

Friday 12th June 2026

The Mortimer Federation of St. John's and St. Mary's Schools **Newsletter**

TERM DATES

Please see below a list of term dates which we trust you will find of use. Event details will be provided nearer the time.

Wednesday 17th June: Mortimer St. John's parent/carer coffee morning – 8.45am to 9.45am

Wednesday 17th June: Police visit Year 6 regarding social media and app use

Friday 19th June – Foundation Stage (4.30pm to 5.30pm) and Year 1 (6.00pm to 7.00pm) PTFA discos

Tuesday 23rd June: Year 1 trip to Fort Nelson

Wednesday 24th June: Year 5 trip to Paultons Park

Wednesday 24th June: Fox Class Swimming

Wednesday 24th June: Year 3 visiting Year 2

Friday 26th June – Non uniform day

Tuesday 30th June: New to Year 3 parent/carer presentation

Wednesday 1st July: Hedgehog Class Swimming

Wednesday 1st July: Year 4 and 5 trip to the Hexagon – Symphony Story Quest KS2 Concert

Thursday 2nd July to Friday 3rd July: Year 6 transition days at The Willink School

Friday 3rd July: Move up morning

Monday 6th July to Tuesday 7th July: Year 6 Bikeability level 2 (group 3)

Tuesday 7th July: Mortimer St. Mary's parent/carer coffee morning – 9.00am to 10.00am

Wednesday 8th July: Sports Day

Thursday 9th July: Reserve Sports Day

Tuesday 14th July: Year 5/Year 6 Production – 6.00pm

Wednesday 15th July: Year 5/Year 6 Production – 6.00pm

Thursday 16th July: Year 5/Year 6 Production – 9.30am

Thursday 16th July: Year 2 Leavers' Service – St. John's Church – 2.00pm

Thursday 16th July: Year 2 Leavers Party – 5.00pm to 7.00pm

Thursday 16th July – Parent/Carer drop in session for reports – 3.10pm until 4.10pm (Mortimer St. John's), 3.30pm until 4.30pm (Mortimer St. Mary's)

Friday 17th July - Year 5 Parent share 8.30am – 9am

Monday 20th July: Year 6 Leavers' Service – St. Mary's Church – 2.00pm

Monday 20th July: Year 6 Leavers Party – 6.00pm to 8.00pm

Tuesday 21st July: End of term – Mortimer St. Mary's 1.30pm/Mortimer St. John's 2.00pm

YEAR 6 MOSQUE VISIT

On Thursday 4th June, Year 6 were very fortunate to visit Abu Bakr Mosque in Reading. This tied in with our learning relating to Islam in our Religion and Worldviews lessons, and was a brilliant opportunity for the children to showcase their knowledge.

After an easy train journey to Reading and a short walk to the mosque, we were first of all *blown away* by the architecture of the mosque from the first sighting of the outside. It is a beautiful building and the children were very impressed by the golden dome! We were then greeted with a very warm welcome by the mosque staff before having an interactive talk in one of the prayer halls about the religion. The children had lots of brilliant questions and also answered the questions from the mosque staff fantastically! We then had the chance to have a guided tour around the mosque and we saw the different floors, the classrooms and the areas Muslims wash before prayer. Most of the children's favourite floor was the balcony as you could see the prayer hall below! The final part of the day was the highlight for many of the children, which was observing the lunchtime prayers. Several children commented on how peaceful it was and how they had never witnessed prayers done like this before.

Throughout the day, we learnt lots about the religion from those who practise it first-hand and we feel very privileged for our learning to have been brought to life in this way. We even got some edible treats at the end of the day, so we were very thankful for the generosity of those who work at the mosque.

"Something I learnt during our Mosque trip was that it was 13 years old and cost lots of money to build!" – Olivia T

"I found it really interesting to see how Muslims pray in real life and how this was different to Christians praying." - Arlo D

"I really enjoyed going to the Mosque because everyone was really friendly and the architecture was really different and detailed." - Vinnie MB

"I really liked how all the staff were so welcoming and how nice the Mosque building was." - Jack M



LEAVERS' SERVICES

The Leavers' Service for the Year 2 children will take place in St. John's Church on Thursday 16th July at 2.00pm. The Leavers' Service for the Year 6 children will take place in St. Mary's Church on Monday 20th July at 2.00pm.

CLUBS

The last session of all clubs, will take place the week commencing Monday 22nd June.

YEAR 2 - VISITS TO MORTIMER ST. MARY'S

The following transitional visits have been arranged for the Year 2 children.

Moving Up Morning – Friday 3rd July

During the morning of Friday 3rd July, the children will 'move up' to their new classes. Year 2 children who will be joining Mortimer St. Mary's in September need

to be taken into the courtyard at **Mortimer St. Mary's for 9.00am**. Mortimer St. John's staff will walk with the children back to school after lunch. If you would like your child to have a school lunch, please ensure that you have ordered a meal via SchoolGrid by 3.00pm on Monday 22nd June. Alternatively, your child is welcome to take a packed lunch with them. The children who attend Little Oaks Breakfast Club will attend Big Oaks Breakfast Club at Mortimer St. Mary's.

Upper Key Stage 2 Production - Monday 13th July – Our Year 2 children will be watching the Year 5/Year 6 summer production 'Treachery at Traitors Quay'. Mortimer St. John's staff will walk the children to Mortimer St. Mary's ready for the afternoon performance. Please collect your child/ren from the courtyard at **Mortimer St. Mary's at 3.00pm**. If your child is attending The Oaks after school club and you would like to request that your child walks back to Mortimer St. John's with school staff, please could you email the school office (officemsj@mortimerschools.org) providing your consent.

