



www.stmarysmiddlewich.cheshire.sch.uk

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Friday 18th September 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have had a really successful start to the year. I am very impressed with the pupils' behaviour and their application to their work. We have decided to hold parents' evening before we break up for the October half term on Wednesday 21st and Thursday 22nd October so this is an advance warning so parents can make arrangements to attend in good time.

Diary Dates 2026/2027

Tuesday 22 nd September	Y5&6 Girls Football Competition – St Nic's
Thursday 24 th September	School Photographs – Individuals and Families
Wednesday 30 th September	Y5&6 Mixed Netball Competition – St Nic's
Saturday 3 rd October	Phone, Computer, Device support network in school hall 10am
Monday 5 th October	RSHE consultation at 4.30pm
Tuesday 6 th October	PTA Autumn Disco
Thursday 8 th October	Y6 trip to Crucial Crew
Thursday 8 th October	St Nicholas Music Festival
Thursday 8 th October	KS2 Cross Country Competition – Cledford Primary School
Friday 9 th October	Hello Yellow Day – Wear Yellow to school
Thursday 15 th October	Y3 – Stone, Bronze & Iron Age Experience – Tatton Park
21 st & 22 nd October	Parents Evenings
Friday 23 rd October	Pyjama Day Bring a bottle for the PTA
Friday 23 rd October	SCHOOL CLOSES FOR HALF TERM (3:00PM)
Monday 2 nd November	SCHOOL REOPENS AT 8:30AM
Thursday 5 th November	Y5&6 Mixed Tag Rugby Competition – Middlewich High School
25 th to 27 th November	Y4 residential at Savio House
Wednesday 9 th – Friday 11 th December	Y6 Residential - Robinwood
Monday 14 th December	Christmas Dinner Day
15 th and 16 th December	Whole school Christmas Production

Individual and Sibling Photographs 24th September

It's that time of year again.

The photographer will be in school to take individual and family photographs on Thursday, 24th September. Each child will have an individual photograph taken. Family groups will be automatically taken unless you advise us to say that you **do not** wish one to be taken. If you would like to include siblings who do not attend St. Mary's, the photographer will be available from **8am** in the school hall.

RSHE Consultation

The school has used the Ten:Ten programme (officially known as Life to the Full by Ten Ten Resources¹) for many years now. It is a multimedia educational scheme used by Catholic primary and secondary schools in the UK to teach statutory Relationships, Sex, and Health Education (RSHE). The Department of Education (DFE) has revised statutory RSHE guidance

¹https://www.google.com/goto?url=CAESWgHrOzAVysGmC_1K6AiORbLHHT4ZUP68n2_xfgLuVHbXtsAUxscvPWbTn8-5K1r-BWCSTQ9hi9phhcl4-3qQvnxP0n9BweP24l8WQyXP0OmMoQBdIUHNe3ozGQ

which came into effect on 1st September 2026. All statutory content has now been consolidated into the core "Life to the Full" programme. The Diocese has asked us to consult with parents about the revised content this half term ready for implementation in Autumn 2. You are invited to complete a questionnaire which you will receive shortly. There is also an information session for parents on 5th October at 4.30pm.

Show Racism the Red Card

The recent Show Racism the Red Card workshop run by the UK's leading anti-racism charity Show Racism the Red Card² was a great success. The sessions utilized the high-profile status of football and expert educators to break down complex social issues into engaging, age-appropriate learning at the right level so that our pupils had a better understanding of what racism is and how it impacts on individuals and society.



Mixed Football Competition

Our football teams played in their first competition of the year on Wednesday and thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

²https://www.google.com/goto?url=CAESUwHrOzAVKiA6eFW0WhjKoTHiaf5y4Jx-xPxdh27O0rvqk75Kew2Zq2POIMggurs6-hJwddZjKWbfAYPx5pFuQ05PhWmqyrN0zm_SbxfTBu_RgMeD

Once the nerves had settled, they played some fantastic football, scored some incredible goals, and our goalkeepers made some outstanding saves.

They represented St. Mary's wonderfully throughout the competition, showing excellent teamwork, determination, and respect.

