ST MARY'S THE MOUNT
Newsletter –3rd July 2026

Dear Parents,

On Sunday, our children receive the Sacrament of Confirmation.
We pray for them as they journey into a new life of responsibility, strengthened by the Holy Spirit.



Loving God, bless our pupils as they prepare to receive the gifts of the Holy Spirit. May they be strengthened in faith, joyful in hope, and generous in love. Walk with them always. Amen.

Pope's Prayer Intention for July 2026



For respect for human life,
Let us pray for the respect and protection of human life in all its stages, recognizing it as a gift from God.

Hot weather- we continue with a relaxed uniform code next week. PE kits can be worn all week.
We will ensure that children that children stay hydrated and as cool as possible.
Many children are coming in without water bottles and sun hats (must be labelled) Please remember these. Please also remember to apply sun cream before they come in to school.

Pop up Pool
A reminder that the following classes are swimming next week.

Monday Wednesday Thursday Friday	Years 4 , 5 and 6
Tuesday	Years 3, 4 and 6

Please remember footwear to walk to pool, **swim hat (essential)** Towel and swim wear. We do not allow children to borrow swim hats due to hygiene- if children do not have a swim hat they cannot swim.

Dates for the Diary

Pop Up Pool
This is an annual event for Years 3, 4, 5 and 6.
Your child needs:
Bag for life shopping bag or other swim bag, which contains their swimming kit:

- Swimming costume (NO bikinis)
- Changing robe, which they can wear and dry themselves when transferring from the pool on the playground to their individual changing pod and vice versa.
- Flip flops, Crocs to wear to poolside.
- **Swimming hats for ALL (a new requirement)**

Sunday 5th July 2026	Y6 Confirmation 11am
Monday 6th July 2026	Pop Up Pool REC Prayer 2.50pm
Tuesday 7th July 2026	Pop Up Pool Y5 Visit St. Francis
Wednesday 8th July 2026	Pop Up Pool NO MASS
Thursday 9th July 2026	Pop Up Pool
Friday 10th July 2026	Pop Up Pool Mufti day
Saturday 11th July 2026	Y6 Confirmation Retreat 11.30am – 12.30pm
Monday 13th July 2pm	Bags 2 School Collection Instrumental Concert at 2pm
Tuesday 14th July 2026	1.30pm Leavers' Show Parents may take their child home to change after this ready for the Leavers' BBQ. Y6 Leavers' BBQ 4.45-6pm
Wednesday 15th July 2026	Whole School Mass 9am
Thursday 16th July 2026	Y6 Leavers' Assembly – 2pm
Friday 17th July 2026	School finishes at 1pm

Netball Success at the School Games Festival

On Tuesday, our school netball team proudly took part in the School Games Netball Festival – their very first competitive tournament representing our school.

The children were fantastic throughout the day, winning every game except one, which ended in a well-fought draw. They demonstrated excellent teamwork, determination and skill, showing great resilience and perseverance, particularly during some very challenging matches.

What made us even prouder was the way the team conducted themselves. They were outstanding role models, displaying excellent sportsmanship by encouraging one another, respecting their opponents and shaking hands after every game.

We are incredibly proud of each and every child who represented our school. They were a credit to themselves, their families and our school community. Well done, team!



Uniform - please note that from September 2026 we are asking that all children wear a plain dark coloured coat- blue or black or the school royal blue colour if available. This is for ALL children.

Please note that leggings cannot be worn as part of the winter uniform. Tights are required to be worn.

First Holy Communion and Confirmation 2027

Thank you to those who attended the FHC and Confirmation Meetings this week to enrol their child for the preparation. Outstanding forms must be sent directly to Fr Jobin.

Attendance

YR –92.7%	Y1 –90.9%	Y2 –94.2%	Y3 –88.7%	Y4 –96.0%	Y5 –95.6%	Y6 –96.3%

Attendance Ted will be spending time with Year 2 and Year 6. Well done to everyone for their fantastic attendance.

Keep up the great work!

School Lunches - Week Commencing Monday 6th July 2026

Due to the predicted heat, it will be sandwiches all week.

Monday 6th July	Tuesday 7th July	Wednesday 8th July	Thursday 9th July	Friday 10th July
Sandwiches Corned Beef Jam Cheese	Sandwiches Corned Beef Jam Cheese	Sandwiches Corned Beef Jam Cheese	Sandwiches Corned Beef Jam Cheese	Sandwiches Corned Beef Jam Cheese
Crisp, Biscuits, Cakes, Fruit and a Drink will also be served				
Salad Bar available for KS2 only on a daily basis (except Friday)				

Packed Lunches:

Please remember: DO NOT send your child into school with nuts or any foods containing nuts, e.g. Nutella/chocolate spreads/some cereal bars. We have a growing number of children with nut allergies. Thank you for your consideration.

