



One Family in Christ

St John the Baptist RC Primary School

Headteacher: Mrs L. Campbell

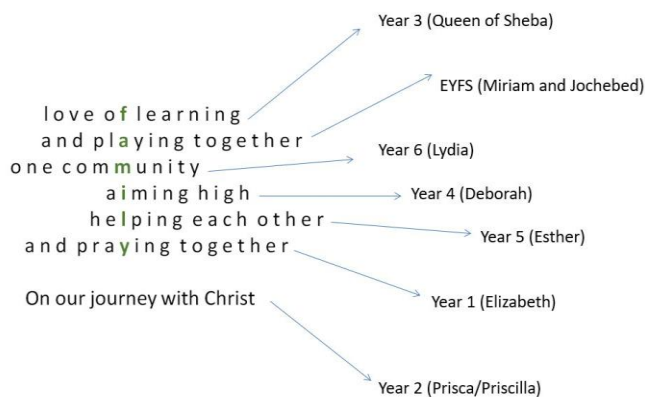
Newsletter

9th October 2026

We have had a lovely week in school, with lots of children demonstrating our school values and making us proud.

One Family in Christ.

☺ Mrs Campbell



Head-teacher awards	Qualities of the class 'woman of the Bible'	Celebration of Talent spotting
Nursery (Jochabed)	Melody	Bruno Zoya
Reception (Miriam)	Zainab	Talia Fabiha
Y1 (Elizabeth)	Stella	Christabel Shiloh
Y2 (Prisca)	Lawi	Mishaal Ayman
Y3 (Sheba)	Maira	Grace Mohammad Iqbal
Y4 (Deborah)	Hana	Lincoln Emmanuella Waleed
Y5 (Esther)	Thezia	Musab Shanzay
Y6 (Lydia)	Luana	Margarida Chiagoziem

Class	Reception	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6
Attendance: week beg 5/10/26	89.4	100	99.3	93.9	95.8	96	98.2

Visit our website for more information:
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Catholic Life

Gospel: Matthew 21:33-43

"Listen to another parable," Jesus said. "There was once a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a hole for the winepress, and built a watchtower. Then he let out the vineyard to tenants and went on a journey. When the time came to gather the grapes, he sent his slaves to the tenants to receive his share of the harvest. The tenants seized his slaves, beat one, killed another, and stoned another. Again the man sent other slaves, more than the first time, and the tenants treated them the same way. Last of all he sent his son to them. 'Surely they will respect my son,' he said. But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, 'This is the owner's son. Come on, let's kill him, and we will get his property!' So they seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him.

"Now, when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?" Jesus asked.

"He will certainly kill those evil men," they answered, "and let the vineyard out to other tenants, who will give him his share of the harvest at the right time."

Jesus said to them, "Haven't you ever read what the Scriptures say?

'The stone which the builders rejected as worthless
turned out to be the most important of all.

This was done by the Lord;
what a wonderful sight it is!'

"And so I tell you," added Jesus, "the Kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people who will produce the proper fruits."

The bad tenants in the gospel story thought only about themselves. Jesus asks us to think about other people too, to use the resources of the earth wisely so that everyone can have their fair share. We are called to care for and protect the earth and enjoy the wonders of God's creation now and in the future.

Love of learning and playing together. One community, aiming high, helping each other and praying together. On our journey with Christ.

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STOC Mass

These three children were chosen to represent the school at the St Teresa of Calcutta Catholic Academy Trust Mass on Tuesday this week.

They were chosen because they have shown superb learning behaviour in school this term – listening, being kind and trying their very best in every lesson.

They sang beautifully in Mass, hosted by St Patricks RC Primary and Alice Ingham RC Primary, and were complimented by other headteachers on their exemplary behaviour. Well done to all three.



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October: Month of the Rosary

As we celebrate the Month of the Rosary, our Worship Team led a special Celebration of the Word centred on Mary, reflecting on her faith and loving devotion to God. It was a beautiful time of prayer and reflection, inviting us to draw closer to Mary



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Parental support: Online Safety

At The National College, our WakeUpWednesday guides empower and equip parents, carers and educators with the confidence and practical skills to be able to have informed and age-appropriate conversations with children about online safety, mental health and wellbeing, and internet usage. For further guides, lists and tips, please visit www.thenationalcollege.com.

10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators

ESSENTIAL ONLINE SAFETY

Children and young people use the internet every day to learn, play, and connect, but the online world is not always safe. For adults, it can be hard to keep up with the risks, including harmful content, cyberbullying and scams. These 10 tips provide clear and practical advice to support safer and healthier digital habits, helping young people to make informed, secure choices when using technology.

