we often witness some children running across the car park at school which is dangerous where there is moving traffic. Please support them by ensuring children are closely supervised in the car park.

Next week we will be completing our annual lockdown procedure, this is a legal requirement. This is just as important as our fire alarm procedure and is where we practice staying safe and quiet in class incase of a threat to the school. Please be reassured that children enjoy

are supported throughout by the adults. We teach the importance of it in an age-appropriate way, the younger children engage in a game of hide and seek with myself and the older children explore different ways of staying safe in unsure circumstances. We promote the classrooms as safe spaces for all children and they enjoy the opportunity for keeping their room safe for each other.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs. Rowley-Jones  
Headteacher





£35  
Per Day



# ARTS HOLIDAY CLUB

16, 17, 18TH FEBRUARY 2026

St Mary of Charity Primary School,  
Faversham

10am-4pm (wraparound care from  
9am-5pm additional £5)

suitable  
for all  
primary  
school  
ages

## WHO ARE WE?



We're a Kent-based community arts not for profit who believe in the power of the arts to transform people and places. The majority of our work is with communities in Gravesham & Dartford, but as our Artistic Director has recently moved to Faversham, we have decided to trial our highly successful holiday clubs here.

We've been running holiday clubs for 5 years, and what makes our sessions so brilliant is that they are always run by artists (fully trained and DBS checked) so children always go home with great crafts and having learned something new.

Our sessions are mostly visual arts based, with a few theatre games thrown in too. If you've got any questions, please email us - [ella@blueprintarts.co.uk](mailto:ella@blueprintarts.co.uk)



**PLEASE  
NOTE..**



**Breakfast  
Club**



We run our own **Breakfast Club** and **After School Club**; spaces for these need to be pre-booked at least 24 hrs in advance using the MCAS App. Please contact the school office if you need support booking a place for your child.

**Breakfast Club:** 7:30am-8:35am

**After School Club:** 3:15pm- 6pm (with a 4pm, 5pm & 6pm collection option)

*Please note: If you wish to collect after 5pm, we require 7 days' notice. Contact the office via email or phone to book a 6pm slot.*

**LOST AND  
FOUND**

Please, please, please ensure that you name all of your child's school uniform. Teachers are often informed that a child has lost a piece of clothing but if this is not named there is little, we can do to recover it.

Please ensure that you name all of your child's school uniform, including lunchboxes and water bottles to prevent items getting lost.

Last term we had 2 black bags full of unnamed clothing that will be donated to the uniform bank.

### Wet weather

As is typical of England in January we are experiencing a lot of wet weather at the moment. We encourage children to be outside unless the weather makes the site unsafe. This means they play in rain and drizzle. Please ensure that you provide your child with suitable clothing to be outside in the rain.

All children should have a pair of wellington boots in school and suitable protective clothing. Children in Year R are provided with all in one weather suits which they are supported to put on when the weather is wet.

We are aware that the field becomes extremely wet and boggy, we are currently exploring pathway options for parents. Children are not allowed to use this space at lunchtimes if it is too wet and muddy.



## This week in Worship

This week in Worship we have been exploring baptism, we heard the story of John the Baptist and Revered Simon baptized one of our school teddy bears.

We thought about how we use water and how we can wash something away to be new again.

This has centered around our school value of Forgiveness.

“Feed my lambs....take care of my sheep.” John: 21

We are a community where everyone is included. A place of nurture where through creative learning, acceptance and celebration we are all able to flourish. Our inclusive school encourages children to be curious, passionate, ambitious and courageous. Everyone at St Mary of Charity is determined to be confident in who they are, aspire to realise their full potential and support each other through respect, honesty and forgiveness. Guided by Jesus we are accepting of the wonderful diversity within our community and have hope that our children will continue to advocate for and celebrate the unique needs of all throughout our wider world.



# COLLECTIVE CELEBRATION

**Dylan, Matilda, Rose,**  
**France, Mustafa, Emily,**  
**Alfred, Arthur, Eden,**  
**Sebastian, Lily-Rose,**  
**Naeema, Thea, Lillie-Haise**





# IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

## INTERNET SAFETY

This week's poster is about **ROBLOX**. Please continue to monitor your child's online behaviour and access. If you need help with a specific app we have not highlighted yet, please talk to Mrs Ling.

## ATTENDANCE



If your child is poorly and unable to come to school, please ensure that you inform the office via telephone or leave a message on our answer phone.

## DROP OFF

Can we please remind parents that school gates shut at **8:45am**. If you arrive late, please drop off your child/ children at the school office.

For safeguarding reasons we do not allow parents/carers to drop off their children to their classes.

**MAIN ENTRY**

**ALL VISITORS  
MUST REPORT  
TO THE  
SCHOOL OFFICE**



We would politely ask all parents/carers to supervise your child carefully during drop off and pick up. Some children have been seen standing in the flowerbeds and picking/pulling out plants. Please ensure that they do not destroy the school site which our staff and volunteers work so hard to maintain.

# What Parents & Educators Need to Know about ROBLOX

AGE RESTRICTION  
PEGI  
7

Roblox is one of the most popular video games among children. In 2020, the game's developers claimed that more than half of the USA's children had played it. As a 'sandbox' title, the game lets players create their own gaming experiences with Roblox Studio to build custom levels, which can then be shared online.

## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

### ONLINE PLAY RISKS

Because Roblox connects random players across the world, it can put younger players into an environment with anonymous users who could use the platform for nefarious reasons. For example, some role-play games are used for online dates and mature role play, which could expose youngsters to inappropriate messages in the public chat box.

### MATURE CONTENT

Content is difficult to moderate throughout Roblox, due to the number of games available. This is particularly notable on smaller games and experiences, but in summary, some of the games and experiences offered on the platform contain age-inappropriate content that could easily be seen by young players.

### IN-GAME SPENDING

The majority of games within Roblox have extensive monetisation options, usually through season passes or microtransactions. Purchases can range in value from a few pennies up to much larger sums of money. While some games offer a lot of content via purchases, others can offer very little for real world money, causing younger players to end up out of pocket.

### ANONYMOUS PLAYERS

The anonymity of users can leave players vulnerable to bullying, harassment, and predatory behaviour. Without the right parental controls or monitoring, users can connect with each other via personal messages or friend requests, and it is very difficult to know who's behind a username in this vast online world.

### RISK OF ADDICTION

Roblox games can feature rewarding or satisfying mechanics that keep players coming back – or persuade them to stay logged-in for much longer. Like most games, they focus on interactivity, with constant rewards via in-game unlocks and currencies, which can sometimes lead to an addictive need to remain online for long periods of time.

### SCAMS

Many of the games on Roblox feature collectible items, pets, or characters. These objects, while digital, are worth a lot of real money on certain online markets. Scammers will attempt to trade with younger users in the hopes of getting rare items that can be sold for real money, manipulating the child into handing them over, usually via misleading information.

## Advice for Parents & Educators

### MONITOR THE CONTENT

While Roblox does implement plenty of moderation tools and parental controls, it's up to parents and guardians to monitor the types of games a child or impressionable player is experiencing. If a youngster wants to play Roblox, be sure to check out which specific games they want to play within it, and get a good idea of their content.

### TAKE ADVANTAGE OF TOOLS

Use the parental controls within the game itself and teach youngsters how to report and block other players. Knowing the powers within their reach will make Roblox a safer, happier experience. You can set age ranges for who's allowed to contact you, close public chat boxes, block spending, and even make your Roblox profile completely private. All these options are helpful in cutting off bad actors from engaging with children.

### PLAY TOGETHER

Consider playing Roblox with the children in your care. There are few more effective ways to see how monetisation works, gauge whether the game could lead to addictive behaviours, or even witness how interaction between players works, than sitting down and trying the game for yourself. This should help you figure out whether it's suitable for particular children.

### TEACH ONLINE BEHAVIOURS

Have an open conversation about the risks of online play and how to spend money wisely. By being honest and giving tips on how a younger user can protect themselves, you can empower them to not only take care of themselves, but others too. Any user can be reported to Roblox moderators by other players for behaving inappropriately. With this knowledge, younger players can be aware of what to look for and help prevent it.

## Meet Our Expert

Dan Lipscombe is a videogame journalist and author of over 20 books on gaming, including books on Minecraft, Fortnite, Roblox, and more. For 15 years he has been writing about his passion for gaming. When he's not playing games, he's talking about them at GAMINGbible.



#WakeUpWednesday®

The National College®

# REMINDER

## The School Gate

Please be mindful of other children and parents at the school gates. The front of the gates can become a very crowded place and we want children to have ease entering the school in the morning. Please encourage your child to walk through the gates on their own and do not stand in groups talking where you potentially block the entrance. It is intimidating for children to walk through adults into school.

## HEALTHY LUNCHES



We promote healthy eating at St Mary of Charity Primary School and would appreciate parents adhering to the healthy eating guidelines as below:

**Sweets:** Please do not pack sweets or chocolate bars.

**Drinks:** children under 5 receive free milk with their snacks and water is available for everyone whenever they want to drink. Please do not send in fizzy drinks with your child's packed lunch.

**Nut Free:** Please be aware that we are becoming a nut-free school. We now have children in school who have potential life-threatening nut- allergies which can be triggered by direct or indirect contact with nuts in the environment. To keep our children safe, we request that parents please find a nut-free alternative. This also includes NUTELLA or any CHOCOLATE spread.

Thank you for your co-operation.



## SCHOOL DINNERS –

**Dinner Money cost £3.05**

Please be reminded school meals are to be paid for in advance.

**WRAPAROUND CARE:** Both Breakfast and Afterschool club bookings are placed under this tab and payments need to be made when you book your session for your child. *This is done to avoid any payments not made.*

***Please be reminded to clear out any outstanding balances under individual accounts of your children.***

# Dates for your Diary



Date	Event
<b>TERM 3</b>	
27/1/26	Yr 6 visit to Fleur de Lis
30/1/26	School Lockdown Practice
2/2/26 – 6/2/26	Yr 6 Mock Sats Practice
2/2/26	Yr 5 & Yr 6 workshop on online safety from local police team
5/2/26	Yr 3 MTC Competition
6/2/26	Yr 4 MTC Competition
9/2/26	Family Trust Worship to the Whole school
11/2/26	PTFA Valentines Disco
12/2/26	Kindness Day Lunch
13/2/26	End of Term 3 – school finishes at usual time.
16-18/2/26	Art Holiday Club

