



Newsletter

Autumn 2 2025-26



*Let all that you do be done in love.
1 Corinthians 16:14*

Welcome!



As we move through the term, I want to take a moment to thank you all for your continued support and partnership. Your positivity, encouragement, and involvement make such a difference, and we are truly grateful. It's a joy to see how happy and settled the children are in school — their enthusiasm for learning, their friendships, and their smiles each day remind us of the wonderful community we are part of.

As we head into the busy and joyful Christmas period, the school is already buzzing with festive cheer. We have a wonderful programme of seasonal activities planned — from nativity performances to Christmas crafts and celebrations — and the children are looking forward to every moment. We're especially excited to welcome parents and carers into school to share in these special events with us; your presence always brings such warmth and joy to our community.

Diary Dates



Friday 14th November – Children in Need and SEND Coffee Morning

Wednesday 19th November – Year 2 Trip to Eyam

Tuesday 25th November – Year 1 Castle Morning with Parents

Friday 28th November – Non-Uniform day for Chocolate Tombola

Tuesday 9th December – KS1 Winter Wonderland at Bulwell Gardens

Monday 8th December – 10.30am EYFS Nativity

Tuesday 9th December – 3.30 – 5pm Christmas Fayre

Wednesday 10th December 9.45am – KS2 Christmas Service at St Mary's Church

Thursday 11th December – 9.30am – KS1 Nativity

Thursday 11th December – 1.30pm – KS1 Nativity

Monday 15th December – 9.00am – EYFS Christmas Craft Morning

Tuesday 16th December – 9.10am – 10.15am – KS1 Christmas Craft Morning

Friday 19th December – Last Day of Autumn Term

Monday 5th January 2026 – First Day of Spring Term

All our term dates can be found on the school website [HERE](#).

Please note our INSET days for the academic year 2025-26 are as follows:

Monday 23rd February 2026

Friday 3rd July 2026

Friday 24th July 2026

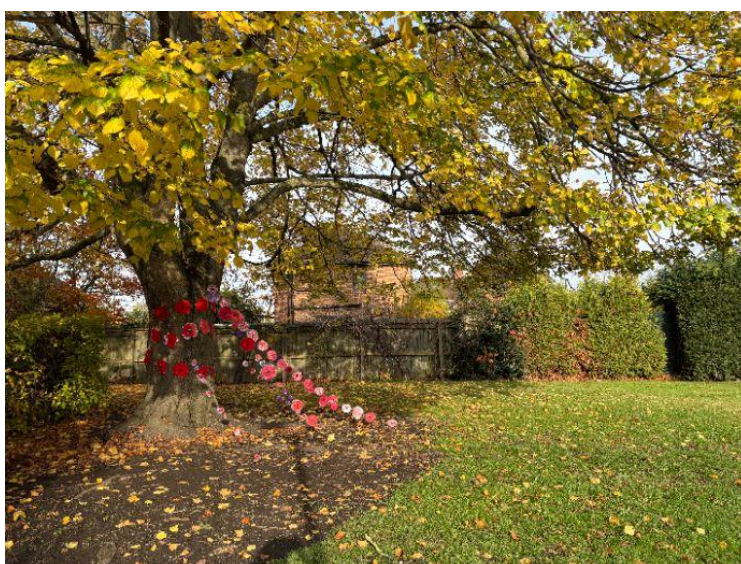
Monday 27th July 2026

Remembrance Day



This week, we have taken time to reflect on the importance of Remembrance Day. Father Andrew joined us during Collective Worship to talk to the children about why we remember and how this helps us to value peace and hope for the future. It's always a special moment for our school community to pause and think about those who have served and sacrificed.

The children have also created a stunning poppy display on the big tree at the front of the school — you'll see it as you arrive! The display includes both red and purple poppies. The red poppies represent remembrance of the men and women who gave their lives in war, while the purple poppies honour the animals who served alongside them. We are so proud of the children's creativity and thoughtfulness in making this beautiful tribute.



Children in Need



On **Friday 14th November**, we're supporting Children in Need with a fun and cosy twist! We're inviting all children to come to school in clean and fresh pyjamas if they'd like to – it's a lovely way to join in and show support. Dressing up is completely optional, so please don't worry if your child prefers to wear their usual uniform.

We're also inviting children to bring in 50p as a donation to Children in Need. Again, there's absolutely no obligation – every little helps, and we're just grateful for any support you feel able to give. Let's make it a joyful day full of kindness and community spirit! Thank you so much for your continued support.

