



# ST MONICA'S NEWSLETTER

## FRIDAY 28TH NOVEMBER, 2025

### A Message to Our St Monica's Community

This week has been a time of reflection, gratitude and togetherness for our St Monica's family. As a school community, we have remembered and celebrated the life of our much-loved colleague, Mrs Hulligan.

In our assemblies, the children showed real compassion, maturity and kindness: they made us all proud. I told them that Mrs Hulligan is in Heaven and watching over us, and smiling. Pupils shared stories and spoke about the joy Mrs Hulligan brought to them and reflected on the difference she made to us all.

These assemblies have not only helped us to remember her with warmth, but have also encouraged us to move forward with a smile, carrying with us the positivity, humour and love Mrs Hulligan showed on a daily basis. As Dollie in Year 5 said, "Mrs Hulligan is now in Heaven, so she will live forever. You know what they say, sir, legends never die."

Next week, we will open a Book of Condolences for any parents or grandparents who may wish to leave a message.

If you are unable to come into school, please feel free to email us your words and we will write them into the book on your behalf. We will present this book alongside the prayers, poems and memories created by our children to Mrs Hulligan's family.

We now look ahead with hope and a sense of positivity in celebration of a life well lived, dedicated to helping others with a smile. A personal thanks to Father Ged, Governors, staff and families for your support, kindness and strength this week. St Monica's remains, as ever, a place of love, care and unity, and this week has shown that more clearly than ever.





# CHRISTMAS JUMPER SWAP SHOP CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY - 10<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER

# SWAP



# SHOP



**DO YOU HAVE ANY OLD CHRISTMAS JUMPERS THAT CAN BE UP-CYCLED FOR OUR CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY?**

- DROP OFF: FROM THE 29TH NOVEMBER 2025 AT THE OFFICE
- SWAP DAY ON THE YARD: MONDAY 8TH DECEMBER AT 3:15PM
- CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY: 10TH DECEMBER



# Headteacher's Hot Chocolate

Each week, pupils who have lived out our values and have demonstrated the “St Monica’s Way” are selected by their class teacher. They are celebrated in assembly and then enjoy a hot chocolate and a chat with Mr Gouldbourne to celebrate their inspirational week.

Mr Gouldbourne	<p>Juniors: Luca Colton (4T) for showing talents across the curriculum and showing positivity and aspiration in all he does. A kind and caring pupil who will go far.</p> <p>Infants: Jazmine Aziz (2C) For being a selfless superhero and growing her hair to donate to ill children - a caring, compassionate and brilliant pupil. What a role model!</p>
Ms Tohill	Conor Rice - For brilliant determination, respect and resilience in lessons and clubs This week he showed excellent tagging skills during T1 Rugby.
Nursery	Penny is always positive, kind, and ready to help - qualities that make our classroom a better place.
Miss Andrews	Freddie O'Connor for trying really hard in his phonics and literacy. He always gives everything 100%!
Miss Horder	Rosa Moran for working with flair independently to create her own Stickman story. Well done, Rosa!
Miss Hatcher	Amora for making fantastic choices and using her listening ears. Your writing has been fantastic this week - keep it up.
Miss Tew	Charlie for showing how his hard work has really made an impact with his fantastic writing. Charlie, we are so proud of you!
Mrs MacDonald	Juliette Garry - For showing resilience in her English studies. She has given all her reading and writing 100% this week and I couldn't be prouder! Well done Juliette!
Mrs Chorzepa	Nolah Keaney - For showing dedication to all her work this term. She is truly a St Monica's girl and shines bright like a star!
Mrs Reardon	Halle Smith for contributing well in lessons and always having a smile on her face!
Miss Gibbons	Gabriella Garrity for always giving 100% to everything she does! A shining star and a pupil who is talented across the curriculum, well done!
Mrs Ware	Ruby Bowden because she demonstrates her resilience and aspiration through her hard work and determination. Well done Ruby!
Miss Thomas	Oliver Rothwell for showing our core value of faith and being a role model in our prayer and liturgy sessions. A superb week for a lovely young man.
Mrs Gilbertson/ Mrs Birch	Raya Gormely- For being a sensible Y5 pupil, paying close attention to instructions and showing respect by listening carefully to others.
Miss McGuckin	Freddie Farrell - For showing aspiration and creativity in his Writing this week. Freddie has showed resilience working on his tense. Well done Freddie!
Miss McGiveron	Amelia Crowder - for always giving maximum effort and perseverance in maths - she is a maths superstar.
Mr Lynch	Thomas Conlan. For making a real effort across all areas of the curriculum. Continue to give your best to all that you do. This has been a super start to Year 6.
Mrs Hough	Lucas Banks - for showing kindness and empathy to his classmates this week - well done, Lucas!



## Nursery - by Miss Byrne



We have loved exploring the story 'Peace at Last'.

The children were captivated as we read about the Bear family and Mr. Bear's search for a quiet place to sleep. They enjoyed retelling the story, using new vocabulary and sequencing the events.

We also acted out the story together, with the children taking turns to become the different characters and recreate the funny, familiar sounds that kept Mr. Bear awake. Our discussions naturally extended into talking about night time and what happens when the world goes quiet. This led us to learn about nocturnal animals - which creatures come out at night.

