



Friday 13th February 2026

Prayer

Dear God,

*Thank you for all the learning, friendships, and fun we have shared this half term.
Thank you for the efforts of our children, staff, and families who support us every day.*

*As we enjoy our half-term break, please keep everyone safe, rested, and happy.
Help us to return refreshed, ready to learn, and excited for the challenges ahead.*

Amen.

Reminder – Finish Time Today

Further to the email sent out earlier this week, please note that school will finish at the normal time of 3:20pm today.

The previous newsletter stated an earlier finish time in error, and we would like to apologise again for any confusion this may have caused.

Please note: After-school clubs and Link Club will continue as normal this evening.

Staff Carpark

We continue to notice that some parents are using the staff car park, despite previous reminders.

Please note that the staff car park is for staff and visitors only, and the disabled bay must not be used by parents.

For Link Club drop-offs in the morning and pick-ups in the evening, you must use either the Pewterspear car park or the Church car park. This also applies if your child is dropped off later than usual or collected earlier than usual.

Using the staff car park creates obstructions and safety risks for staff, visitors, and children. We ask for your immediate cooperation in ensuring that this rule is followed.

Thank you for your understanding and for helping us keep everyone safe.

Change of Parents' Evening Dates

We have had to change the dates for Parents' Evening, as the PAN performance which we take part in every year now falls during the originally planned week.

The new dates are:

- **Tuesday 31st March** – Face-to-Face Appointments
- **Wednesday 1st April** – Virtual Appointments

Year 3

Mrs Keller has taught the children for the majority of the year, and Mr Penny is due to start with the class on 16th March (although this date may be subject to change). This means that, by the time of Parents' Evening, Mr Penny will have been in post for only a few weeks and may not yet have the most detailed knowledge of each child's progress from the autumn term to the present.

To ensure families receive the most accurate and informed meetings, Mrs Keller has very kindly offered to carry out some Parents' Evening appointments earlier. We are extremely grateful for her support. These early appointments will take place **provided she does not need to leave earlier than planned**.

Early appointments with Mrs Keller:

- Wednesday 25th February – 3.30–4.40pm
- Thursday 26th February – 3.30–5.00pm
- Wednesday 4th March – 3.30–6.00pm

<https://strettonstmatthews.schoolcloud.co.uk/>

For families unable to book on these dates, we will offer a limited number of appointments with Mr Penny (for children who **have not** taken up an earlier appointment). These will likely take place in April and will not run alongside other classes' Parents' Evenings.

Warrington School Meals

Please be advised that the cost of a school meal will increase from £3.05 to £3.20 per meal from 23rd February 2026. This represents a weekly increase of 75p per child.

This change does not affect children receiving Free School Meals. Universal Infant Free School Meals will continue for all children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2, and eligible pupils in Years 3–6 may also qualify. To check eligibility, please visit:

www.warrington.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals

The council has subsidised meal costs for several years; however, rising food and staffing costs mean a price increase is unavoidable.

The three-week rolling menu will remain in place, including a daily vegetarian option and jacket potato. Our school meals service will continue to provide healthy, nutritious meals, meet all dietary and allergen requirements, and offer theme days and special lunches throughout the year.

Families eligible for means-tested Free School Meals may also qualify for additional support. Further information can be found at:

www.warrington.gov.uk/localsupportscheme

Warrington Music Award

We are delighted to share that our application for the Warrington Arts Award 2023–2025 has been successful!

The reviewing panel praised the school for providing a wide range of evidence across all areas of the application. They particularly highlighted our Travelling Tubas, Windrush Week, and Steel Band, as well as the strong cross-curricular links evident throughout our arts provision. It was also wonderful to see our KS1 dance opportunities recognised.

This award celebrates the creativity, commitment, and enthusiasm shown by our pupils and staff, and we are incredibly proud of all that has been achieved.

Well done to everyone involved!



After-School Clubs – Spring Term 2

We still have some places available in our after-school clubs!

