



St Monica's Catholic Primary School

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Friday 9th May, 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

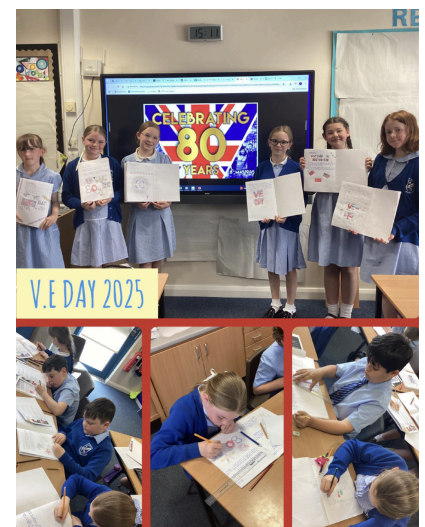
On behalf of everyone at St Monica's, we offer our heartfelt congratulations to Pope Leo XIV on his appointment and send him our prayers of support and thanks during this special time.



In today's assembly, we reflected on Pope Leo's remarkable life and the many strengths he brings to our Faith. His first message inspired us, as he spoke of our Church becoming a *"beacon that illuminates the dark nights of this world."*

VE Day Celebration Party - Next Friday (16th May).

In today's assembly, we also explored the significance of VE Day. We reflected on the historical importance of the occasion in 1945, and the many sacrifices made by people during the war years, including those from our local community, both then and now. The children were captivated by footage of Winston Churchill announcing the end of the war and enjoyed watching how people across the country celebrated this momentous day.



We are excited to mark VE Day with celebrations next Friday afternoon. Each year group will enjoy a party - complete with

bunting, flags and VE Day music - and children are invited to come to school dressed in red, white or blue (or a combination).

Children are very welcome to dress in 1940s-style clothing if they wish, though we ask families not to go to any expense. Normal own clothes are just fine, though we would prefer that football kits are not worn.

Children may bring in a small party lunch for the afternoon: sandwiches, crisps and a drink. We look forward to a fun and memorable afternoon of celebrations.

The afternoon will also serve as a double celebration for our Year 2 and Year 6 pupils, who will have completed their SATs.

To support the school, we kindly ask for a **£1 contribution to school funds**, which can be sent in with your child on the day.

Summer School Council Project: “Including Everybody: in School and at Home”

We’re excited to share details of our next Social Signature project, which has been launched by our School Council today after many meetings. The focus this time is on **“Including Everybody – in School and at Home”**. Over the coming weeks, we will be introducing a range of initiatives to ensure everyone at St Monica’s feels included, valued and part of our school family.

What makes this project particularly special is the School Council’s desire to extend that sense of belonging to parents and families as well. Their compassion, maturity, and thoughtful leadership have impressed us all.

Some of the fantastic ideas the School Council have already shared with school include:

- **“Golden Circle” Fridays**, suggested by Year 4 councillor Oliver, where pupils sit together each Friday at 3pm to share compliments and express gratitude to the class.
- **“Parent Bingo”** in the school hall, proposed by Year 2’s Sienna – a fun way to bring our parent community together.
- A suggestion for **two new buddy benches**, offering a place for children to sit when they’re looking for a friend.

To help bring these ideas to life, we’re delighted that funds raised during our VE Day celebrations will go directly to supporting this School Council initiative.

We look forward to seeing the difference these School Council projects make in building kindness, connection, and inclusion throughout St Monica’s.

Y6 SATs Week next week

After months of preparation, our Y6 pupils are ready for SATs week next week. They have worked incredibly hard to reach this point and they should feel very proud of the dedication and resilience they have shown throughout.

I spoke to all pupils today and reminded them that there is no need to feel nervous, they should feel proud of their efforts and approach the tests with calm and confidence.

To help everyone start the week in the best possible way, we ask that children have a good night’s sleep on Sunday and arrive ready for the tests on Monday morning.

We will be open from 7:45am to offer a hearty breakfast and a calm start to the day. Please note that full attendance is essential during the testing period.

Our Year 2 pupils will also take their Year 2 SATs next week. They have also shown superb application and focus and can be very proud of themselves. Our Y2 staff are very proud and the children are ready to shine.

Attendance Matters

Our whole school attendance was 95.61% this week, edging ever closer to our 96% target. The Attendance Trophy was won by ... two classes. It was a draw between Miss Horder's class and Mrs MacDonald with a superb 99.5% each. Miss Gibbon's class are still out in from for the whole year attendance on 97.17%

Congratulations to Y5



Our Year 5 boys team competed in the Liverpool Schools Cup final after many weeks today. On the route to the final, our boys beat many illustrious schools. In a very tight and competitive game, we were narrowly edged out 2-1 by the eventual winners, Runnymede. Our children showed superb sportsmanship and should be very proud of how they represented St Monica's throughout this run. Well done all, we are proud of you.

Have a great weekend all.

Mr. James Gouldbourne

Headteacher

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