- 1 START EARLY CONVERSATIONS**
Begin talking about online behaviour from the moment children start using devices. Use age-appropriate language and revisit topics regularly, making it clear they can speak to you about anything that upsets or confuses them. Keeping these chats open helps build trust, so children are more likely to come to you when needed.
- 2 PROMOTE SAFER SHARING**
Children can overshare without understanding the risks. Warn them that photos, locations, or messages can be captured and shared beyond their intended audience. Explain how even private messages or group chats can be viewed or misused. Talk about what is appropriate to post, re-share, and who it's safe to share with.
- 3 ENCOURAGE DIGITAL BALANCE**
Many apps and games are designed to keep users engaged through rewards, likes, or dopamine updates. These features can make it hard for children to switch off. Talk openly about how these systems work and help children recognise when it's time to take a break. Building in tech-free routines supports a healthier balance and awareness of their screen time.
- 4 CREATE A SAFE SPACE FOR CONCERNS**
When children come to you with a concern, respond with interest and care, rather than with alarm. Keeping your reaction measured helps them feel safe and supported. This doesn't mean ignoring serious issues. It means showing that you're there to help. When children trust that they can speak openly, they're more likely to feel supported through unpleasant online experiences, and to ask for help in future.
- 5 STAY INFORMED AND CURRENT**
With emerging technologies like AI, gaming, and changing privacy settings, it's important to stay updated on how children are using new platforms, apps and games. Ask them to show you what they use and let them take the lead as you explore together. This opens up valuable conversations and helps you stay ahead of emerging risks and trends.
- 6 TEACH CRITICAL THINKING**
Talk to children about how to recognise trustworthy information or events online. With AI-generated videos, photos, and stories becoming harder to spot, help children question what they see and encourage them to look for evidence, check sources, and ask questions. These skills will help them avoid risks, make smart choices, and develop healthy habits for the future.
- 7 SET CLEAR BOUNDARIES**
Establish children's boundaries about device usage so they feel included. Agree on digital rules such as screen-free times, age-appropriate apps, and no devices in bedrooms overnight. Use parental controls to block or filter harmful content and explain that rules are there to protect and support them, not to spoil their fun.
- 8 LEAD BY EXAMPLE**
Children often copy the behaviour of adults around them. Show them what respectful, respectful, and mindful use of technology looks like, such as avoiding scrolling during family time and avoiding kindness in messages. If you expect certain behaviour from them online, make sure your own habits reflect the same standards.
- 9 EXPLORE PRIVACY SETTINGS TOGETHER**
Show children how to use privacy tools on apps, games, and websites. Teach them to use strong passwords, block or report others in response to problems, and avoid sharing personal details. Explore settings together so they feel confident and in control, and explain that these features are there to help them stay safe online.
- 10 KNOW WHERE TO GET HELP**
Familiarise yourself with tools and organisations that support online safety. The National College offers advice guides and webinars which provide tips on staying safe. Websites like Report Harmful Content and CEOP can be used to report where something goes wrong. Show children how to report or block users, and where to go if they feel unsafe. Make sure they know that asking for help is always the right thing to do, and be prepared to support them.

Meet Our Expert
Home to the world's largest CPD library for educators, The National College has transformed the way education establishments go about elevating their workforce and managing compliance. Our three memberships help all phases and types of setting raise standards, save time, reduce risk, and build a culture of improvement.

See full reference list on www.thenationalcollege.com

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We will be hosting a parent's coffee afternoon with a guest speaker from the Mental Health in Schools Team.

Come along and find out more about keeping children safe online and you will have the opportunity to ask questions too :)

Thursday 19th November at 2.45pm



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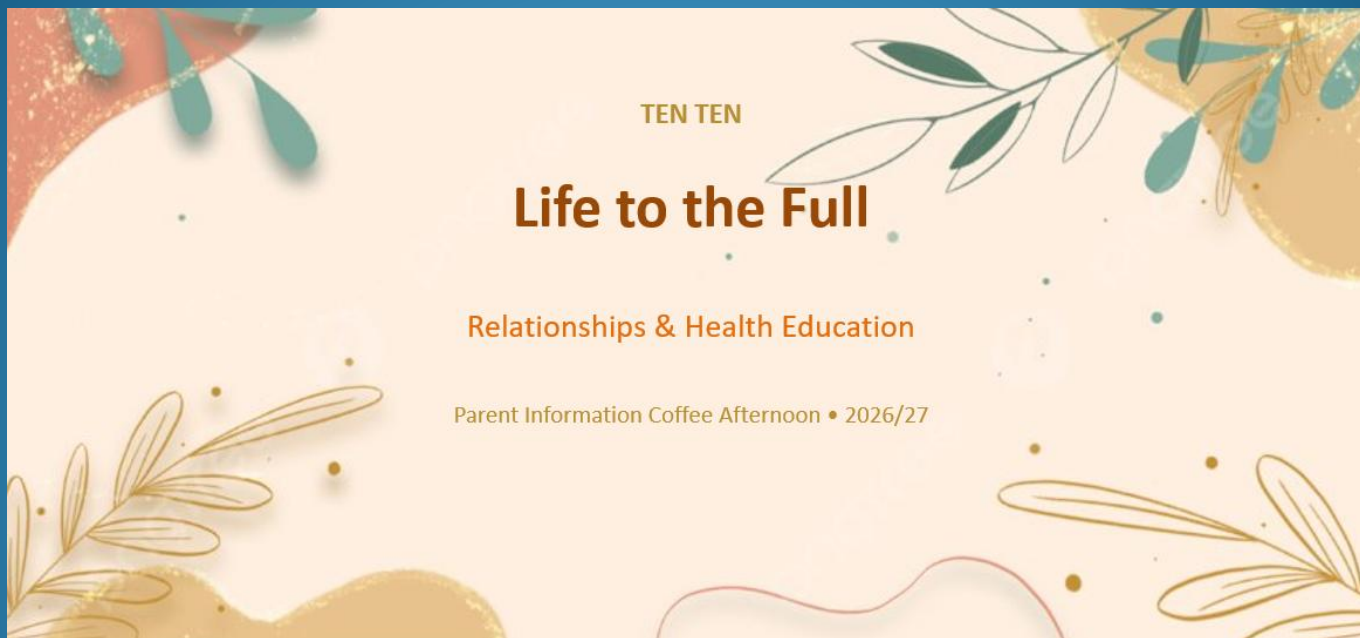