Bookings will close this evening at 6pm, so if you haven't already booked, please make sure to do so before then to secure a place.

Monday

- YR, KS1 & KS2 Multisport
- Year 3 & Year 4 Netball
 - KS2 French

Tuesday

- KS2 Mixed Football
- KS1 & KS2 Choir

Wednesday

- KS1 & KS2 Basketball

Thursday

- YR & KS1 Mixed Football
- YR & KS1 Board Games
- Year 4, 5 & 6 Sewing Club

Friday

- YR & KS1 Gymnastics
- KS1 & KS2 Non-Contact Boxing

Booking links:

Cheshire Sports Provision clubs: <https://csp.ipalbookings.com/>

Teacher-run clubs: <https://app.parentpay.com/>

Please note: Cookery Club and Clay Club are now fully booked.

NSPCC Number Day

We were delighted to take part in NSPCC Number Day, where children across the school enjoyed a fun-filled day celebrating numbers while supporting an important cause. Pupils took part in a range of engaging maths activities, including problem-solving challenges, games, and creative number-themed tasks.

We would like to say a huge thank you to our parents and carers for their generous donations. Your support helps the NSPCC continue their vital work in keeping children safe. The children had a fantastic time learning, collaborating, and using their maths skills for such a worthwhile cause.



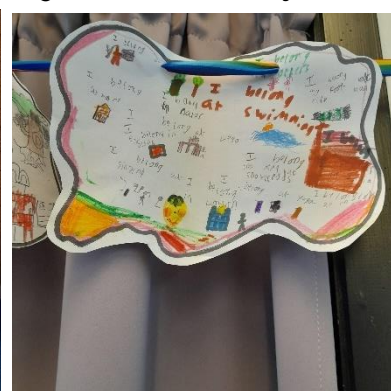
Children's Mental Health Week

It has been a hive of activity in school this week as we celebrated Children's Mental Health Week.

On Monday, our Wellbeing Ambassadors led a whole-school assembly to launch the week. This year's theme focused on belonging.

Throughout the week, children have taken part in a range of thoughtful activities including creating kindness paper chains, designing a belonging map, and discovering postcards hidden in registers and around school containing positive messages for secret readers in each class.

A huge thank you to our wonderful Wellbeing Ambassadors for all their hard work in helping to make Children's Mental Health Week such a special and meaningful event for everyone.



Year 5 Residential

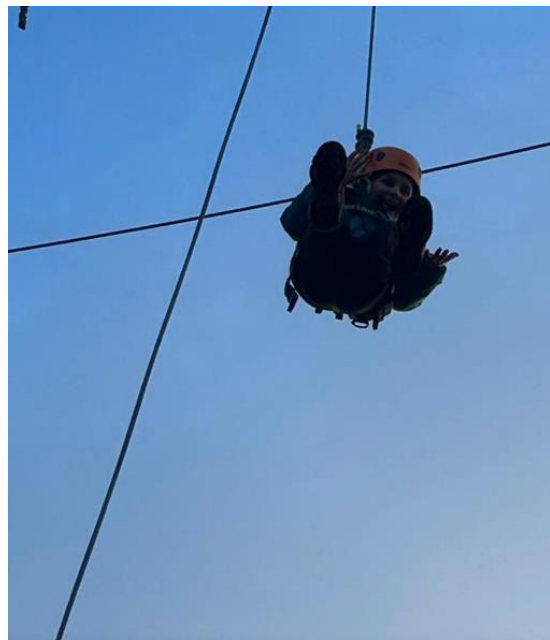
Year 5 have had a truly fantastic time on their residential trip to Conover Hall and are due back today with lots of stories to tell!

The children threw themselves into a wide range of exciting activities, from team challenges to outdoor adventures, making the most of every opportunity to learn, explore and have fun together.