KS2 Snacks

Children may, if they wish bring in a snack at break time. We do not allow chocolate, sweets or crisps at break time

Free School Meals

Please consider using the QR code to apply for getting Free School Meals. Even if your child is in Reception, Y1 and Y2 or currently accesses free school meals through the Government scheme please apply. It opens the door to many other pots of money we can access for the children.



Reminders

Class Teachers for September 2026

Our school community warmly supports Mrs. Hammond as she returns to her maiden name, Miss Johnson in September, and we're grateful for the care and dedication she continues to bring to our pupils each day.

Nursery Class	Mrs A Williams
Reception Class	Mrs G Hunt
Year 1	Miss C Shone
Year 2	Miss K Johnson
Year 3	Mrs C de Lacy Grice Mrs J Smith
Year 4	Mr L Heath
Year 5	Mrs R Thompson and Mrs F Kirke
Year 6	Mr T Ward

Mr Agatiello will be leaving the school in November to embark on a period of travel, and we governors are delighted that he will continue to contribute to the school community until then.

The children will have a visit to their new classroom with their teacher before the end of term, to ensure that they feel confident and ready to start the new school year.



NHS
Walsall Healthcare
NHS Trust

Speech & Language Therapy
Virtual drop-in advice session

Do you have questions about your child's speech or language development?

Are you worried that your child is not talking or does not understand you?

Would you like some advice on general strategies to help?

If you're worried about your child's communication skills and your child is not already known to the Speech and Language Therapy service, you are welcome to come to one of our drop-in sessions for advice and support.

Monday 13th July 2026

To book a virtual advice session for the above date please email walsall.slt@nhs.net and ask for a 'virtual drop-in appointment'. Alternatively, call 01922 605400. Please include the following information;

- Your child's name, date of birth and GP surgery.
- Whether you would prefer a video or telephone call.
- Your telephone number and email address.
- Whether you would prefer morning or afternoon, and if there are any times of the day you can't receive a call back.

Walsall Family Hubs
Supporting families to live happier lives

Nursery

Have you enrolled your child for our school Nursery? It is never too early and often parents forget to register until it is too late! We offer free 30-hour places. Please call into the school office to get an application form.

PE Summer term

			After School Clubs
Tuesday	P.E. Year 3, Year 4	**Gymnastics** Y2 Y3 Y6 YR	**JC Academy Multi Sport Y1 Y2**
Wednesday	P.E Year 1, Year 2		**JC Academy Multi Sport Y5 Y6**
Friday	P.E. Year 5, Year 6 Reception class balance-ability		**JC Academy Multi Sport Y3 Y4**

Uniform

Children may now wear their summer uniform.

GIRLS: Summer Uniform

Royal blue cardigan
Grey tights or white socks
Lightweight blue coat or school fleece
Blue and white check dress in any simple style

BOYS: Summer Uniform

Royal blue V-neck jumper
Lightweight blue coat or school fleece
Grey trousers or shorts
Pale blue polo shirt
Grey socks

Jewellery in school

For Health and Safety reasons, we would prefer children not to wear ear rings. If they cannot be removed, please ensure that they are covered with plasters.

Watches

We do not allow smart watches or similar in school, as they are a distraction. Analogue watches can be worn in KS2. If your child arrives in a smart watch and to ensure that they concentrate on their work, we will ask the child to remove it and it will be returned at home time.

Hair Styles

Governors are very clear about expectations for hairstyles and have set a policy that is applicable to everyone in school and Nursery.

"There can be ***NO hair colouring, stripes or undercuts***. Longer hairstyles need to be tied back with a bobble or a hair band. We do not permit fashion cuts, where hair is shaved at the sides but a longer length elsewhere (similar to an undercut).

If your child asks for a fashion haircut, it is parent's responsibility to explain that this is school policy and good preparation for when they transfer to High School. (See local High School policy below). The children need to understand that these are the school rules to be followed and respected.

This is taken from the School Prospectus, which can also be found on the School Website:

8.14 Hair

These rules apply to both girls and boys. Extreme hairstyles are not permitted nor are hair colourings. If any child arrives in school sporting a style, which is considered by the Head Teacher to be extreme or a fashion haircut, he/she may be excluded for a period to facilitate suitable adjustments. We do not permit undercuts.

