



St Louis Catholic Academy

Spring 1 Newsletter 1 – Friday 23rd January 2026

Learning to Love, Loving to Learn



Dear Parents and Carers

It was a nice albeit slightly challenging surprise to return to the playground being covered in snow on the first day back, but we certainly made the most of it (see photo below). We then went straight to Mass to celebrate the Epiphany and children in Elm, Beech and Sycamore sang a beautiful song called 'Starlight' they had learnt with Mrs McLeod-Jones, who teaches Music as part of the Diocesan Singing programme at St Louis.

Please also find below the results of the Parent survey conducted in the second part of the Autumn term. The results and how we will address 'the even better if' comments will also be shared on the school website soon.

Thank you to the PTA for recently purchasing new basket balls, footballs and tennis balls for the playground which were requested by the School Council via Mrs Brankin. The children are delighted with them!

There are a number of events to look forward to this term so please look at some of the upcoming dates below.

Warmest regards,

Lucille Martin

Headteacher

Mrs Lucille Martin

Assistant Headteacher

Mrs Christina White

SENDCo

Mrs Kerri Conway

Our Classes

Acorns –	Mrs Sharon Parnell Mrs Jocelyn Banks
Holly –	Mrs Lisa Baldwin Miss Anna Mil
Cherry –	Mrs Katherine Carrick Mrs Kay Fasulo
Rowan –	Miss Aysha Allen Mrs Mary Sheridan
Lime –	Mrs Antoinette Brankin Mrs Sharon Turner
Oak –	Mrs Dawn Vickrage Mrs Vikki Weston-Mann
Elm –	Mrs Amy Du Preez Mrs Shelley Bosley
Beech –	Ms Kiri Wyatt & Mrs Alice Lebbon Ms Emma Woodhall
Sycamore –	Mrs Phoebe Muscionico Mrs Katie Mitchell
Hazel –	Mrs Zoe Burgess Mrs Katherine Ashen
Larch –	Mrs Sarah Fitch Mrs Alice Lebbon Mrs Monteith
Maple –	Mrs Christina White Mrs Jessica Masters Mrs Amanda Challis

Term Dates

Half Term - Monday 16th
February to Friday 20th
February

Term Ends - Friday 27th
March

Summer Term 2026

*Staff Professional Day -
Monday 13th April*

Term commences - Tuesday
14th April

*May Bank Holiday - Monday
4th May*

Upcoming Dates

Friday 30th January – Year 3&4 Cake
sale

Friday 6th February – TTRS Dress up
day

**Tuesday 10th and Wednesday 11th
February** – Parent Consultation
afternoons

Thursday 12th February – EYFS and
KS1 Valentine's Disco

Friday 14th February – KS2 Valentine's
Disco

Fun in the snow!



Headteacher Awards

Holly Cherry	Thaddeus Iona	Azzura Arthur
Rowan Lime Oak	Ada Eleanor Flynn	Levi Brian Maira
Elm Beech Sycamore Hazel Larch Maple	Filip R Harrison Charlie Edmund Leo O Vinuja	Marissa Alfie Elsie Octavia Neave Finn



Stars of the week



Holly Cherry	Liliana Pippa	Javier Adam
Rowan Lime Oak	Addison Alaina Alvin	Evelyn Novae Maria
Elm Beech Sycamore Hazel Larch Maple	Jaxon Emilia Joseph George Orla Leo HO	Nevah Harry R Milliana Bethany Joseph Julia

Parent survey results

There were 84 responses to the survey.

My child is happy at school	97% Strongly agreed or Agreed 3% Neutral
My child feels safe at school	96.6% Strongly agreed or Agreed 2.4% Neutral 1% Strongly disagreed
The school makes sure its pupils are well behaved	92.8% Strongly Agree or Agreed 4.8% Neutral 2.4% Disagreed
My child has been bullied and the school dealt with the bullying quickly and effectively	83.6% Not applicable 14% Strongly agreed or agreed 2.4% Disagreed
The school makes me aware of what my child will learn during the year	88.1% Strongly agreed or Agreed 9.5% Neutral 2.4% Disagreed or Strongly disagreed
When I have raised concerns with the school, they have been dealt with properly	86% Strongly agreed or Agreed 12% Neutral 2% Disagreed or Strongly Disagreed
The school has high expectations for my child	77% Strongly agreed or Agreed 20% Neutral 3% Disagreed
My child does well at this school	87% Strongly agreed or Agreed 11% Neutral 2% Disagreed or Strongly Disagreed
The school lets me know how my child is doing	79% Strongly agreed or Agreed 16% Neutral 5% Disagreed
There is a good range of subjects available to my child at this school	91% Strongly agreed or Agreed 7% Neutral 2% Disagreed
The school supports my child's wider personal development	81% Strongly agreed or Agreed 14% Neutral 5% Disagreed
The school supports my child to develop spiritually and morally (e.g., behaviour, mission statement, learning characteristics)	84% Strongly agreed or Agreed 12% Neutral 4% Disagreed
The school supports my child to practise their faith (e.g., 1st communion preparation, reconciliation, Mass, fundraising)	80% Strongly agreed or Agreed 17% Neutral 3% Disagreed
The school enables my child to contribute to the Catholic life of the school (e.g., House Captains, fundraising, Eco schools, school council, Mini Vinnies, chaplaincy)	77% Strongly agreed or Agreed 18% Neutral 5% Disagreed
I would recommend this school to another parent	96% Yes 4% No

What you feel is working well

Below is a summary of 84 responses which were very kind and positive comments about the school:

- Communication and organisation
- The celebration of achievements including Celebration assembly
- Events that include families; Masses, assemblies and meet the teacher meetings
- Attentive and caring staff
- How teachers address individual children's needs
- Adaptations for SEND children and inclusiveness
- The school is friendly and welcoming
- PTA and close-knit community
- New Headteacher and her presence around the school and on the gate
- A positive atmosphere and new vision for the school

School would be even better if

Below is a summary of 61 responses which have given us points for development and a few which we would like to or have addressed quickly:

- More school trips including museums, zoos, castles etc
- More options on school menu
- Clarity over snacks
- The school was more religious
- The school was less religious
- More technology available
- More notice about costume requirements
- Offer musical instrument lessons
- More communication on child's progress
- Different location for Sports Day
- Inconsiderate parking in Rayes Lane

A number of comments were made about school holidays and the possibility of changing to a 2 week half term in October and I wanted to clarify arrangements with you. Term dates are determined by the local Authority, guided by national regulations and agreements, and our Academy Trust follows these. This ensures consistency across schools and takes into account statutory requirements, staff contracts, examination schedules, and agreed teaching days. While schools can sometimes make minor adjustments, we do not have the authority to independently decide holiday periods.