



St Mary of the Angels Catholic Primary School
A community of faith and learning following Jesus in all we think, do and say
Shrewsbury Road, Bayswater, London W2 5PR
Telephone: 020 7792 1883 Email: office@stmaryangels.co.uk
Website: www.stmaryangels.co.uk
Headteacher: Mrs Sarah Alley



11th September 2026

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back to school for the new academic year 2026-27

We hope you've all had a great summer break. We hope you managed to either have a holiday in the UK or abroad or that you were able to rest at home and soak up the wonderful summer sunshine and enjoy time with your loved ones. The children all look so much bigger and grown since the last term – it has been a pleasure to see them return to school this week.

We would like to welcome our new pupils and their families to our school community – particularly those who have joined us most recently at the beginning of this school year (in the Nursery and across the school). We know you will be made most welcome by all your fellow parents.

You will know that there have been considerable staff changes over this past year. As a post amalgamated school and in light of the staff changes, we have created a new staffing structure in order to ensure we have the required capacity and relevant staffing to provide the roles for effective implementation of teaching, deployment of support staff, administration and management and leadership.

Please see our staff lists on our school website [Staff List 2026-27](#) and our [Leadership and Management Roles and Responsibilities](#)

Please note that we have three Senior Managers split across the EYFS, Lower School (Yr 1,2 3) and Upper School (Yr 4,5,6). We also have a Deputy Manager in Upper School.

Jacaleen Ubor has now taken up the post of Acting Assistant Head for Inclusion. Ms Ubor had previously held this same role at OLoD School and has extensive experience in school leadership over a number of years. Ms Ubor was appointed to Senior leadership by the SMoA governors in the summer term this year and we thank her for stepping back into the role to support the school going forward.

New starters this term:

Miss O'Rourke was our Year 6 support teacher last year. We are excited that Miss O'Rourke has joined our teaching team as one of our Year 5 teachers. We hope all her parents and carers will make her feel welcome. Parents and Carers will have the chance to meet their child's new teacher when we have Meet the Teacher coffee mornings and Stay and Play sessions in the coming weeks.

Miss Cant has joined us and has shown much energy and enthusiasm in her role already! We are delighted that she is one of our Year 5 teachers – again, we look forward to inviting parents and carers into school, to meet and get to know Miss Cant very soon.

Anika Hussain has stepped into a new Admin Officer role that has also absorbed the previous School Receptionist role. We hope you will make Anika feel welcome at the school when you



meet her – she is a friendly face that you will meet when you come to the Reception Office – again, please do make Anika feel welcome when you meet her.

School Communication: We know that home to school communication needs improving at SMoA and have therefore made a start on this by uploading all school events and information onto our website [School Calendar](#). The school calendar will be updated as and when needed and will provide you with many important dates. Please use it often to keep up to date on what is going on in school. We do advise you to use the LIST view when using the calendar, especially when using a mobile device. You will need to scroll – but we hope this will be useful to all our parents and carers syncing their diaries with events over the coming term.

Year 6 Secondary Transfer process begins: The Year 6 Parents/Carers Secondary Transfer Meeting will be held on Wednesday 16th September 2026 at 9.15am in the school hall. All Year 6 parents and carers are encouraged to attend. We would also like to welcome Year 5 parents who may wish to come to the meeting, in order to prepare themselves for their child's secondary school transition process from next September. Please feel free to attend the meeting for your information. The meeting will be held in the school hall and will be attended by a senior leader from All Saints Catholic College; for which SMoA School is a feeder school. For information on Year 6 Secondary Transfer, please go to our [Secondary Transfer website page](#).

All Saints Catholic College has asked us to remind Year 6 parents/carers that they will be holding an Open Evening on Tuesday 15th September – please attend if you can. Having said this - *please do look at as many schools as you can* – to support your decision in making your secondary school choice.

Charity fundraisers coming up very soon!

Jeans for Genes Day – As you will know, the autumn term is full of charity raising opportunities for our pupils. Friday 18th September will be our Jeans for Genes Day – where all pupils are invited to wear their Jeans (and additional own clothes) for a donation of £2 to the charity. We hope that everyone will be able to take part in the day.

McMillan Coffee Morning – We will be running a McMillan Coffee Morning on Friday 25th September – to raise funds for the charity. We will be sending out an invitation to parents and carers as many of us and our families are affected by cancer. We hope to see many of you there.

CAFOD Family Fast Day will be held on Friday 2nd October – where pupils will be able to wear their most comfy/favourite trainers for a donation of £2.

Curriculum Topic Maps and Webs will be sent out to parents and carers and posted onto the school's website next week. Teachers have already commenced their planned curriculums as these have been planned in the summer term. Parents and carers will receive the curriculum information so that they can support their child's learning.