We finished 4th and 2nd, narrowly missing out on 1st place due to goal difference.

We now know what to work on as we prepare for the Middlewich derbies in the summer term.

Well done to everyone who took part. We are incredibly proud of you all! 🍌⚽👏



Emergency First Aid

All staff attended Emergency First Aid training on the INSET day on 2nd September. It was extremely useful and means we are up to date with new legislation.



Arbor App



Please ensure you have downloaded and are using the Arbor app rather than the website.

The Arbor app is available from both the Apple App Store and Google Play Store and provides a more user-friendly experience than the web version.

The app can be used to:

- Book clubs and activities
- Pay for school lunches
- Make payments for other school activities and trips
- Update your personal details and contact information

We recommend using the app wherever possible for the best user experience.

If you encounter any issues accessing or using the Arbor app, please contact the school office for assistance.

GDPR Consent

Further to the communication below, if you have not yet completed your child(ren)'s consent form, **please do so as soon as possible using the link provided.**

Thank you to all parents and carers who have already completed and returned the form.

As a reminder, at St Mary's we sometimes take photographs of pupils to celebrate and share their achievements and experiences. These images may be used on the school's website, display boards, weekly newsletter, prospectus, social media channels and in the local press. We also request permission to use your child's name alongside these photographs where appropriate.

We would also like you to confirm your consent to receive electronic communications from the school.

If you are happy for us to do this, please complete the consent form. If you do not wish your child to be photographed or named in this way, we will of course respect your preferences.

Please note that consent, once given, will remain valid until July 2027 and can be withdrawn at any time by emailing schooloffice@stmrc.uk.

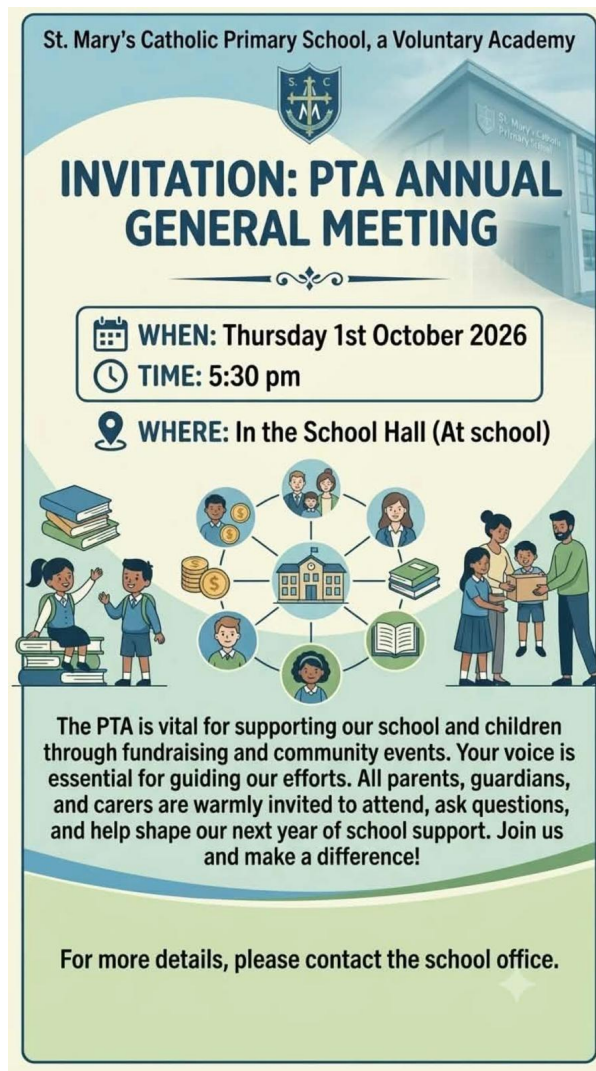
Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.