**It has been wonderful to see the children so engaged, confident, and enthusiastic in their storytelling, role play, and conversations.**



## Reception - by Miss Andrews and Miss Horder

Reception have had a wonderful time exploring Julia Donaldson's book *Stick Man*. The children went on exciting stick hunts in our outdoor environment, collecting natural materials to create their very own Stick Men. They also enjoyed retelling the story in the small world area, using their imagination to bring the characters to life and even inventing their own Stick Man adventures. It has been a fantastic opportunity to develop language, creativity and a love of storytelling!

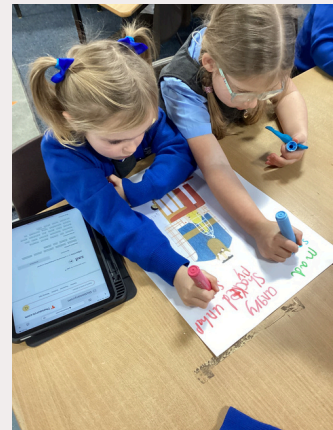




## Year 1 - by Miss Hatcher and Miss Tew

**Year 1 have been working hard this term to make their writing more exciting and detailed.** The children have been learning how to use a wide range of adjectives to bring their ideas to life. They even challenged themselves by using thesauruses to further develop their vocabulary. They particularly enjoyed describing how the characters felt when Nibbles, the cheeky book-eating monster, started nibbling his way into their pictures and even changing the endings of their stories!

They showed great imagination as they explored different emotions, choosing vivid words to help their readers understand exactly what their characters were experiencing. It has been wonderful to see their confidence grow as they experiment with richer vocabulary and more creative storytelling.

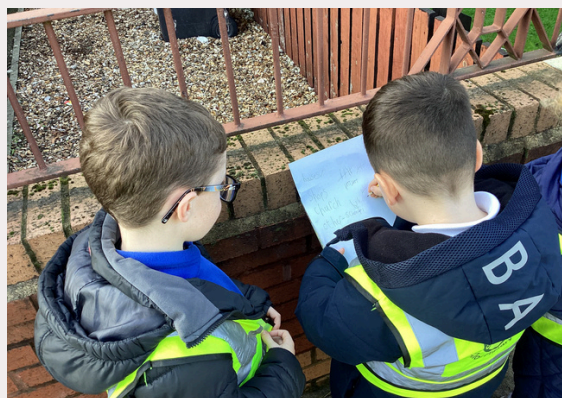


## Year 2- by Mrs Macdonald, Mrs Chorzepa and Miss Partington

**This week, Year 2 took their learning outside the classroom with a walk around our local area. The children were excited to spot and discuss a range of human features, including shops, roads, houses, street signs, and other man-made landmarks.**

During the walk, the children continued to show great excitement as they observed each feature and talked about what they noticed. They enjoyed comparing different parts of the area and thinking about why these human features are important to our community.

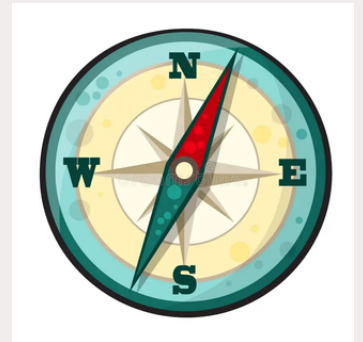
Well done, Year 2 geographers!





## Year 3 - by Mrs Reardon and Miss Gibbons

This week in Geography, pupils learned about cardinal and inter-cardinal compass points and used compasses to find North. They then applied their skills to locate Liverpool on a map of the UK, discovering that we live in the North West of England and to the west of Manchester. Next week, the class will be exploring the human and physical features of the local area.



## Year 4 - by Mrs Ware and Miss Thomas

This week in Geography, 4T became river explorers! Using atlases and digital maps, they tracked the mighty River Thames and the (even mightier) River Mersey from their sources all the way to their mouths, discovering the major cities each river passes along the way. The class also investigated the human and physical features of rivers right here in our local area, uncovering how these waterways shape the places we live. It was an exciting end to our rivers topic and left everyone feeling like true geographers!





## Year 5- by Mrs Gilbertson/ Mrs Birch and Miss McGuckin



This week, Year 5 enjoyed their final Active Session in Yoga, and what a brilliant journey it has been! Over the past few weeks, they have worked incredibly hard to explore the fundamentals of movement, balance, and mindfulness through yoga practice. During the last session, pupils focussed on the Downward Facing Dog and Cat Stretch. These poses helped them develop strength, flexibility, and body awareness. They concentrated on maintaining correct posture, keeping their bodies aligned, and moving with intention. The pupils demonstrated real determination and a positive attitude throughout their yoga learning. Many pupils shared how calming and enjoyable the sessions have been: and how much progress they've made. Maybe they could use them at home to continue their learning?



## Year 6- by Miss McGiveron and Mr Lynch

This week, Year 6 have been diving into the fascinating world of evolution and inheritance by exploring the big question: “Are all offspring identical to their parents?”

Through discussion, the children discovered how reproduction plays a vital role in passing on characteristics from one generation to the next. They examined why offspring may share similarities with their parents but are rarely exact copies, and how these small differences can be important for survival.

We also investigated the concepts of variation and diversity, learning that variation refers to the differences between individuals of the same species, while diversity describes the wider range of living things found across our planet. Pupils considered real-life examples—from siblings in a family to animals in the wild, to understand how these differences occur and why they matter. The children showed great curiosity and scientific thinking, asking thoughtful questions and making links to natural selection, adaptation and the world around them.

