



St Monica's Catholic Primary School

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Friday 23rd May, 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

Half term is upon us, and what a fantastic few weeks it has been. In all we have done, our pupils have thrown themselves into school life with real enthusiasm. They've worked ever so hard, and we're incredibly proud of the effort, resilience and joy they bring to St Monica's.

It's hard to believe, but we now have just one half term left in this academic year. Time flies, doesn't it?

Important: Key Building Works for the First Week Back

Over the break, the wall by our Southport Road entrance will be demolished and rebuilt by Sovini. A huge thank you to the parents who supported me in campaigning to make this happen.

The works will continue into our first week back, meaning the Southport Road entrance will be closed for five days (I hope!). During this time, access will be via the Aintree Road and Kelly Drive entrances only, which will understandably make these walkways busier.

I ask everyone to walk slowly and in an orderly fashion during this week, and for all bikes and scooters to be walked in as usual.

Morning drop-off will remain unchanged thanks to our Informal Entry window (8:30 to 8:45am), but I will be adjusting the **finish times** for that week to help minimise congestion and keep everyone as safe as possible:

Temporary End-of-Day Protocol (from Monday 2nd June until works are complete)

- Nursery gates will open as usual at **2:53pm**
- Mr Cooney will open the Aintree Road and Kelly Drive gates at **2:55pm** to allow plenty of time for arrival
- **Infants** will finish at 3:15pm as usual

- **Juniors** will be on the yard and ready for collection at **3:10pm prompt**. This should help ease movement for Infant parents and those collecting siblings

This short-term adjustment will help ensure the long-term safety of our children. Thank you for your continued understanding and support.



This entrance will be open first week back



This entrance will be closed



Sacrament of Reconciliation

Father Ged has been working with our Year 4 pupils this week, guiding them through the Sacrament of Reconciliation, what many of us will remember as My First Confession.

This Sacrament is a meaningful step in a child's faith journey, offering them the opportunity to reflect, seek forgiveness, and grow closer to God. Through quiet conversation, reflection, and prayer, the

children learn the importance of honesty, responsibility, and the power of God's forgiveness.

Our Year 4 pupils approached this with real thoughtfulness and maturity. Father Ged was genuinely impressed by their understanding and the respect they showed throughout the experience.

As Pope Francis reminds us: *"In the Sacrament of Reconciliation we find our way back to the Lord, and rediscover the meaning of life."*

Y4 Multiplication Check

A quick reminder for our Year 4 families: the **Multiplication Tables Check** will take place shortly after we return from the break.

Please keep encouraging regular practice on **TT Rockstars** over half term—it really does make a difference. Let's keep driving those scores ever higher and see if your child can join the 25/25 club.

Y1 Phonics Screening Check

A reminder for our Year 1 families: the **Phonics Screening Check** will take place shortly after we return from the break.

Please continue working through the phonics homework that the Year 1 team has sent home. Little and often is the key: your support makes all the difference in helping your child feel confident and prepared.

Y6 Writing

We are incredibly proud of our Year 6 pupils for completing their SATs this half term. They approached the tests with maturity, determination, and a fantastic attitude: it really was a credit to them all.

As we move into the final half term, our focus will turn to writing in Year 6. The quality of writing plays a crucial role in determining each child's overall SATs outcome, so it is essential that all children attend school every day.

We want every pupil to be fully prepared for Year 7 in their writing. Consistent attendance will ensure they receive the support, feedback, and opportunities they need to showcase their writing skills at their very best. This is key preparation for Year 7.



Keeping Smiles Healthy – A Visit from “Catherine the Dentist”

Today, our Year 1 and Year 2 pupils enjoyed a special visit from *Catherine the Dentist* and her team, who delivered an interactive workshop all about oral health.

The children learned how to take care of their teeth, the importance of regular

brushing and how long they should be brushing for. Why not ask your child what they remember from the session?

If your child is not currently registered with a dentist, you can contact Jones & Raw Dental Practice on **0151 928 5555**. The team currently has the capacity to register pupils from St Monica's as NHS patients.

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As always, thank you for your continued support for all we do here at St Monica's. Wishing you all a safe, restful and joyous half term with your loved ones.

Mr. James Gouldbourne

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