

E-mail: info@stmaryscecrompton.oldham.sch.uk

Website: www.stmaryscecrompton.oldham.sch.uk

HEADTEACHER: Mrs P A Hartley BEd (Hons), NPQH

DEPUTY HEAD: Mr S Day BA (Hons), PGCE, NPQSL

Newsletter September 2025



Through God's love and our Christian Values, we encourage each individual to love, respect and value God, themselves and others.

We encourage and nurture everyone to flourish and grow into the unique person God made them to be, ready to go out into the world to love others.

This is rooted in Jesus' words: Love one another as Jesus loved us. (John 13 v 34-35)

Dear Parents, Children & Friends,

Welcome back to the brand-new school year and a warm welcome to all our new pupils and their families, I am sure they will settle quickly into school life and enjoy their time at St Mary's School. Pupils across the school have already got off to an excellent start in their new classes and have become absorbed in their new learning and topics. Please check class newsletters for more information about what your child will be learning this term.

Please remember to inform our school office if you have changed your address or phone number. Please also ensure that you telephone our school office at the start of the school day to report your child absent or unwell.

YEAR 6 APPLICATION TO SECONDARY SCHOOLS:

How you apply for a place at secondary school depends on where you live. The application has to be made to the Local Authority in which you live. Please see below for further details.

Oldham Residents:

If your child is due to start secondary school in September 2026, we know that this is a very exciting and important time. Please note how and when you need to apply and where to access information to guide you through this process.

You will need to complete an application using the online application system available on the Oldham Council website. www.oldham.gov.uk/admissions. It's quick and easy and ensures school offers can be made efficiently via e-mail. Applying on line is the only form of application as Oldham Council no longer provides paper application forms.

The closing date for all applications is 31 October 2025 at 5pm. Any application received after this time will be classed as late and will not be processed until all the on-time applications have been allocated a school place.

For faith schools you will need to fill in a supplementary form or provide documentation in addition to the application. Supplementary forms are available from, and returned to, the relevant school.









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To enable you to have a look at what is on offer, all Oldham secondary schools will be holding open evenings during the Autumn term.

Rochdale Residents:

Parents of children who live in Rochdale should check the 'School Places' section of the Rochdale council website for details of the application process and deadlines (www.rochdale.gov.uk). Alternatively, you can contact the Admissions Team on telephone 0300 303 0340 or email school.admissions@rochdale.gov.uk for further information.

NEW RECEPTION APPLICATION TO SCHOOL SEPTEMBER 2026

You will need to complete an application using the online application system available on the Oldham Council website www.oldham.gov.uk/admissions It's quick and easy and means you get the school offer directly via email. You can find more information, a guide, and links to school websites here too. The online system opened on 1 September 2025.

In addition, any parent wishing to apply for a Reception place at St. Mary's CE Primary School <u>MUST</u> complete a supplementary form (available from the school office or download from the school website).

If you don't have access to the internet at home, there are computers in all Oldham's libraries. You will need an email address, but these are very easy to set up and staff will be happy to help.

Deadlines for making an application: Primary 15th January 2026 at 5pm

If you have any further queries, regarding admissions, please do not hesitate to contact the school office.

STAFFING:

A warm welcome to Mr Grahame as our new Site Manager. I am sure many of you have now met or passed Mr Grahame in a morning on the Junior Door. Mr Grahame is settling into his role and is a great addition to our team. A warm wlecome to Mr Napier and later this term Miss Wrigley who are both on college placements 2 days per week. Miss Rush and Miss Greer will also join us as part of their student placements.

SEND:

We welcome back Mrs Hepworth from her Maternity leave to resume her post as SENDCo. The SEND reviews will take place, as usual, after half term and invites will be sent shortly. If there is anything urgent then please do contact school in the usual way through email or requesting an appointment.

YEAR 6 LEAVERS:

A huge thank you to the Year 6 who have just left, for leading a wonderful Leavers' Service at the end of the summer term. It has been lovely to see so many of them already looking smart in their secondary school uniforms. Please keep calling back to St Mary's to let us know how you are getting along! The Staff and Governors of St. Mary's wish all our pupils well in their journeys at their secondary schools.









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WORSHIP IN SCHOOL

Worship in school will be led by myself, Mr Day, and Father Paul. Our Christian Value for this half term is Justice. Father Paul will also continue to lead a reflective circle time with each of the classes.

We continue each Friday to celebrate pupils' achievements. Please encourage your son/daughter to share these, by bringing their certificates and trophies into school and placing on the piano. We will celebrate all of these achievements.



MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING:

As a school we have supported this charity over many years raising a fabulous £14,421.68 for this cause!

This year we will once again be supporting Macmillan with a short assembly led by Year 2 on Friday $26^{\rm th}$ September at 9:10am.

This will be followed by a coffee morning will be held in

St. Mary's school hall 10:00 am to 11:00 am. We hope parents, grandparents, friends of St Mary's and the Shaw community will join us.



Pupils are invited to bring £1.00 for a drink and biscuit.

There will be a raffle and other games held for adults, and cakes and tea/coffee will be sold for small donations.

RECEPTION AND YEAR 6 BUDDIES:

Year 6 and Reception Pupils have been enjoying their lunches together each Friday. Over the coming weeks they will have more planned opportunities to meet and 'work' together.

Our welcome to our new Reception pupils to St Mary's School, in a whole school worship for pupils and parents, will take place on Friday 24th October with Father

Paul.

HARVEST SERVICE:

As a Church school, and as part of our Christian vision, we believe that Harvest is not only a time to give thanks to God for all we have, but also a time to share His love with others. Our vision calls us to show kindness, generosity and compassion, reaching out to those in need both near and far. To help our pupils live this out, we have chosen to rotate our Harvest giving so that over time we support people locally, nationally, and globally. Last year, for example, we partnered with Mary's Meals, a global charity providing food for children in schools around the world. This year we are focusing locally by supporting Oldham Foodbank, helping families in our own community. Next year we will look to support a national charity. In this way, our pupils come to understand that God's love is for everyone and that they can play their part in making a difference, wherever people are in need.











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Year 3 will lead the Harvest Service which will be held at St Mary's church starting at 9:30am on Friday 10th October. Please come along and join us for our service. Tea, coffee and biscuits will be served by the Parent Support Group before the service starts.

Children can bring items to offer as donations on the morning of the service. If you wish to donate food to Oldham Food Bank, please bring non-perishable items such as:

- · Any long-life items
- Sugar
- · UHT milk
- · Tinned fish
- Noodles
- Rice
- · Cooking sauces
- · Toilet roll
- · Tinned fruit
- · Tinned rice pudding/custard



We look forward to sharing our service and continuing to make a difference together.

ST. MARY'S SUPPORT GROUP NEWS:

St Mary's Support Group will meet, on Wednesday 1^{st} October at 7:00pm, in the North Star. Everyone is welcome to attend, including new members. This will be the AGM meeting

The next 150 club draw will take place on Friday, 26th September. If you are not yet a member and would like to join, please e-mail the school office we still have numbers available.

Fund Raising:

The Parent Support Group has been instrumental in raising funds for exciting improvements to our school. At the end of last term, pupils were delighted to enjoy the new tyre park, which was made possible through your generous fundraising. In addition, the school has secured a grant to transform a small space into a Sunshine Room—a calm, reflective area to support the mental health and wellbeing of both pupils and staff. The Support Group has also contributed to this project by funding the electrical works, enabling new lighting, wall projections, and music to bring this space to life.

Looking ahead, we will meet again in October to consider our next proposal: purchasing more reading books aligned with the Little Wandle Phonics programme, following feedback from our school community. Thank you once again for your ongoing support—it makes such a positive difference to our children's experience of school.









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MUSIC TUITION:

For those pupils who receive music tuition, or looking to start music tuition, our timetable is as follows:

Monday: Percussion tuition 1:00 - 1:30pm
Wednesday: Woodwind tuition 8:30 - 11:30am
Thursday: Band tuition 8:20 - 9:00am

Brass tuition 1:00 - 3:00pm

SCHOOL LUNCHES:

Our school lunches continue to be popular with our pupils. Please remember to pre-order your school meals with your child each day or week. The cost of school meals is £2.80 per day, £14:00 per week. Our first Themed lunch is a Bonfire Lunch, where all pupils are invited to participate. This will be on Thursday 6^{th} November.

If your child wants to try a school meal, please just contact the school office and we can set children up very quickly.

INDIVIDUAL PHOTOGRAPHS:



On Monday 13th October we have our school photograph day. We invite parents with pre-school children to come into school at the beginning of the school day (from 8:30am) if they wish to have a family portrait. In response to requests by parents, we allow children to be photographed either in school uniform or appropriate clothes of parents' choice. The majority of parents still choose to have pictures in uniform and this is NOT a non-uniform day. Children should change back into their school uniform once the photograph has been taken.

