

“For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the LORD, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.” Jeremiah 29:11

*To strive for respect, enjoyment and excellence for all!*

06.05.26

Dear Parents and Carers,

This is an incredibly busy term, particularly for our oldest children, who have their SATs next week.



Here at school, we know this can feel like an important time for both children, parents and carers. The tests help show what your child has learned, but they are only a small part of their time at primary school. In school, we make sure SATs feel calm and not stressful. We keep our normal routines, give lots of encouragement, and help children feel confident and ready.

At home, the best way to help your child is to keep things simple and relaxed. Reading together, going over key skills in a gentle way, and keeping to normal daily routines can really help. It is also important that children get a good night's sleep, eat healthy meals, and have time to relax and play. Talking about SATs in a positive way will help your child feel more confident. Remind them that trying their best is what matters most.

We also take care of children's wellbeing during the week. There will be breaks, calm activities, and lots of support from staff. If a child feels worried, there is always someone to talk to. We want every child to feel happy and proud of themselves.

It is very important that children come to school every day during SATs week and arrive on time. The tests happen in the morning, and being on time helps children feel calm and ready. Being in school each day gives your child the best chance to do well. If possible, please try to avoid booking appointments during school time this week.

‘Pupils, including those with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND), thrive at St Andrew's School. They are happy at school. Typically, pupils behave well and they develop positive attitudes to learning. Pupils strive each day to meet leaders' high expectations of their learning and behaviour.’ OFSTED May 2023



Breakfast Club is free for all Y6 children next week where children will have the opportunity to have a healthy breakfast and a bottle of water to keep children hydrated.

Thank you for your support. Together, we can help make SATs week a calm and positive experience for all children.



### Collective Worship

In Collective Worship Theme focuses on valuing special places (Matthew 21 12-17) Our Music Genre is UK Sea shanties of the 18th – 19th Century including the famous ‘What Shall We Do With The Drunken Sailor?’

### Salford is 100!



We’re excited to share that it’s Salford’s 100th birthday today – a huge moment for the city and a fantastic opportunity to celebrate with your school communities. Here is the link to the Salford 100 film, now live on the council’s YouTube channel: <https://www.youtube.com/c/salfordmedia/videos>

### The Salford Way Poem

The Salford Way is a powerful, community-led poem created as part of Salford’s Centenary celebrations. Co-written by Salford artists Matt Concannon (Eccles born and bred) and Jody Findley, the poem brings together the voices and experiences of local people.

To create the piece, the artists spoke with Salford residents across Eccles — gathering stories and reflections in libraries, community centres, schools and foodbanks. These conversations have been woven into a single, collective poem that captures the spirit, resilience and identity of the city. The film has been produced by Brave Day, with the poem commissioned by Art with Heart.

The film itself is in two parts – first featuring poets Matt and Jody reading, followed by a second video with community groups across the city reading lines – offering a rich and inclusive snapshot of Salford today.

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## Attendance

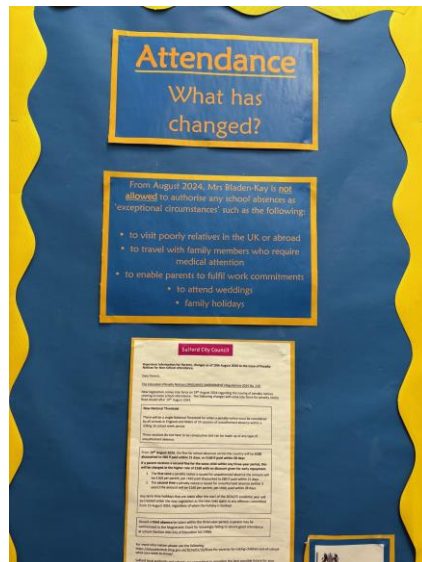
I continue to receive an increasing number of letters requesting authorised absences, particularly around school holiday times. I'd like to remind parents that since August 2024, head teachers cannot authorise holidays or other absences during term time because the law sets very strict rules about school attendance.

Schools are expected to make sure children are in class every day unless there is a very important reason, such as illness or a medical appointment. This means that even if a family asks for permission, the head teacher usually cannot agree to term-time leave for holidays, family trips, weddings or to visit poorly relatives.

If a child is taken out of school without an approved reason, it is recorded as an unauthorised absence, and this can sometimes lead to a warning or a fine from the local authority. The aim of these rules is to help children keep up with their learning, because missing school can make it harder for them to understand lessons and do well.