SOCIAL MEDIA CONSENT – Fill in form³

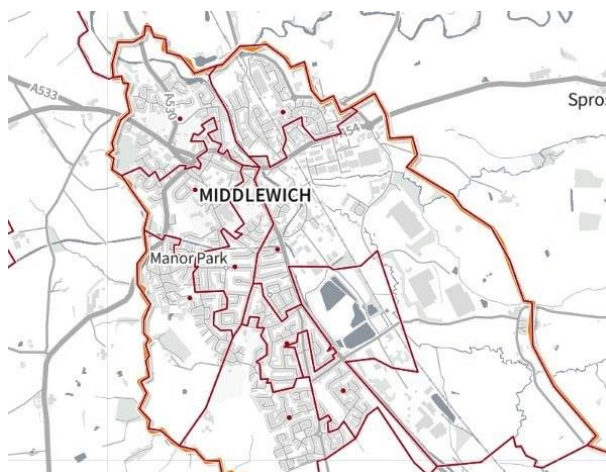
PTA Annual General Meeting (AGM)

Thursday 1st October 2026 @ 5:30pm in the school hall

³<https://forms.cloud.microsoft/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=dDue4hulpkaRTmNzHXDfOJ3wvMn8ftplgByTDVHgrvpUM0JLTkk0WVJDTEdXNEVIOE9YQ1kzSzhWSy4u>



Cledford Project



Health & Wellbeing Survey

<https://surveys.cheshireeast.gov.uk/s/CEHealthandWellbeing/>

The survey is currently open until **Sunday 27 September 2026**, giving residents time to participate after the summer holidays.

Hello Yellow



Come dressed in Yellow on Friday 9th October! No donation - it's to brighten everyone's day.
Cost - just a smile!

Attendance

%	W/C 31/08	W/C 7/9	W/C 14/9
Reception	100%	99.60%	100%
Year 1	100%	97.10%	93.60%
Year 2	88.90%	94.40%	90.60%
Year 3	100%	100%	94.20%
Year 4	95.70%	99.10%	96.60%
Year 5	95.80%	95.40%	95.80%
Year 6	95.20%	95.80%	91.60%
Whole school	96.50%	97.30%	95%

The Importance of Good Attendance

Regular school attendance is vital to ensure children make the most of their learning opportunities, build strong friendships and develop positive routines.

Any leave requested during term time must be made in advance by completing a **Request for Leave** form. Please note that leave taken during term time may result in a **fine being issued by the Local Authority**, in line with current regulations. Please refer to chart below for details of the PN process including fines and timelines.

For further information, please refer to the school's **Absence Policy** and **Cheshire East Council's Penalty Notice guidance**, which are available via the school website [HERE](#)⁴.

Thank you for your continued support in promoting excellent attendance.

Absence

- Reporting an absence, please ring 01606 516 171 & select option 1, **by 9am each day**. State child's full name, class and reason for absence
- useful information for parents - <https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>

Community News

Masking Awareness



Free online talk for parents

24 September 7pm - 8pm

Book online

facefamilyadvice.co.uk

Parent - Live Talks page



⁴<https://www.stmarysmiddlewich.cheshire.sch.uk/page/?title=Policies&pid=30>



September Timetable

All regular sessions delivered live online via zoom. 90 minutes long

£24 each or FREE with School Membership

Book online at facefamilyadvice.co.uk

Recordings available for 48 hours

Facing Defiance	1 Sep 10am
Cannabis & Ketamine Awareness	1 Sep 7pm
Supporting Healthy Sleep	7 Sep 10am
Raising Self-Esteem	7 Sep 7pm
Introduction to OCD	8 Sep 10am
Decreasing Depression	8 Sep 7pm
What is ACT?	14 Sep 10am
Improving Family Communication	14 Sep 7pm
Supporting a Child with ADHD	15 Sep 10am
Understanding Addictive Behaviour	15 Sep 7pm
Understanding the Teenage Brain	21 Sep 10am
Understanding Anger	21 Sep 7pm
Autism: Improving Communication	22 Sep 10am
Supporting Healthy Screen Use	22 Sep 7pm
FREE - Masking Awareness	24 Sep 7-8pm
Anxiety Explained	28 Sep 10am
School Anxiety	28 Sep 7pm



GROWING FEELINGS

PARENT-CHILD GROUP
EMOTIONAL LITERACY SUPPORT APPROACH
(ELSA)



Are you a parent/carer looking to enhance your understanding & support your 3 or 4 year olds emotional development?