School Uniform - The DfE have made changes to uniform guidance from September 2026. Please see the following changes for your information:

- ✓ **Branded Item Caps:** Schools must limit compulsory branded items (with logos, badges, or special designs) to a maximum of three pieces of uniform - at SMoA they will be – school tie, school bag/backpack and School Bag. Of course, parents/carers can continue to buy the logo designed sweatshirts and shirts from our school uniform stockist if they wish, however, to support affordability, other non-logo uniform items will be acceptable. Please do continue to follow the colours of the uniform to support uniformity across the school



- ✓ **Second-Hand Access:** Schools must provide accessible second-hand uniform options for parents. Please do come and browse our second-hand uniform bin – which is in the Reception area of the school.
- ✓ **Retailer Choice:** Plain, unbranded items like trousers and shirts must be available from multiple shops rather than an exclusive single supplier.

School Tours - for families looking to register their child at SMOA will be held on Tuesday 15th September, Tuesday 22nd September and Tuesday 29th September at 10am. Please call the school office to book your place.

Free School Meals – there have been recent changes in regard to Free School Meals this year. Our Operations Manager Gericia Pacquette will be writing to all parents so that you are fully aware of the changes.

Forest School – As every year, Forest School will form a large part of our termly experience for personal development here at SMOA school. We have decided to move to half day sessions for each class once every half term, instead of full days – where the children are subject to potential adverse weather. We believe more frequent half day sessions are best, so please see the timetable of visits for each class below for your information on Parent Information section of the school website.

Swimming Lessons – Year 5 Herons Class will commence with their swimming lessons from next Thursday 17th September till 22nd October (half term). Parents will need to ensure that their child has their full swimming kit including swimming hats. If you have any questions or your child has additional needs, please do speak to your child's class teacher.

You may be aware of the new statutory guidance due to [Benedict's Law](#). Please peruse our new [Allergy Awareness Policy](#) on the school's website for your information and ensure you read and understand the policy if your child/ren is affected and what your responsibilities are as a parent under the new guidance. All staff have undertaken relevant medical awareness training during our recent inset training days.

Medical Register – We are currently updating the school's Medical Register – as you will be aware, the school is required to update the Pupil Medical Register as part of our safeguarding duties. We are sending the blue medication awareness form out to all families – please do complete and return the form **if your child has a medical condition that requires notification to the school**. Note that you do not have to return the form if your child does NOT have a medical condition.

School based After School Clubs will commence from Monday 14th September. Please see the school's After School Clubs offer via the School Gateway systems – which opened to bookings yesterday. Further information on Wrap Around Care will be found on the school's website – Parents Information.

Dates and times for Stay and Play sessions for parents and carers will be provided as soon as they are available.

Our Lady of Sorrows Feast Day Mass will be held in honour of our links to Our Lady of Dolours: Years 3 – 6 will be attending Mass which will be held on Tuesday 15th September at 2pm at Paddington parish, and will be celebrated with one of our two governor priests, Fr Michael Jarmulowicz. As always, parents and carers are welcome to join us at this annual whole school Mass celebration. The children will return to school for usual end of day time 3.20pm



Parents/Carers Teacher Meetings: School will close to all pupils after lunch on both days below – however, if this proves very difficult to you or your family do speak to us about potential childcare arrangements

Wednesday 4th November 2026 from 1.30pm onwards

Wednesday 18th November 2026 from 1.30pm onwards

A SchoolComms meeting invitation will be sent out to all parents/carers nearer the meeting dates so that you will be able to book your meeting slot.

First Holy Communion – Both Fr Keith and Fr Michael have been in contact with us to arrange a school meeting for parents/carers of any children in Year 3 or above that may wish to make their First Holy Communion this year. A date and time for the meeting will be set very soon, we will send a SchoolComms out asap when we have the date. Please look out for this!

Finally, we would like to make a slight change to end of day time for the Lower School – Years 1, 2 and 3 from Monday 14th September. The children will be dismissed from their classroom doors at 3.15pm at the end of the day in order to prevent the build up of parents and carers meeting and collecting Upper School children in Years 4 – 6 in the main playground. We hope this five-minute gap will help a little.

Many thanks to you all, as always.

We apologise for the very long School Newsletter – but we do have a lot to cram in.

With kindest regards to all our parents and carers,

Mrs Alley, Headteacher,

Ms Ubor, Acting Assistant Head,

Gericia Pacquette, Operations Manager

PS – please do not forget to use the [school calendar](#) – and note that we have already posted the dates for Christmas performances!

