

1st May 2026

Dear Families

This week the GCSE MFL speaking exams have continued. Our Year 7 students have really enjoyed their residential to the Mendip Hills this week – the pictures showed that they were having a lovely time. Year 9s have approached their first ever set of PPEs extremely well. I've seen so many children sitting outside in the sunshine with revision cards in hand. They have been excellent role models for our younger children. On Monday morning representatives of our Governing Board enjoyed their visit focusing on Health & Safety and the work of some of key support departments. On Wednesday some students took part in an MK Dons Modern Work Experience. On Wednesday evening I attended the Year 11 Mass of Celebration. It was lovely to see so many parents, children and staff come together to celebrate all of the hard work and dedication of our Year 11 students. It was important for us to show them that we are praying for them during the examination season. This has been accompanied by liturgies in every tutor group registration where we prayed with the children. On Thursday it was the second Mentoring Evening for Years 12, 10 & 8. I hope that you found these appointments beneficial. On Friday morning, Year 7 and 8 Music students enjoyed a Toscana Strings and ballet performance. Today we have had our non-uniform day for our Pentecost Charity, Henry Allen Trust, which focuses on supporting families who are experiencing childhood cancer. Thank you for sending in the money for this.

Next week please remember that it is bank holiday weekend so school is closed on Monday 4th May and opens on the morning of Tuesday 5th May. Year 9 students are off to Kintbury on retreat on Tuesday until Friday. On Tuesday the three Year 12 students who won the short film category in the Show Racism the Red Card competition will be attending the award ceremony in Manchester. Congratulations to them all. On Wednesday evening it is Year 13's turn to attend their Mass of Celebration. Year 11 study leave begins on Friday 8th May.

You will recall from previous letters that I frequently send to ask parents to please be mindful of where they park when waiting to collect their children at the end of the day. I have received this email from a local resident;

"I am writing as a local resident living on the street opposite the school to raise ongoing concerns about parking and safety during school pick-up times. While I understand that the road itself is not under the school's direct control, the current situation has become increasingly difficult for residents. During pick-up times, cars are frequently parked in a way that blocks driveways and significantly restricts access to and from our homes. More concerningly, many vehicles are being parked on pavements, leaving very little room for pedestrians. Today, a neighbour was forced to squeeze through an extremely narrow gap, approximately 25 cm, between parked cars and bushes. This is not only inconvenient but poses a serious safety issue.

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I do understand that many parents and carers are in a rush and may feel they are only stopping to collect their children from school, however for us residents this has become a daily nuisance and poses a real health and safety risk. We also have a disabled resident in the area who uses a wheelchair, and the lack of accessible pavement space makes it impossible for them to pass safely. This creates a real barrier to mobility and raises important concerns about accessibility and respect within the community.

I appreciate that the school does not have direct authority over parking enforcement. However, I kindly ask if you could remind parents and carers to be mindful of local residents when parking, particularly to avoid blocking pavements. Could this message please be included in communication to all parents? Any support the school can provide in communicating this message would be greatly appreciated and would make a meaningful difference to those of us living nearby.”

I hope you can appreciate the concerns of our local community and consider this when parking near school.

Our Careers team have asked us to let you know that Unifrog accounts for parents are now live for Years 7 to 10 and Year 12. You can find more information on our website [here](#).

After the Year 12 Information Evening on Thursday 14th May there will be an opportunity for parents and carers of students who are studying A-level Design and Technology to visit our Year 13 NEA exhibition which will showcase a diverse range of innovative and creative outcomes from across our Design and Technology courses - Design Engineering, Product Design and Fashion and Textiles. This would be a great opportunity for you to see the standard of work expected from our Year 13 A-level Design and Technology students. The exhibition is open from 6pm – 8pm in room F118.

St Monica's Catholic Primary School is calling out to former pupils to encourage them to help celebrate the school's golden jubilee. Please take a look at the attached letter to see how you can be involved.

I hope that you all have a lovely bank holiday weekend.

Yours sincerely



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Headteacher

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