These hair accessories are deemed acceptable for both boys and girls. Please check your child's hair regularly for infestation. For safety and hygiene reasons, long hair should be tied back."





Training Days

School will be closed for the following Training Days:
Monday 20th July 2026
Tuesday 21st July 2026

Academic Dates for 2026-2027

Autumn term 2026

Term starts: School Training Day -Tuesday 1 September 2026 School Closed
Wednesday 2nd September 2026 School reopens for the new school year.
Half term holiday: Monday 26 October 2026 to Friday 30 October 2026

Term ends: Friday 18 December 2026

Spring term 2027

Term starts: Monday 4 January 2027

Half term holiday: Monday 15 February 2027 to Friday 19 February 2027

Term ends: Thursday 25 March 2027

Summer term 2027

Term starts: Monday 12 April 2027

Half term holiday: Monday 31 May 2027 to Friday 4 June 2027

Term ends: Wednesday 21 July 2027

Prices for Breakfast and After School Club from 1 September 2025	
7.30am including Breakfast	£5.50 per child per session
7.30am no Breakfast	£5.00 per child per session
7.45am including Breakfast	£4.50 per child per session
7.45am no Breakfast	£4.00 per child per session
After School Club until 5.15pm	£7.00 per child per session
After School Club until 5.30pm	£7.50 per child per session
After School Club after a club (i.e. Football/Phonics/Gardening/Story Club/Homework etc.) is £4.00 per session, per child up to 5.15pm and £4.50 per child per session up to 5.30pm. **After this overtime, rates apply at £10 per 15 minutes.** Please use the School Gateway App to book.	

Peripatetic Music lessons		**Extra – Curricular Clubs**	
Monday	Stringed instruments (Mrs Masters)	Tuesday	Reception Class Story Club
Thursday	Woodwind instruments (Mrs Perks)	Wednesday	KS2 Choir at lunchtime
Friday	Brass instruments (Ms Taylor)	Thursday	Y2 Bible Club Y1 Phonics Club
		Guitar Club	Run by Mr Ward

Year 6 walking to school or walking home

We do not expect there to be many children arriving by themselves or walking home this term, as it is still very early in the year for Year 6 to be doing this on their own. There may be one or two very local children who may have authorisation to do this. A form is available on request. This would need to be completed. Mrs Amos would then consider the request and let you know if this is acceptable.

Medication

Please ensure your child's up to date Medication is in school as soon as possible. It has come to our attention that parents of children with Epipen, can download an APP which alerts you as to when you need to replace them. This sounds like a really good idea!

Medicines in School

Mrs Smith liaises with parents who need a care plan, when there is an ongoing medical need (allergies etc.), to ensure that the correct medical provision is in place.

We do understand that sometimes children need medication for a particular ailment, who are well enough to be in school. For example; eye drops, Piriton, antibiotics. We are happy to administer these, provided the school medical form is completed and is handed into the office staff with the medication. We cannot administer medication without this form. We would not expect to administer Calpol to keep a temperature down. In that instance children would not be well enough for school. It is not the Office Staff who will administer these medicines, but Mrs Amos. The medical form will be on the website under Newsletters.

Contact with Staff

Please be mindful when contacting staff by e-mail and try to keep to 'Office hours' - 8.00am - 5.30pm. Please try to avoid the weekends.

If you are reporting an absence, e-mail the school office at postbox@st-marymount.walsall.sch.uk as teaching staff do not always access their e-mails until lunchtime.

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCHES OF WALSALL
St. Mary's, St. Patrick's & St. Thomas of Canterbury

Diocese of Birmingham
www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk
Registered Charity No.234216

Archdiocese of Birmingham
ST. MARY'S THE MOUNT
Roman Catholic Church
Vocationists
WALSALL
www.stmarysthemount.co.uk
Telephone:01922 622633

Vocationists
www.vocationist.org
Registered Charity No. 1135796

St. Mary's the Mount Parish Family Wishes You All a Warm Welcome

Parish Priest: Fr. Jobin Kollappallil, SDV
Assistant Priest: Fr. Fabien Ramiandrisoa, SDV

St. Patrick's: Fr. Roberto Ciardo, SDV
St. Thomas of Canterbury: Fr. Christogonus Ugwuakposim, SDV
Chaplain of Manor Hospital: Fr. Christogonus

➢ Parish Contributions: Last Sunday: £1304.32 (Standing Orders: £807, Offertory Collection: £497.32). Second collection for 'Day for Life': £89.51. Counting Teams: This Sunday: Team B, next Sunday: Team C. This Sunday, there will be a voluntary second collection for 'Peter's Pence'.

