



STAR OF THE SEA R.C.
PRIMARY SCHOOL
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May 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

Attendance by class – from September 2025 to date:

Our target for all children is 96%.

Class	Attendance %	Class	Attendance %
Nursery	94.7%	YR – Mrs McQuillan	95.4%
Y1- Mr Maguire / Mrs Hepplewhite	94.6%	Y1/2 Mrs Hudspith	97.2%
Y2 – Mrs Hawthorn	96.4%	Y3- Mr Thompson	95.4%
Y3 /4 Mrs Byrne /Mrs Connon	94.6%	Y4- Mr O’Doherty	96.9%
Y5 – Miss Austin	95.1%	Y5- Mr Hall	94.1%
Y6 – Mrs Hodgkins	92.4%	Y6 – Mrs Taylor	95.3%



Congratulations to Mrs Hawthorn’s class, Mrs Hudspith’s class and Mr O’Doherty’s class for having the best attendance this year so far!

Year 4 retreat to YMT

Most of our year 4 children are attending the Youth Village this half term. We are really looking forward to the retreat.

Wellbeing week - Monday 18th May to Friday 22nd May

This is our annual wellbeing week when **all our pupils can wear their PE kits in school, every day.** We will be learning about how to keep our bodies, teeth and minds healthy alongside a wide range of activities.

We end our week with sports day on Friday.

Scholastic Book Fair – Monday 8th & Tuesday 9th June, 3:30pm – 4:00pm

We are delighted to be holding a Scholastic Book Fair in school next half term. This event will be held in the **school hall** and offers a wonderful selection of affordable and engaging books at every level for you to purchase.

Facebook

As you will know, we are now using Facebook to let everyone know some of the things which are happening in school. We are hoping to begin using Instagram soon.

- **Clubs the children have enjoyed this half term:** Coding, Dance, Chess, Violin, Keyboard, Rock Steady, Access Coaching sports clubs and Shakespeare club, Girls football club (thank you Mr Watson!)

New Website and Introductory video

We are delighted that we have a new website, with new photographs etc. Please take a look at the new video too. You might see some familiar faces!

Children's Cancer Run

Huge congratulations and thanks to everyone who attended the Cancer run yesterday. We had so many families taking part this year. Thank you to Mr Thompson who organised this and ran, or as he said, hobbled, his way round the course!

Important dates

Week 6	Monday, 18 th to Friday, 22 nd May	Health and Wellbeing week. Children to wear PE kits all week Walk, scoot or cycle to school week Sports day on Friday 22 nd May
	Wednesday 20 th May	M&M travelling theatre company visits school
	Thursday, 21 st May	Photographer to take Nursery, Reception and Year 6 class photographs
	Friday, 22 nd May	SPORTS DAY - Break up for half term holiday
Monday 25th May to Friday 29th May		HALF TERM HOLIDAY
Week 1	Monday, 1 st June for 3 days	Art week – elephants and African animals Postponed by artist until a later date
	Wednesday 3 rd June to 5 th June	Y4 retreat to Youth Village
	Saturday, 6 th June	First Communion celebration
Week 2	Monday 8 th & Tuesday 9 th June	Scholastic Book Fair in school
	Wednesday 10 th June	Y6 mass at Immaculate Heart church 10am
	Thursday, 11 th June	5pm - meeting for parents of new nursery children 6pm – meeting of reception parents
	Friday 12 th June	Year 3 and 4 assembly for parents – 9.15am
Week 3	Monday 15 th June to Friday 19 th June	Careers week
	Wednesday 17 th June	Year 5 mass at Immaculate Heart church at 10am
Week 4	Wednesday 24 th June	Year 4 mass at Immaculate Heart church at 10am
	Friday 26 th June	Year 5 assembly for parents – 9.15am
Week 5	TUESDAY 30 th JUNE Change of date from Wednesday 1st July	3.20pm – 4.30pm parents/carers invited to look around school with their children and celebrate this year
	Wednesday 1 st July	Year 3 mass at Immaculate Heart church at 10am
	Thursday 2 nd July to Friday 3 rd July	Transition day for year 6 pupils to STM
	Friday 3 rd July	Reception summer stay and play 2.15pm
	Friday 3 rd July	RSC at the Northern Stage
Week 6	Tuesday 7 th July	Nursery end of year graduation/party
	Thursday 9 th July	Rocksteady concert, 2.30pm
	Friday 10 th July	Y6 leavers' assembly for parents 9.15am
Week 7	Monday 13 th July	Leavers' party for y6, in school (PM)
	Thursday, 16 th July	Final day at school for pupils – early pick up
	Friday, 17 th July	Staff training day – school not open to pupils

Safeguarding and anxiety

Ten ideas proven to help children who might be feeling anxious:

- Quiet Hugs: Help your child feel safe by reassuring them that you are there and willing to help. Words can sometimes exacerbate anxiety so sitting quietly with lots of cuddles and empathising can often work better.
- See your calm space: Remember a time when you were happy, calm and peaceful. See it in your mind with as much detail as possible. Always use the same calm place to enhance the effect.
- 5x5 Grounding: See 5 things, hear 4 things, touch 3 things, smell 2 things and taste 1 thing.
- Draw your anxiety: Draw a picture of what you are worried about.
- Blow bubbles: Research has shown that taking 10 deep breaths resets the automatic nervous system and helps to calm the amygdala in the brain. Blowing bubbles is a great way to get a child to blow deep breaths.
- Party blowers or a straw and balled up paper offer other ways to do the same.
- Pet a furry friend: Research has shown that petting an animal reduces the heart rate and calms the body. Sitting for 10-15 minutes petting a furry friend is a wonderful way to relieve anxiety and bring some smiles to a child.
- Jumping Jacks: Anxiety often causes shallow breathing. Asking your child to do an exercise forces them to take deep breaths that can reset the anxious feelings. Remember past success: Encourage your child to think about the last time they overcame their anxiety. Remind them that they can do this, even though it may be hard.
- Problem solve the fear: Help your child talk through what solutions could be used if their fear were to come to fruition. Knowing they can handle the worst, can help calm the fear.
- Destroy the worry: Have your child write their anxiety on a piece of paper, then tear it up and throw it away.

Sports Day

It looks like the weather is going to be lovely for us on Friday, which is great news. Please remember to send your child in with a sun hat/cap, a water bottle and please put sun cream on them before coming to school. Many thanks.

Timings: Nursery and Reception classes: 9.15 – 10am.

Years one and two: 10.45 – 11.30am

Years three, four: 1pm to 2pm

Years five and six: 2pm – 3pm

Some of our year 6 parents will be selling ice lollies on Friday. They will also be holding a raffle to raise funds for the year 6 leavers party.

There will also be a coffee van attending.

Please remember to bring money for these treats! Thank you.

Two new bikes to be raffled

Mr McLelland has very kindly donated two new bikes for us to raffle for school funds. We are delighted about this! Thank you Mr McLelland! We will be selling raffle tickets for these during our summer evening, on the 30th of June. All money raised will be for school funds.

I hope you have a lovely half term holiday when it comes and that the sun keeps shining! When we return to school, on Monday, 1st June, we will be enjoying our final half term of the school year.

More details will follow about the exciting things we have planned.

Please remember Father Andrew in your prayers. He is undergoing treatment for cancer. Many thanks.

Kindest regards,

K.L.DiMambro

Mrs K. DiMambro