






## St Monica's Catholic Primary School

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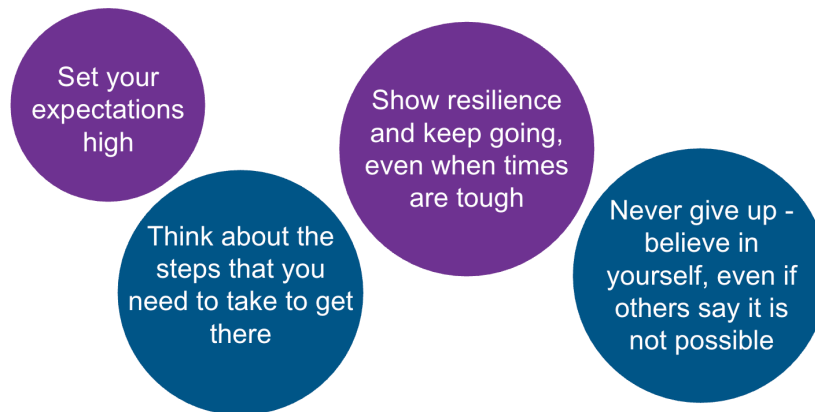
 [stmonicascatholicprimaryschool.co.uk](http://stmonicascatholicprimaryschool.co.uk)

Friday 16 January, 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

### Aspiration

Today's assembly was all about aspiration. I asked the children to 'Dream Big', and to have high expectations of themselves and how they see their future. We asked the children to think about the following steps as they move through their school journey towards their dreams and aspirations.



We spoke about Joseph in the Bible and how he wanted to become an important person and a leader, despite his brothers not believing in him. He overcame many obstacles and finally became a leader who saved many lives. We also linked this to modern figures such as Malala Yousafzai.

Over the weekend, why not ask your child what their dreams are when they grow up? We finished assembly by celebrating children who have shown aspiration in their work this week.



## Uniform Expectations

I would like to reinforce our school uniform and appearance expectations, which are in place to support pupils' learning, wellbeing and safety. These high standards apply to all pupils.

**Please ensure that your child follows the guidance below at all times:**

- **False nails, gel nails and nail varnish** are not permitted at any time. These present issues for PE, handwriting and practical activities. Parents will be contacted if pupils attend school wearing them. They must be removed as soon as possible.
- **Make-up** is not permitted, this includes mascara.
- **Hair dye is not allowed:** pupils must not have brightly coloured hair dye
- **Hair should be tied back where appropriate:** this is for health reasons, only suitable, plain bows or scrunchies should be worn.
- **Jewellery is not permitted:** the only exception is a small pair of ear studs. Bracelets and other jewellery must not be worn in school. If jewellery is brought into school, it will be taken to the school office immediately for adult pick up.

We ask for your full support in ensuring pupils arrive at school meeting these expectations each day. This helps maintain consistency and high standards across the school. We will walk through each class on Monday to ensure the high standards are adhered to.

## Attendance

We have had a superb week for attendance, with a whole school attendance at 96.53%. We are starting the term with very strong attendance across the school. As pupils progress with their new units of study, this attendance will mean they do not miss a second of learning.

- Gold Trophy Winners: Miss Gibbons - an amazing 100% attendance all week
- Silver: Miss Thomas - 99.96%
- Bronze: Miss Byrne - 98.66%

## Two Week Attendance Initiative

From Monday, we will continue to incentivise attendance. The class in each phase with the best attendance over two weeks will win a treat and a story with myself for this two week cycle.

## Headteacher's Hot Chocolate

This week, a lovely group of children were chosen by their class teachers to enjoy hot chocolate as a special treat. Their teachers had some wonderful comments to share about them, recognising their hard work, kindness, and positive attitudes:

| Friday 16th January - Headteacher's Hot Chocolate Winners |  |    |   |
|---|--|----|---|
| Nursery   | Anthony Scott - for being a kind and helpful friend. At lunchtime he helps his classmates open packets if they are struggling.       | 3R | Mia C for showing excellent resilience in Maths and working extremely hard on our multiplication facts. Keep it up, Mia.  |
| RA  | Johnny Devine - for being super hard working and trying his best in phonics, well done Johnny!                                       | 3G | Ada M - For excellent writing this week. Ada has worked very hard to develop her use of the past and present progressive tense. She has written a delightful short piece describing a journey to a magical place. Miss Gibbons is extremely proud of you! |
| RH  | Hudson Hatton - Hudson has had a fantastic week! He has worked really hard, been super sensible and consistently followed the rules. | 4W | Olivia-Grace McLoughlin. Over the course of this week, Olivia has shown great resilience and aspiration. She has displayed greater independence in her writing. Well done, Olivia! Keep up the hard work.   |
| 1H  | Isabella Molloy - always being helpful and trying her best. She always follows The St Monica's Way. What a pupil!                    | 4T | Theo Deane - for his brilliant effort in maths this week, especially with his times tables. He has been confidently joining in with lessons and his hard work is really showing! Keep up the great work Theo!   |

|                         |   |     |  |
|-------------------------|---|-----|--|
| 1T                      | Oche for always working hard with a smile on his face and always trying his best. Oche is a brilliant friend to everyone. A superstar.                        | 5GB | Mila Keelan - For always working hard and showing the St Monica's Way in all she does. A superstar reader who always has insightful answers in class. Well done Mila!                              |
| 2M                      | Alice da Costa Greaves - For showing perseverance in her Science work and being able to discuss properties of different materials. A scientist in the making! | 5M  | Betsey Boylan - For consistently demonstrates strong aspiration through her engagement in lessons and the insightful knowledge she shares during our English class discussions. Well done, Betsey. |
| 2C                      | Joseph Dryhurst- for your positive attitude, maturity, and effort in all subjects. A superb pupil.  | 6M  | Lucas Banks - For being a caring and friendly person on the playground this week. Keep it up, Lucas.   |
| Miss Tohill - PE winner | Sofia Garitty and Harriet Bradley for being brave enough to perform their dance sequence, which was incredible.   | 6L  | Charlie Hansen - For always giving his best in all he does. Charlie shows great determination in completing his work and always has a fantastic smile.   |

### ***Governor - Thanks to Mrs O'Regan***

I would like to place on record my sincere thanks to Mrs Colette O'Regan for her decades of hard work and dedication to St Monica's, both as a teacher and as a governor. Over the years, Mrs O'Regan's knowledge of education and her keen insight have supported the school in innumerable ways, and her contribution has had a lasting impact on generations of children here in St Monica's.

Mrs O'Regan has now retired from her role, and I would like to wish her a long and well deserved retirement on behalf of us all.

We are currently looking to recruit a new Foundation Governor. Please take the time to read more about the role [here](#) (school information) or [here](#) (Liverpool Archdiocese information). If you, or anyone you know, may be interested in taking up this position, please encourage them to contact the school and we will be happy to provide further support and guidance.

**Best Regards,**

*Mr. James Gouldbourne*

**Headteacher, St Monica's Catholic Primary School**