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RSHE in school



Mrs Hickman is hosting a coffee afternoon on Friday 16th October at 2.30pm - she will explain to parents what RSHE is and what we teach in school. She will also answer any questions you may have about the RSHE (Relationships, Sex and Health Education) curriculum and how it is taught.



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The importance of Attendance

Our attendance this week is **96.4%** which is great!
Please ensure absence is reported by calling the office before 9am on 01706 647195.

Last 5 days (01 October 2026 to 07 October 2026)



Overall attendance %

96.4%

Overall absence %

3.6%

Unauthorised absence %

2.4%

Our attendance this year so far is **96.1%**.

Current academic year up to Wednesday 07 October 2026

Number of pupils

210

Overall attendance %

96.1%

Overall absence %

3.9%

Unauthorised absence %

2.6%

Polite reminder:

- Term time trips cannot be authorised
- Please book routine appointments after school time
- Attendance meetings and plans will be put in place to support children being in school. We, like you, want the children to achieve their very best.

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Reception 2027 Applications

The portal for Reception places (2027 start) is now open: <https://www.rochdale.gov.uk/school-admissions-appeals/apply-primary-school-place/4>



**Please apply for your primary
school place for September
2027!**



Rochdale admissions for Primary school places is now open. Your child's reception place **MUST** be applied for before Friday 15th January 2027.

**Monday, 14
September 2026**

The online admissions system opens for primary school places starting in September 2027.

**Friday, 15 January
2027**

Closing date for applications

Ensure your reception class application for a primary school is submitted before this date. Otherwise, you will need to apply for a late application.

**Friday, 12 February
2027**

Last date for any changes to the address in your application.

**Friday, 16 April
2027**

National offer day.

IMPORTANT!

Attending St John the Baptist RC Nursery **DOES NOT** guarantee a place in our Reception class.

Parents and carers must apply online before the deadline: 15/1/27

<https://startingreception.co.uk/>

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High School 2027 Applications

The portal for High School places (2027 start) is now open:



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**Please apply for your High
School place for September
2027!**



One family in Christ

Rochdale admissions for Secondary school places is now open. Your child's Y7 place **MUST** be applied for before Saturday 31st October 2026

**Tuesday, 1
September 2026**

The online admissions system opens for secondary school places.

**Saturday, 31
October 2026**

Closing date for applications

Ensure your secondary school application is submitted before this date. Otherwise, you will need to apply for a late application.

**Friday, 11 December
2026**

Last date for any changes to the address in your application.

**Monday, 1 March
2027**

National offer day. [Sign in to view your school place offer.](#)

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Football

Last Thursday we took a group of girls to an RBSGP football event at Hopwood Hall. They did fantastically well in both matches which resulted in a 1-1 and a 2-2 draw with a couple of superb goals scored!



EYFS PD



Year 3 have been completing some personal challenges in PE this half term. This week we have been trying our hand at Juggling. We are looking to improve our hand eye coordination and reaction times.

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Early Years Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1

This week as we celebrate October, the month of Mary, we have been learning about the Rosary. Our class worship focused on Mary's visit to Elizabeth and the joy and kindness she shared. We reflected on how we can follow Mary's example by showing kindness and bringing joy to others.



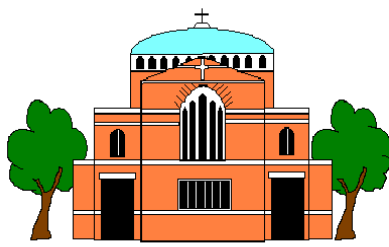
This week in Reception class we have worked in the small world area to help take care of the babies; we have enjoyed using soapy water to bathe them.

In Reception enjoy reading stories with our friends.

"Love one another as I have loved you." John 15:12

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KS2

Year 4 developed their oracy and historical thinking skills by debating the statement: *"The Ancient Egyptians did not believe in the afterlife."* The children took on different discussion roles including: Instigator, Builder, Clarifier, Summariser, Prober and Challenger. They listened carefully, questioned one another and used their historical knowledge to justify their opinions.



This week, the children took part in guided reading, focusing on reading aloud with the correct tone, expression and voice. They worked hard to make the text engaging and bring the characters and meaning to life.



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