To comply with our safeguarding requirements, we will require the support of additional adults to walk with the children to/from Mortimer St. Mary's for these events. If you are able to help and hold a valid DBS certificate obtained via the Federation or you are registered with the DBS Update Service please could you contact the school office (officemsj@mortimerschools.org) as possible. All help is greatly appreciated.

YEAR 6 TRANSITION DAYS AT THE WILLINK

The Year 6 children, starting at The Willink School in September, will be attending transition visit days on Thursday 2nd July and Friday 3rd July.

Please could the children:

- Wear their typical, current school uniform
- Bring pencil case with school equipment (pens, pencil, ruler, rubber etc)
- Arrive at the main school hall by 8:40am (drop off via Leisure Centre carpark)
- Be collected at 3:05pm on Thursday 2nd July (please agree with your child whether they are

being collected from main entrance by Willink Library or Willink Leisure Centre).

- Bring snack and water bottle for morning break
- Bring packed lunch or have pre-ordered lunch from the school canteen

A letter has been provided by the Willink to all new prospective parents/carers regarding the above. If you have any questions regarding the transition day, please contact The Willink School directly.

Thursday 2nd July at 6pm. Mrs Browning (Headteacher) and Mr Sizer (Assistant Headteacher) will lead a presentation for parents/carers, whilst the children meet their form tutors.

SPORTS DAY

On Wednesday 8th July, the Mortimer Federation will be hosting our annual Sports Day event. This will take place at Mortimer St. Mary's (in the unfortunate event that the weather is unkind, Sports Day will be moved to Thursday 9th July). Further information regarding this event will be sent to parents/carers separately. Parents/carers are invited to join their child for a picnic lunch after Mortimer St. John's sports day and before Mortimer St. Mary's Sports day on the field. Mortimer St. John's staff will then walk with the Mortimer St. John's children back to Mortimer St. John's school after the picnic lunch.

To comply with our safeguarding requirements, we will require the support of additional adults to walk with the Mortimer St. John's children to/from Mortimer St. Mary's for these events. If you are able to help and hold a valid DBS certificate obtained via the Federation or you are registered with the DBS Update Service, please could you contact the school office (officemsj@mortimerschools.org) as possible. All help is greatly appreciated.

LOCAL EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

Please see the attached flyers for local events and activities.

LEAVERS' PARTIES

The Mortimer PTFA have kindly arranged Leavers' Parties for the Year 2 and Year 6 children which will take place on the following days:

Year 2 – Thursday 16th July, 5.00pm until 7.00pm at Mortimer St. John's.

Year 6 – Monday 20th July, 6.00pm until 8.00pm at Mortimer St. Mary's.

WHATSAPP

WhatsApp is a popular messaging apps, with an age limit for over 13 year olds. However, many children under this age are being allowed to use WhatsApp when communicating with family and friends. This has always been a concern for a lot of different reasons, but now Meta have created a parent-managed service. Similar to other parent-managed accounts, a parent will pair their device/account to the child's device/account which then gives a lot of flexibility such as:

- No 'view once' messages.
- No location sharing.
- Messages and group invites from unknown contacts sent to the parent for approval.
- Parent notifications, such as new contact added.

To find out more information visit:
https://faq.whatsapp.com/899820539143195/?helpref=faq_content&cms_platform=web

For instructions how to set this up visit:
https://faq.whatsapp.com/875902238256170/?cms_platform=android

CHILD SAFETY WEEK

This week is Child Safety Week, an important time to focus on accident prevention and keeping children safe. The Child Accident Prevention Trust (CAPT) offers a range of free resources, including practical tips for parents. Please use the following link to access the parent pack.

<https://capt.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2024/05/Parents-pack-2026.pdf>

ALL YOURS PERIOD INFORMATION

Please see the attached flyer with information to support your child.

PTFA

Rainbow Raffle Hampers

On the 26th June, we will be holding a non-uniform day, organised by the PTFA. In support of this, they have asked for donations to be handed in to either school offices to create rainbow hampers. The hampers will be created by the PTFA who are organising a raffle which will be drawn on sports day. Please bring an item into school for the raffle hamper in your child/rens house colour.

Fire – Red
Water – Blue
Earth – Green
Air – Yellow

We would appreciate your support in not allowing the children to wear football kits/rugby kits/sports kits on non uniform days. All donations are greatly appreciated, and on behalf of the PTFA we would like to thank you in advance.

Please do not bring items which contain nuts – thank you. Raffle tickets will be sold online in the lead up to sports day.

MORTIMER BEAVERS

Please see the attached flyer with information about joining Mortimer Beavers as they have spaces currently available.

ONLINE SCAMS AND DIGITAL FOOTPRINTS

Please see below a link to a video which provides a quick overview on online scams targeting young people and the importance of digital footprints.

<https://www.knowsleyclcs.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2026/05/Scammers-and-Digital-Footprints-June-2026.mp4>

MEDICATION

Please ensure that any medication is handed directly into the school offices by an adult and the relevant medication forms completed. It should not be handed in at the school gates or by your child/ren – Thank you

Helping an ADHD Child with Homework



FREE one hour online session for parents
Thursday 25th June 7pm - 8pm

Join us online to get some advice on how to help your ADHD child start and complete their homework.

Book on the PARENTS - Live Talks page
facefamilyadvice.co.uk

SPOTLIGHT UK

Please see the attached flyers with information on discounted days out.

Spotlight UK provides a 6 day a week timetable of fun activities and days out at discounted prices all year around including bowling, swimming, laser tag, ninja warrior, donutting, lagoon waterpark and more. Spotlight UK's aim is to support and improve mental health, confidence and self-esteem.