

Newsletter



Monday 5th January 2026

Happy New Year!

I hope you all had a wonderful Christmas and New Year with your families and enjoyed a well-earned rest. On behalf of everyone at SMC, I want to say a heartfelt thank you for the generous gifts and cards we received for Christmas - you didn't have to, but they were very much appreciated.

Due to the cold weather, there will be a slight change to the start of the day. From now on, children will walk straight to their classrooms at 8:40am, where they will be greeted by their teachers at the fire doors, ready to start learning at 8:45am.

Please remember: school starts for all children at 8:45am. Every second counts, so please make every effort to arrive on time.

We have another busy term ahead! Please take time to read through the newsletter and note any dates relevant to your child. Thank you for your continued support - let's make this a fantastic term together!

*With every blessing,
Sarah Sweeney-McGinty
Headteacher*



Reception Admissions for September 2026

There is still time to apply for a place in St Margaret Clitherow's Reception class for September 2026. The school admission window closes on Thursday 15th January 2026.

We are welcoming all prospective new families to come and visit us when it is convenient for them. Please ask any family members or friends to contact the school office on 0115 9150296 if they would like to come and visit our EYFS unit.

Key dates for September 2026 admissions:

- Apply from: 4 November 2025.
- Closing date: 15 January 2026.
- National Offer Day: 16 April 2026.

If your child is a Catholic or Christian, please fill out a supplementary form (from the school office) BEFORE the deadline with the Baptismal Certificate as evidence. This will ensure your child is placed correctly when we are ranking the admissions.

We cannot rank your child as a Catholic or Christian without receiving their Baptismal Certificate.

APPLY ONLINE AT: WWW.NOTTINGHAMCITY.GOV.UK/SCHOOLADMISSIONS



First Holy Communion 2026

**Saturday 13th June 2026 - 10.30am
Our lady of Perpetual Succour Church**

The 2026 First Holy Communion Programme will start in January 2026. All Catholic children in Years 3 and above are welcome to join the programme.

If your child has registered, the first parents' meeting is on **Thursday 15th January 2026 at 3.30pm**. The meeting will be at school. It is expected that all children will be represented at this meeting to discuss the programme and important dates.

The children will be enrolled on the First Holy Communion Programme at their **Enrolment Mass at 5pm on Saturday 24th January 2026** at Our Lady of Perpetual Succour Church Bulwell.

The First Holy Communion Programme will begin after February Half Term. The FHC Programme will involve after-school lessons to prepare children for their First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion. More details will be discussed at the parents' meeting on Thursday 15th January 2026 at 3.30pm.

School Uniform

It has been lovely to see the children coming into school so smartly dressed today. We have chosen some of the many great examples of children who wear their uniform with pride to show new parents the SMC school uniform.



Our policy is that children wear full school uniform everyday apart from P.E days and Key Stage 2 Fitness Days. SMC uniform includes:

- A red jumper or cardigan containing the school logo. A Year 6 leavers hoodie.
- A white polo shirt with the school logo or a plain white shirt with a red school tie.
- Dark grey trousers, shorts, skirt or pinafore.
- Red gingham summer dress.
- Plain red, black, white or grey tights
- White or grey socks.
- Sensible black shoes.
- If your child has pierced ears, earrings must be studs only.
- Earrings must be removed for PE days. No other jewellery is permitted.
- Nail varnish, false or acrylic nails are strictly not allowed.
- Long nails are dangerous – especially during PE and playtimes.
- **Children will be asked to have false nails removed immediately.**
- Hair decorations should be minimal.



On P.E Days or Key Stage 2 Fitness Days, children should come to school in full SMC P.E Kits.

SMC P.E Kits include:

- Red P.E top with school logo
- Black shorts or jogging bottoms
- Black hooded top
- Plain trainers

P.E Day is Tuesday and/or Thursday.

Key Stage 2 Fitness Day is Friday. It is important children come to school in their SMC P.E kit on a Friday – not a gym kit.

Please ensure that your child's name is in all items of clothing.

Feast of the Epiphany

Tuesday 6th January 2026



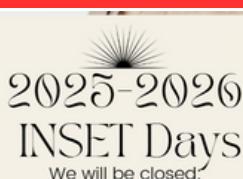
On Tuesday, 6th January 2026, all children in Years 4, 5, and 6 will join pupils from Our Lady of Perpetual Succour School and members of our parish for Mass to celebrate the Feast of the Epiphany. Together, the children will help lead the Liturgy of the Word, prayers, and singing. Everyone is warmly invited to attend!

The Mass will take place at 9:30am at Our Lady of Perpetual Succour Church in Bulwell.
Buses will leave promptly as soon as the registers have been taken – please make sure children are on time.

Please log on to Arbor to give your consent for your child to attend.

Please note – Swimming for Year 4 will start next week.

Children in the other classes will celebrate the Feast of the Epiphany in school with their teachers.



Friday 13th February 2026

Monday 1st June 2026

Monday 27th July 2026

Online Safety Tip

Roblox is a popular game used by many of our children.

Recently Roblox has updated its parental controls.



These include, limiting in-game messaging and adding time limits to play. Scan the QR code to find out more.

Lent Term 2026 Key Dates

Date	Year Group	Event
5 th January 2026	Whole School	Welcome back to school – All children return to school
6 th January	Year 4, 5 and 6	Epiphany Mass at Our Lady of Perpetual Succour Church 9.30-11am
15 th January	Year 6	Year 6 Celebration of the Word – Parents welcome – 9.15am
22 nd January	Year 3	Year 3 Celebration of the Word – Parents welcome – 9.15am
24 th January	Year 3	First Holy Communion Enrolment Mass at Our Lady of Perpetual Succour Church 5pm
29 th January	Year 1	Year 1 Celebration of the Word – Parents welcome – 9.15am
5 th February	Year 2	Year 2 Celebration of the Word – Parents welcome – 9.15am
12 th February	Year 4	Year 4 Celebration of the Word – Parents welcome – 9.15am
13 th February	Whole School	INSET DAY – school closed to children
16 th -20 th February	Whole School	February Half Term
23 rd February	Whole School	Welcome back to school – All children to return to school
23 rd February	Whole school	Ash Wednesday Service – All welcome – 1.30pm
25 th February	Reception and Year 1	Dental Survey
26 th February	Year 5	Year 5 Celebration of the Word – Parents welcome – 9.15am
5 th March	Year 6	Year 6 Celebration of the Word – Parents welcome – 9.15am
10 th March	Whole school	Parents Consultation – 3.30-6pm
11 th March	Whole school	Parents Consultations – 3.30-6pm
12 th March	Year 3	Year 3 Celebration of the Word – Parents welcome – 9.15am
17 th March	Whole School	BIG LENT WALK
25 th March	Year 4 and 5	Resurrection Rocks 2pm – Parents welcome
26 th March	Whole School	Mass at Our Lady of Perpetual Succour Church – time 9.30am
27 th March	Whole School	Last Day at school
30 th March-10 th April	Whole School	Easter Half term