Join us in a safe and welcoming space where we explore our feelings, build emotional literacy, and support one another. A chance to connect with other parents and explore play-based learning with your child.

Across the 5 weeks we will explore:



Parent only workshop (week 1): 3 hours

This workshop is for parents only, creating space for open conversation & focused learning without distractions. A crèche will be available for families who need childcare during the session.

Following weeks: 4 play-based sessions (1.5 hour)

The following 4-weeks will be play-based sessions for parents and children, where practical strategies are explored & modelled by ELSA-trained Start for Life Portage Practitioners. Sessions are informed by psychology, with a gentle focus on understanding regulation for both you and your child.

Parent only workshop - 21st September 12pm-3pm

**Play based sessions - 28th Sept, 5th Oct, 12th Oct, 19th Oct
1pm-2.30pm**

Monks Coppenhall Family Hub, Remer Street, Crewe, CW1 4LY
email: startforlifesouth@cheshireeast.gov.uk



FREE IT SESSIONS

**DO YOU LACK CONFIDENCE IN
FINDING YOUR WAY AROUND YOUR
PHONE OR TABLET?**

**If so, please come along to St Mary's Catholic
Primary School (Manor Lane, Middlewich) on:**

**Saturday 5th September
Saturday 3rd October
Saturday 14th November**

10.00 — 11.30am

Help with Smartphones and Tablets

Refreshments provided

**For more information, please contact Lucie
Ferneyhough on 07929 717909 or
lucie.ferneyhough@cheshireeast.gov.uk**



**Wildcats Girls' Football.
Every Tuesday 6-7pm at Middlewich Town Football Club**

**Open to all girls aged 5 – 11, just turn up ready to play!
Gain football skills, meet new friends, build confidence.**

**If you've got any questions or want more information, contact:
Andy on 07738 203486 or Sarah on 07858 002672**



Extracurricular Clubs

Monday

- KS1 and KS2 **Dodgeball** and **Climbing Frame Fun**, 3pm to 4pm - pay per session now available on Arbor

Tuesday

- KS1 & KS2 **Cross Country** and **Rugby**, 3pm to 4pm - pay per session now available on Arbor

Wednesday

- KS1 and KS2 **Football** 3pm to 4pm - pay per session now available on Arbor

Thursday

- KS2 **Netball/Basketball**, 3pm to 4pm - pay per session now available on Arbor

Friday

- KS1 and KS2 **Archery**, 3pm to 4pm - pay per session now available on Arbor

All extracurricular clubs must be booked, and payment completed via Arbor, no later than **1:00pm on the day of the club.**

Only pupils with a confirmed booking and payment will be permitted to attend.

Where this deadline has not been met, pupils will be unable to participate in the activity. Parents/carers will be contacted and asked to arrange collection of their child.

This procedure ensures that attendance registers remain accurate and enables the school to manage attendance numbers and staffing requirements effectively.

School Nursery



Please see our nursery page for more information on our school website - Nursery⁵

Contacting the School Office

When contacting the school office for parent queries relating to clubs, medical appointments or school payment items, please contact the school office email which is: schooloffice@stmrc.uk⁶

⁵<https://www.stmarysmiddlewich.cheshire.sch.uk/page/?title=Nursery&pid=15>

⁶<mailto:schooloffice@stmrc.uk>

If you have a general enquiry or a query regarding admissions or paper copies of any information published on our website, or assistance with Arbor please contact the School Office Manager at: admin@stmrc.uk⁷

To contact the headteacher Mrs Janet McKinlay, please email head@stmrc.uk⁸

To contact our school SENCO, please email senco@stmrc.uk⁹

If you have a query or concern regarding your child please speak with your child's class teacher in the first instance.

St Mary's Catholic Primary School

Manor Lane, Middlewich. CW10 9DH

01606 516 171

Office hours are Monday to Friday 8.00am to 4.00pm

Visit us on the web at <https://www.stmarysmiddlewich.cheshire.sch.uk/>

⁷<mailto:admin@stmrc.uk>

⁸<mailto:head@stmrc.uk>

⁹<mailto:senco@stmrc.uk>