



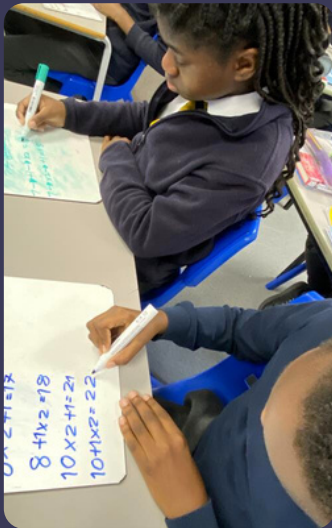
# EXECUTIVE HEAD UPDATES

Spring 2026

## A welcome from Executive Headteacher, Mrs Ruthven

As we come towards the end of the Spring term, we find ourselves in the reflective season of Lent—a time of pause, renewal and preparation. Across the school, this has been a period not only of spiritual reflection but also of continued growth and achievement.

I am incredibly proud of all that has been accomplished this term. Our pupils have continued to demonstrate resilience, enthusiasm and a genuine love of learning. This has been recognised beyond our school community and we were delighted to receive a congratulatory message from the Education Secretary acknowledging the strong outcomes our pupils are achieving. This is a testament to the hard work of both our children and our dedicated staff team.

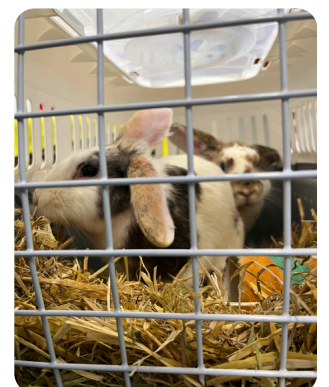


Our Year 6 pupils have shown great maturity and independence during their recent residential visit to PGL, representing the school with pride. They are now returning focused and motivated as they prepare for their upcoming SATs and we are confident in their continued success.

Across the curriculum, there has been a wealth of rich and engaging learning taking place. For example, in Year 1, pupils have been exploring seasonal changes and developing their scientific understanding of the natural world, whilst in Year 3, pupils have been deepening their historical knowledge through their study of Ancient Civilisations, making thoughtful connections and asking insightful questions. It has been wonderful to see such curiosity and engagement across all year groups.

We have also continued to nurture the wider life of the school. This month brought a joyful moment as Florabella, Atticus and Sebastian enjoyed a playdate together in the KS2 playground—much to the delight of pupils and staff! We were also excited to welcome new additions to our EYFS team, Fluffy and Lucky, our school rabbits, who have already brought great joy to our youngest children.

As always, I would like to thank our staff for their unwavering commitment and care and our families for their continued support and partnership.



## World Book Day



World Book Day was a joyful celebration in our school. Children made an excellent effort with their costumes, coming dressed as a wide range of beloved book characters. Their creativity and enthusiasm were wonderful to see. The teachers also joined in the fun, dressing up in themed groups.

EYFS became the crayons from *The Day the Crayons Quit*, KS1 brought *Matilda* characters to life, and KS2 stepped into the magical world of *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*. We all had a fantastic time celebrating our shared love of reading together, creating memories that will last a long time and inspiring children to keep exploring books and stories every single day both in school and at home with excitement.

~ Ms Rodrigues

## Science Week

During Science Week, St Monica's has been full of excitement and curiosity as children across the school took part in a whole-school project. Every pupil had the opportunity to explore a scientific topic of their choice and present their work to their class. It was fantastic to see such a wide variety of projects, from creative models to hands-on experiments, and the confidence shown in sharing their ideas was impressive.

At St Monica's, we take a skills-based approach to science. We focus on developing key skills such as questioning, observing, predicting, and evaluating, rather than simply learning facts. Our lessons are designed to be as interactive as possible because we believe children learn best through hands-on experiences and active participation.

Science Week has been a great example of this approach in action, and we are very proud of the enthusiasm, effort and creativity shown by all our pupils.

~ Mr O



Together We Learn, Together We Grow, Together We Excel

# Key Dates for the Summer Term

- 5<sup>th</sup> May – Whole School Mass
- 11-14<sup>th</sup> May – KS2 SATs
- 12<sup>th</sup> June – Rec-Year 3 Ball
- 26<sup>th</sup> June – Year 4-6 Ball
- 3<sup>rd</sup> July – Summer Fayre
- 8<sup>th</sup> July – Sports Day
- 10<sup>th</sup> July – Award Ceremony & Leavers Mass
- 14<sup>th</sup> July – Class Parties
- 15<sup>th</sup> July – Year 6 Leavers Assembly & Last day of school

## Attendance

Our current attendance stands at **94.97%**, just 1% below our expected target of 96%. We are pleased that many of our pupils attend school regularly and on time, and we would like to thank families for their continued support—this strong partnership makes a real difference to children’s learning, confidence and wellbeing.

Regular attendance is vital in helping children keep up with their learning, build friendships and feel secure as part of the school community. Even small improvements in attendance can have a significant impact on a child’s progress and achievement.

We have seen a number of absences recently due to chickenpox, which has affected our overall figures. However, as we move into the summer term, we are encouraging all families to aim for the highest possible attendance. Every day in school truly counts, and together we can work towards achieving—and even exceeding—our 96% target.

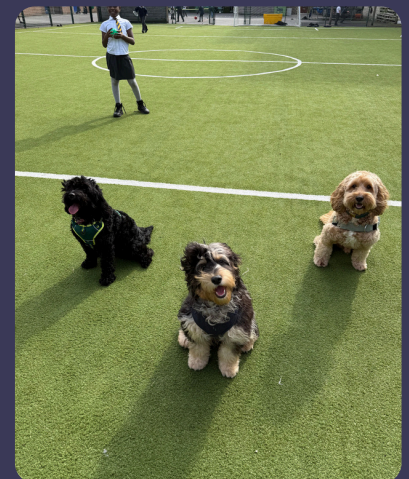


~ Mrs Jallow



Nursery have been looking for the first signs of spring!

Children participating in a **Rocksteady Music School workshop**, where they got to perform as a band!



Florabella, Atticus and Sebastian enjoyed a **playdate** together in the KS2 playground!



Scan the QR code to visit our Instagram and see what we get up to each week!

