



Friday 8th May 2026

HEADLINES

St Mary's Catholic School



Dear St Mary's Community,

What a joyful and meaningful month May has been for our school. As we honour the Month of Mary, I am deeply grateful for the opportunities we have had to celebrate our faith together as a school community and beyond.

On 5 May, our chaplaincy teams from St Mary's and our neighbours at St Joseph's Catholic Primary School came together for our annual Marian Procession. It was truly special to process between our two schools, united in prayer as we prayed the Rosary together and crowned our statue of Mary. Our students played a leading role throughout, preparing and proclaiming beautiful readings and reflections on Mary as Queen of Heaven and Earth and as our loving Mother. These occasions remind us of our Trust mission to grow our young people in faith from age 4 to 18, and there is something profoundly moving about witnessing that continuity of faith across our primary and secondary settings. The procession was a powerful public witness to the living faith we share across the St Francis of Assisi Catholic Academy Trust community.

Last week was an exceptionally busy and emotional week for our school. Our Year 11 cohort had their last full teaching week before their GCSE examinations commenced this morning. We gathered to celebrate their time with us through a Mass of Thanksgiving, followed by a BBQ and our annual shirt signing tradition. It was a festival of friendship, education and shared memories—a wonderful way to mark this significant milestone. We wish our Year 11 students every blessing and success as they embark on their examinations.

Friday was equally moving as we celebrated our Year 13 cohort. The day began in prayer in our school chapel, and then our students received very special letters from their parents documenting their seven-year journey through St Mary's. Witnessing their reactions as they read such beautiful and personal affirmations was truly heartwarming and emotional. The Mass celebrated by Fr Peter Harris was joyful and uplifting, a fitting tribute to this exceptional group of young people.

As a school, we pride ourselves on our 'trinity' of parents, parish and school, with the child at the centre and heart of all our decisions. Our Year 13 cohort are now ready for their next steps as adults. We pass the baton to them as ambitious and conscientious young people, rooted in faith and shaped by their education. They go forward to university, apprenticeship or employment ready to lead, inspire and motivate with Gospel values embedded in all they do. We are exceptionally proud of them.

As we move into the examination period ahead, please do keep our GCSE and A Level students very much in your prayers.

*Lord God,
be with all students sitting GCSE and A Level exams.
Through the example of St Mary of Namur,
grant them calm minds, steady confidence, and the wisdom to do their best.
When they feel anxious, give them peace.
When they feel tired, give them strength.
And remind them always that they are valued beyond any result.
Amen.*

God Bless,
Miss McHugh, Headteacher

DATES FOR THE DIARY

Friday 15th May
Year 10 Retreat

Friday 22nd May
All Herts Gaelic Football Competition (selected Y10 students)

Monday 25th - Friday 29th May
Half term



GO 4 Schools

Click [here](#) to access your child's academic achievement and progress data.

Year 11 Celebration



Year 13 Celebration



Marian Procession

On Tuesday, the chaplaincy teams from St. Mary's and St. Joseph's united to honour and venerate the Blessed Virgin Mary in our annual Marian Procession. Students took a leading role, preparing and proclaiming readings and reflections on Mary as Queen of Heaven and Earth, and as our loving Mother.

The procession was a profound expression of faith, as students walked reverently between the school sites praying the Rosary together. It stood as a powerful public witness to their devotion and the living faith of our school community.

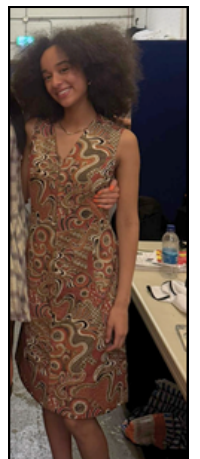


St Mary's Stars!

On Saturday 25th April, I had the privilege of watching the Bishop's Stortford Academy of Performing Arts rendition of the musical Hairspray, and what a treat it was. Three of our very own students graced the stage, showing their incredible talent and receiving well earned standing ovations for their final performances. Tobiasz (Yr 10) stunned audiences with his memorable and highly impressive rendition of Mr Pinky - everyone wanted that iconic pink wig! Emily (Y10) stole the show with her classic one-liners and graceful dance moves. Finally, I was also privileged enough to witness Kerys's (Yr 8) stellar dancing skills once again!