<https://www.salford.gov.uk/children-and-families/early-help-for-families/school-attendance-and-absence/>

<https://educationhub.blog.gov.uk/2025/08/why-school-attendance-matters-and-what-were-doing-to-improve-it/>



## Reminder – Playing On The Park After School

I kindly ask parents to help remind their children to behave well when playing in the park after school. The park is a shared space that belongs to everyone, including local families, younger children and people who live nearby, so it is important that everyone can feel safe and happy there.

Please encourage children to play kindly, take turns, and use the equipment carefully so that it stays safe for everyone. It also helps if children listen to any adults nearby and think about how their actions might affect others. A little bit of kindness and respect goes a long way in making sure the park is a fun place for all. Thank you for your support in helping children enjoy the park in a safe and thoughtful way.

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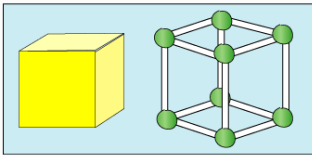
**Reminder - Uniform**

Please can parents and carers ensure that children do not arrive at school wearing jewelry, make up or nail varnish and that footwear is limited to black shoes or trainers. Thank you

**Maths Problem of the Fortnight – Year 1, 2**

Skeleton shapes are made with balls of modelling clay and straws.

This shows a cube and a skeleton cube:



How many balls of modelling clay and how many straws does it take to make the cube?

Here are some piles of modelling clay balls and straws:

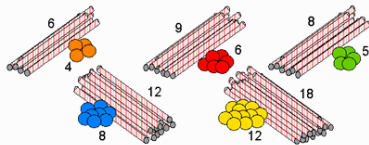
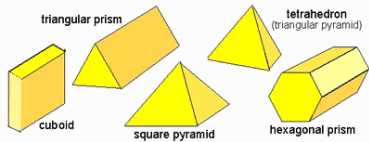


Image text description

Look at the shapes below and decide which piles are needed to make a skeleton of each shape.



How do you know which piles go with which shape?

**Maths Problem of the Fortnight – Year 3, 4, 5, 6**



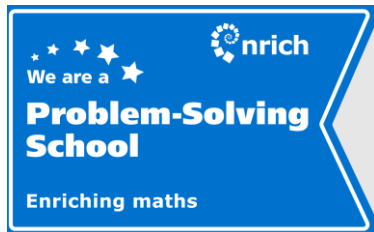
**Always, Sometimes or Never? Number**

Are the following statements always true, sometimes true or never true?

The sum of three numbers is odd	If you add 1 to an odd number you get an even number
Multiples of 5 end in a 5	If you add two odd numbers you get an odd number
If you add a multiple of 10 to a multiple of 5 the answer is a multiple of 5	

What about these statements?

When you multiply two numbers you will get a bigger number	If you add a number to 5 your answer will be bigger than 5
A square number has an even number of factors	The sum of three consecutive numbers is divisible by 3
Dividing a whole number by a half makes it twice as big	



Spring/Summer Term 2026 Key Dates (correct at time of writing)	
May	
04.05	School is closed for the Bank Holiday
08.05	Reception Sharing Assembly
11.05	EYFS Church trip (tbc)
11.05-14.05	Y6 SATS
15.05	Y5 Sharing Assembly
19.05	Y6 Shakespeare Festival Project Launch
22.05	Year 1 Sharing Assembly
25-31st	Half Term
June	
1 <sup>st</sup> /2 <sup>nd</sup> June	Eid?
8-12 <sup>th</sup>	Year 1 Phonics Screening Year 4 Multiplication Check
12.06	Year 3 sharing Assembly
16.06	Buildings and Finance Committee
19.06	Year 4 Sharing Assembly
25-26 <sup>th</sup>	Y6 High School Transition visits
26.06	Reception, Year 1 and 2 Music Celebration
30.06	Sports Day (depending on weather) Standards and Welfare Committee
July	
02.07	EYFS Trip
03.07	Year 2 Sharing Assembly
07.07	Year 6 Shakespeare Festival (until 8.30pm)
09.07	Sports Day (alternative if 30.06 postponed)
10.07	After School clubs finish Key Stage 2 Music Celebration
13-17 <sup>th</sup>	Transition visits to new classes, meet new teachers
15.07	Year 5 Trip
14.07	Full Governing Board meeting
16.07	Summer Fair
17.07	Reports go home
22.07	1.30 Y6 Leavers Assembly End of Term - school closes at 2.30pm

God bless,  
Mrs Bladen-Kay  
Head Teacher

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