➢ Farewell to Fr. Jobin: As you are aware, Fr. Jobin will be leaving St. Mary's the Mount in July, and moving to pastures new, by 15th July. There will be a Thanksgiving Mass, celebrated by Fr. Jobin, on Sunday 12th July at 11:30am. (Please be aware of the change to the time of Mass on this day.) After Mass, we will gather for a celebration lunch in the parish centre. It would be appreciated if everyone could contribute a drink for this special occasion.

➢ Annual Retreat: Our priests will be away on their annual retreat from Monday 6th to Friday 10th July. Mass arrangements for that week will be announced next weekend. The annual retreat is an important time of prayer, reflection, and spiritual renewal for our priests. We kindly ask you to keep them in your prayers during this time.

➢ Plenary Indulgence & Confessions: In the light of the Plenary Indulgence granted to our church during the Jubilee Year, priests will be available to hear confessions whenever we have Eucharistic Adoration in our church. We encourage the faithful to obtain the grace of Plenary Indulgence as often as you can.

➢ Jubilee Thanksgiving Offerings: The Jubilee Year is a sacred time of grace—a moment to pause, reflect and give thanks for the many blessings God has poured into our lives: the gift of life, the love of family and friends, the comfort of our homes and the strength we receive each day. In a spirit of gratitude, we warmly invite you to offer your thanksgiving to God and to consider supporting our church during this Jubilee Year. Your offering, given with a thankful heart, becomes a blessing for others and helps sustain the life and mission of our parish community.

➢ MISSIO RED BOX: Please bring your Missio boxes to the sacristy as soon as possible. You will be able to collect the boxes the following Sunday.

➢ New Thurible: Many thanks to Karen Donnellan who has donated a new thurible for our church in memory of her late husband, Philip Donnellan, who was an altar server for many years.

➢ Readers' Rota: The next readers' rota begins on 5th July. Copies of the rota are available in the sacristy from this weekend. Readers, please take a copy.

➢ Safeguarding Notice: Following a recent incident in the car park, this is a polite reminder to parents or guardians that it is their responsibility to supervise children, both within and outside church, as their safety is our paramount concern. Thank you for your co-operation & support.

➢ Infection Control: We encourage any who has got a cough or cold or a flu to wear a mask or to take appropriate care by keeping a safe distance from people. Many thanks for your understanding.

➢ RIP: Let us pray for the soul of Pam Marston who passed away on 17th June. The Requiem Mass will take place on Tuesday 14th July at 11.15am followed by a committal at Streetly cemetery. She will be received into the church the 4pm on Monday 13th July. Please keep her family & friends in your prayers.

➢ RIP: Please pray for the soul of Margaret Powell who died on Saturday 20th June. She was 101 years old. Please keep Margaret's family & friends in your prayers.

➢Food Bank: This week we are in need of most of our usual items, except for baked beans. We are currently supporting 11 families with your donations. If you know of another family in need who would welcome support from our SVP Group, please contact Father Jobin. Thanks again for your continued support and your generous donations. 11th Sunday in Ordinary Time 14th June 2026 Week III 3

➢ Refreshments: Refreshments are usually available in the parish hall on Thursdays (following 10am Mass) and on Sundays (following 9am Mass). Please note that there will be no refreshments on Thursday 18th June

➢ Safeguarding: The parish operates in accordance with Statutory Safeguarding Guidance and the National and Archdiocese's policies & procedures at all times. Our Parish Safeguarding Representatives are Sylvester Mutsigwa and Doreen Sehdeva. They can be contacted at: sg.stmary.walsall@rcaob.org.uk -alternatively, the Diocesan Safeguarding team can be contacted on 0121 230 6240/ safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk if you have any concerns.

CONTACT DETAILS OF PRIESTS		
St. Mary's	Fr. Jobin Kollappallil, SDV	Address: St. Mary's the Mount Presbytery, Vicarage Walk, Walsall, WS1 3NF Tel: 01922 622 633 Web: www.stmarsthemount.co.uk Parish Email: stmary.walsall@rcaob.org.uk Fr. Jobin: fr.jobin.kollappallil@rcaob.org.uk Fr. Fabien: fr.fabien.ramiandrisoa@rcaob.org.uk FB: Stmarys Mount; Twitter: @marys_mount
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St. Thomas's	Fr. Christogonus, SDV	Dartmouth Avenue, Walsall, WS3 1SP. Tel: 07404816951 Email: fr.christogonus.ugwuakposim@rcaob.org.uk