It was wonderful to see so many children demonstrating teamwork, resilience and enthusiasm, supporting one another and rising to new challenges. The memories made on this trip will undoubtedly stay with them for a long time. The children also enjoyed visiting the gift shop, carefully choosing souvenirs to take home as reminders of their adventure.

Miss Simcock joined the group on Thursday for the full day and was extremely proud of how well behaved and polite the children were throughout the visit. They represented the school brilliantly and were a real credit to us all.

A huge thank you to our wonderful staff for supporting the trip, and to the children for making it such a joyful and memorable experience.



PTA Design a New Logo Competition

The PTA are running a "Design a New Logo" competition! Your new logo can be anything you like, so let your imagination run wild.

Competition sheets were sent home with children on Friday 6th February. Please check your child's bag, and if you haven't received one, spare sheets are available from the school office.

Competition end date: Friday 6th March



PTA Easter Bingo

The PTA will be holding an Easter Bingo for families on Friday 27th March!

Tickets are £5 per person. All children must be accompanied by an adult, and all attendees, including adults, will need a ticket.

Tickets can be purchased online here: <https://buytickets.at/strettonstmatthewscephprimaryschoolpta>

In addition, children are welcome to wear their own clothes to school on this day in exchange for an Easter egg, although bringing an Easter egg into school is entirely optional.

We hope you can join us for a fun-filled family evening and support our PTA.

Please take a moment to check the diary dates, as some events may have changed or been cancelled.

School Calendar 2025-2026

Spring 1 st Half Term		
Friday	13 th February	School Closes – Spring 1
Monday	16 th February	Thrive Holiday Club
Spring 2 nd Half Term		
Monday	23 rd February	School opens – Spring 2
Wednesday	25 th February	Year 3 Parents Evening (3:30pm-4:40pm) https://strettonstmatthews.schoolcloud.co.uk/
Thursday	26 th February	Year 3 Parents Evening (3:30pm-5:00pm) https://strettonstmatthews.schoolcloud.co.uk/
Friday	27 th February	Y6 Residential Final payment due https://app.parentpay.com/
Monday	2 nd March	Y3/Y4 CDAT Football Tournament (In School)
Wednesday	4 th March	Year 3 Parents Evening (3:30pm-6:00pm) https://strettonstmatthews.schoolcloud.co.uk/
Thursday 5 th March		World Book Day (Dress as Favourite Book Character)
		Book Café (School Hall) Year R – 9:00am – 9:30am Year 1 – 9:35am – 10:05am Year 2 – 11:00am – 11:30am Year 3 – 13:10pm – 13:40pm Year 4 – 13:45pm – 14:15pm Year 5 – 14:20pm – 14:45pm Year 6 – 14:50pm – 15:15pm
Friday	6 th March	Y1 Beeston Castle Trip https://app.parentpay.com/
Wednesday-Friday	11 th –13 th March	Y6 Residential to CMC Adventure
Monday 16 th –20 th March		British Science Week
		Neurodiversity Week
Thursday 19 th March		Y5 Jodrell Bank Trip https://app.parentpay.com/
		Gingerbread Sock Biscuits on Sale (3:20pm in Playground)
Friday 20 th March		Y3 & Y4 Clarinet/Recorder Performance (9:30am) (Y3 & Y4 Parents Invited)
		Red Nose Day
		World Poetry Day
		Gingerbread Sock Biscuits on Sale (3:20pm in Playground)
Tuesday	24 th March	PAN Performance
Friday 27 th March		PTA Non-Uniform Day (in exchange for an Easter Egg)
		PTA Easter Bingo https://buytickets.at/strettonstmatthewsprimaryschoolpta
Tuesday 31 st March		Easter Service in Church (9:15am All Welcome)
		Parents Evening (Face to Face) - Early Help Station in the hall
Wednesday 1 st April		Infant Music Festival
		Parents Evening (Virtual)
Thursday	2 nd April	School closes – Spring 2 - 2pm
Summer 1 half term		
Friday	17 th April	Inset Day
Monday	20 th April	School Opens – Summer 1