I continued to be amazed by the talent and dedication of our students as well as excited to see their skillset continue to build! Well done to our three St Mary's stars and to the entire team for an incredible performance.

Miss Hayles



Student Success

Congratulations to Mai (Y9) who has been selected for the highly prestigious U15 Mavericks Academy. The strong academy programme of excellence offers opportunities for talented young athletes to develop their skills and progress towards elite netball and we are delighted that Mai's talents have enabled her to be selected at such a high level!

Mai joins the sporting elite of her family, following the footsteps of her three elder brothers who are all top sportsmen who have represented St Mary's, Hertfordshire and London at high grade sporting level.

Well done Mai!



Students Signing In

IMPORTANT NOTICE TO PARENTS/CARERS – PLEASE REMIND YOUR CHILD

If your child is late for whatever reason, they **must** sign in at the Student Hub in A Block. When there is widespread travel disruption it is important they come to the Student Hub and **do not** go straight to class - even if there is a line waiting to be signed in.

Signing in at the Student Hub means they get the correct attendance code. Not signing in can result in unnecessary minus house points, detentions, and U codes (arriving after registration is closed at 08:50am with no reason given). **Please note, U codes can lead to Fixed Penalty Notices from the local authority so it is in the student's best interest to sign in.**

Signing in also gives the school a clear indication of who is on site should there be a fire alarm.

St Mary's wants to make sure your child is safe and given the appropriate register code for the reason they are late, so please do remind them.

We monitor Greater Anglia for travel disruption each day.

If you have any questions, please contact attendance@stmarys.net

News from the Music Department



The pop choir are working hard in rehearsals ready for our upcoming summer concert on Tuesday 30th June. It promises to be a fantastic evening of music. Tickets will be on sale soon on ParentPay. If your child would like to be involved, please ask them to come and see Miss Matthews or Mrs Russell.



New equipment has arrived in the Music Department!

Thanks to all the hard work of students who took part in the Drumathon.



Summer Concert

Tuesday 30th June

7pm

Main Hall

If you are interested in performing in it, please come and put your name on the sign up sheet in the music block



Inter-House Netball and Football

We are delighted to share the success of our recent Inter House Football and Netball Competition, which brought together students from Years 7–10 in a fantastic display of teamwork and determination.

Across both sports, our students demonstrated outstanding commitment and enthusiasm. Whether on the football pitch or the netball court, it was inspiring to see exemplary levels of participation. The competition was not only about results, but about representing their houses with pride and embracing the joy of sport.

We would like to congratulate all participants for the way they embodied our school values throughout the event. Students showed respect for teammates and opponents, integrity in their play, and perseverance in the face of challenge. These qualities are what truly define success, and we are incredibly proud of how they were reflected during the competition.

A special mention must go to our Year 9 students who took on the role of officials. Their contribution was invaluable in ensuring the smooth running of matches.

Well done to everyone involved!

Mr Eddleston, House Coordinator



Year	FOOTBALL INTER-HOUSE RESULTS OVERALL WINNERS
7	1st: B; 2nd: T; 3rd: J; 4th: M; 5th: A; 6th: K
8	1st: K; 2nd: T; 3rd: B; 4th: J; 5th :M; 6th: A
9	1st: K; 2nd: M; 3rd: A; 4th: B; 5th:J; 6th: T
10	1st: A; 2nd: K; 3rd: M; 4th: K; 5th:J; 6th: B

Year	NETBALL INTER-HOUSE RESULTS OVERALL WINNERS
7	1st: B; 2nd: T & J; 3rd: M; 4th: T; 5th: K
8	1st: K; 2nd: J; 3rd: T; 4th: B; 5th :A; 6th: M
9	1st: M; 2nd: A; 3rd: B; 4th: K; 5th:J; 6th: T
10	1st: T; 2nd: B; 3rd: J; 4th: A; 5th:M

LOVE - RESPECT - FLOURISH

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