Parent Feedback



At our school, we truly value the thoughts and ideas of our parents — your feedback helps us to keep improving and ensures we're doing the very best for our children. This year, we decided to try a more personal approach to gathering feedback. You may have seen Mrs Burge chatting to parents with a clipboard during Parents' Evening! We felt that having real conversations would be far more meaningful than sending out a survey, and it gave us the chance to listen to your views in a friendly and informal way.

The feedback we gathered was incredibly helpful and will play an important role in shaping our decisions moving forward. We're sorry we couldn't get around to everyone on the night, but please know that we are always open to hearing your thoughts at any time. You are very welcome to speak to Mrs Burge, Miss Hornsby, Mrs Barnes, or any of our class teachers whenever you'd like — we really do welcome those conversations. Your voice matters, and we love working together to make our school the best it can be!

We Are Listening...



At St Mary's, we deeply value the thoughts and suggestions of everyone in our school community. Whether it's feedback from parents, pupils, staff, or governors, we listen carefully and take action where we can. Your voices help us grow and improve, and we're committed to making sure you feel heard. We've already made several changes in response to recent feedback, and we're excited to share some of these with you.

Please take a moment to look at the 'You Said, We Did' table below to see how your input has made a difference.

You Said	We did
More support for SEND	We work in close partnership with the local authority to ensure we make the very best use of their expertise and support. A wide range of professionals have visited our school to contribute to the high-quality provision we offer our children. Recent input from specialists—including the Autism Team, the Educational Psychology Service, and the Learning Support Team—has helped us to further tailor our approaches to meet the diverse needs of our pupils.
More resources available for parents of children with SEND	At St Mary's, we're committed to making sure parents feel supported, informed, and connected. We are having a coffee morning in school on Friday 14th November —a relaxed and friendly space where parents can ask questions, share thoughts, and meet other parents. We're also pleased to welcome a professional from the Local Authority Autism Team, who will be available to offer advice and answer any questions.

Come and Visit Our Wonderful Early Years!



Are you thinking about your child starting Nursery (F1) or Reception (F2) in September 2026? We'd love to welcome you into school to see what makes St Mary's such a happy, nurturing, and inclusive place to learn and grow. Our school is known for its strong pastoral care, joyful atmosphere, and commitment to supporting every child and family.

We're holding two friendly events to help you find out more:

- **Monday 24th November at 3.30pm** – for parents interested in a Nursery (F1) place.
- **Thursday 27th November at 3.30pm** – for parents whose children will be starting Reception (F2).

Come along to meet our team, explore our learning spaces, and ask any questions you may have. We can't wait to meet you!

A Visit from the local Police



Last week, we were delighted to welcome PCSO Rachael and PCSO Greg into school. They spoke to the children about how to stay safe during Bonfire Night and around fireworks, as well as the importance of being extra cautious now that the evenings are getting darker earlier. Their visit was informative, engaging, and perfectly timed to help our pupils make safe choices in the community.

We are incredibly grateful to have such committed and caring police officers working in our local area. We're proud to count them as part of our wider school community and look forward to continuing our work together to support the safety and wellbeing of all our children.



Staffing Update

We would like to inform you that Mr Mistry has made the decision to leave Bulwell St Mary's Church of England Primary & Nursery School. Mr Mistry has chosen to pursue new professional opportunities beyond our school, and we respect and support this decision.



We wish Mr Mistry every success in the next chapter of his career.

Mr Mistry wishes to pass on the following message - It has been an honour to serve our school community over the past four years. I have loved every minute of working with the children, families and colleagues at BSM and I will miss everyone dearly. Take care, Mr M.

We're delighted to inform you that Mrs Garcia will now be the Year 4 teacher and she will be with us until at least Christmas. She is a highly experienced teacher who has previously worked in a Transform Trust school, so she's already familiar with our values and ways of working. Mrs Garcia has quickly become a valued member of our staff and is thoroughly enjoying getting to know and teach the Year 4 children. We're really pleased to have her with us!

We are working to ensure consistency for the children. If you have any questions, or if there is anything you would like to talk about, please come and have a chat with Mrs Burge.

Christmas Fayre – Tuesday 9th December 3:30–5:00pm in the School Hall



We are thrilled to announce our much-loved Christmas Fayre is just around the corner! This event is always a highlight of the year, full of festive fun and a wonderful chance for our school community to come together. As always, the ever-popular Chocolate Tombola will be back – a firm favourite with children and adults alike! To help make this possible, we'll be holding a non-uniform day on Friday 28th November and kindly ask each child to bring in a chocolate item for the tombola. A huge thank you to our amazing PTFA for all their hard work in organising this special event – we can't wait to see you there!

Thank you!

Thank you again for your continued support.

Mrs Burge and the Bulwell St Mary's Team