ALLERGIES IN SCHOOL:

A reminder: we do have children in school with an apple allergy. It is very important that we share key messages with you. Please do not send your child into school with apples or apple-based products in their packed lunches or snacks. We thank you in advance for supporting the school in this matter.

BATTLE OF THE BOOKS:

Once again, we are running the battle of the Books where we challenge pupils to read 12 books from their class list (available on the school website). Pupils who have been successful in previous years can take part once again with a new set of books for their class and a new challenge. Last year we had 12 pupils who successfully completed the challenge. It would be great if we could beat that record!

Please visit the School Website under 'Learning' - 'Reading' to find out more about Battle of The Books reading challenge and the links to your child class reading list.









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Please note if you feel the class list is too challenging, please see your child's class teacher and we can re direct to a more appropriate section, as we want ALL children to experience an enjoyment of books.

Many of the books are available in school and many of you will have at home. On occasions parents very generously donate books to school for Birthdays or because their children have outgrown them. If any of these donations are linked to the books in the scheme we would be extremely grateful.

Good luck with the challenge and we will keep you updated over the coming months.

SAT'S INFORMATION EVENING

We will be holding a Year 6 SATs Information Evening on Wednesday, 12th November at 6:00 PM in the school hall.

This evening is a fantastic opportunity to learn more about what we do in school to prepare pupils for their SATs, and how you can support them at home. There will be plenty of chances to:

- Explore past SATs papers
- · Ask questions to our teaching staff
- Understand the structure and expectations of the SATs

While pupils are welcome to attend, their presence is not required

ATTENDANCE

Good attendance is of great importance for all or pupils. We are very proud at St Mary's that the vast majority of our pupils have excellent attendance and we will continue to celebrate this at the end of each term, with certificates presented to individual pupils who have 100% attendance. Each month on the school newsletters we will also celebrate great attendance by class.



Please Note:

Holidays in term time cannot be authorised and any holidays taken for 5 days or more will have a penalty fine issued by the Local Authority. Please see attached sheet or the school policy on the school website for further information. Any requests must be made through the request for absence form - available from the school office or the school website.

Any persistent absence (attendance below 90%) will continue to be followed up by school in the first instance. Continued persistence absence will be passed onto the Local Authority Attendance Officer











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AFTER SCHOOL ACTIVITIES FOR THIS HALF TERM:

Monday: Badminton 3:30 - 4:30pm Yr 5 and 6 with Mr Kelly

Tuesday: Infant Fun Club: 12:00 - 12:30 with Mr Brierley (Sports Development Officer)

Junior Fun Club: 12:30 -1:00 Yr3 - 4 with Mr Brierley Football Club: 3:30 - 4:30pm Yr 4 with Mr Brierley

Wednesday:Choir:3:30 - 4:30pm with Miss DaviesThursday:Anna's Dance3:30 - 4:15pm Years 1, 2,and 3Friday:Gymnastics3:30 - 5:00pm with Mrs Oxley

FORTHCOMING DATES:

26th Sept MacMillan Coffee Morning W/c 29th September Book week (details to follow)

1st October Support Group Meeting 7pm North Star

2nd October Reception Reading Evening 6pm - details to follow

7th October Year 5 at Tropical World

10th October Harvest Service in church. 9:30 am led by Year 3.

10th October World Mental Health Day

15th October Y5 at Castleshaw with our friends from Broadfield

13th October Family and Individual School Photographs

17th October Nasal Flu Vaccinations in school 21st October Parents Evenings 3:40 - 6:50 pm 22nd October Parents Evenings 3:40 - 6:50 pm

22nd October Whole School Spanish Day in School - details to follow

23rd October School Disco

24th October Reception and Year 6 Buddy Assembly at 9:10am

Half term: Mon 27th October - Friday 31st October School re opens on Monday 3rd November 2025

6th November Bonfire Lunch (details to follow)

7th November Chocolate Non-Uniform Day - chocolate donations to be used at the Christmas Fair.

15th November St Mary's Christmas Fair (more details to follow)

9th December Infant Christmas Performance for the Community 1:45pm
10th December Infant Christmas Performance for parents and families 2:00pm

10" December Infant Christmas Performance for parents and families 2:00pm
11th December Infant Christmas Performance for parents and families 10:00am

12th December Whole School Pantomime Visit

15th December KS 1 Christmas Party

17th December School Christmas Lunch and Christmas Jumper Day

18th December KS 2 Christmas Party

19th December Carol Service in church. 9:30 am led by Year 5.

Thank you for taking the time to read this month's newsletter.

Kind regards,

P.A Hartley

Headteacher









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