



Friday 4th September 2026

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"Together in Faith, Friendship, Kindness and Courage"

Welcome Back!

We hope that everybody had an enjoyable and relaxing summer holiday.

A special welcome to our new parents and grandparents whose children have just started at our school in Nursery and Reception. The children have settled in really quickly, are very happy and working hard.



Prayer & Liturgy Assembly

"If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up the cross and follow me" (Matthew 16:24)

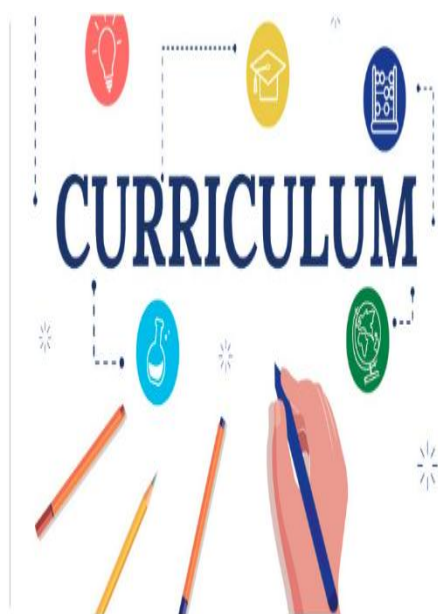
The key messages from the assembly were:

Offer the school year to Jesus.

Trust that God is our leader who is always there for us.

Know our hope and happiness comes from following the path.

Follow Jesus by putting God first.



Curriculum & Learning

Please remember that you can look at what your child is learning this term on the school website.

- Go to the **Curriculum** tab and **"Year Group Plans."** This will take you to the Autumn 1 list of subjects and topics your child will be learning.
- If you click on **"Knowledge Maps"** this will take you to a one-page key terms and vocab for all the subjects for your child's year group.
- If you click on **"End of Year Expectations"** this will take you to the required learning for English and Maths for your child's year group.
- All phonics information is contained in the **"Phonics area."** There is a film of how to pronounce the sounds.



Meet the Teacher: After School Meetings

You will have an opportunity to meet your child's class teacher next week. Teachers will discuss the class timetable, school work, homework and other important areas. Please go to your child's classroom at the end of the day. These will be on the following days:

Monday 7th September: Year 1, 2, & 3 (3.15 - 3.45)

Wednesday 10th September: Year 4, 5 & 6 (3.15 - 3.45)

School Apps Update



Arbor App

Thank you to all the parents/carers who are now signed up to the Arbor app. We will use the payment section of Arbor to manage all charges for school dinners, trips, clubs and wraparound etc. Although we are experiencing a few teething problems at the moment, the system will be a much easier way to process/manage payments, so please do bear with us a little longer, your patience this week has been much appreciated by the office. If you have not yet signed up, please do so as soon as possible and contact or visit the school office if you need any assistance.

Please note that any remaining School Money balances will be transferred onto your Arbor account shortly.

Please ensure you have topped up your account before ordering meals on the School Grid app.

School Grid App

Following its introduction during the Summer term, **School Grid remains the system for ordering school meals.**

Parents/carers have up until **8.55am** in the morning to place a pre order for that day. Ordering in advance for the school week is usually the easiest way to avoid missing the daily deadline.

Please be aware that any child without a pre order that day may not be able to choose at the counter or have limited choices available to them. This is due to portions cooked on the day based off the pre order information received. So, it is beneficial to get your child into the habit of choosing their meals to avoid any upset or disappointment. If you need any assistance with the app please contact or visit the school office.



Communication

We try and make sure that we communicate with you regularly. However, there might be an occasion when you wish to email a teacher directly. Below are the teacher's email addresses. **We ask that you only email if the matter is urgent. We also ask that you don't email teacher on their weekends, late at night or in their holidays.** Teachers will try to get back within 48 hours but sometimes a reply may take longer.

All General Enquires: admin@st-christophers.tameside.sch.uk

Nursery and Reception: Communicate via Tapestry App.

Year 1: karen.mcloughlin@st-christophers.tameside.sch.uk

Year 2: megan.cooper@st-christophers.tameside.sch.uk

Year 3: adele.hickling@st-christophers.tameside.sch.uk and lucy.mulhall@st-christophers.tameside.sch.uk

Year 4: natalie.gilligan@st-christophers.tameside.sch.uk and kim.mcGovern@st-christophers.tameside.sch.uk

Year 5: lauren.boylan@st-christophers.tameside.sch.uk and kim.mcGovern@st-christophers.tameside.sch.uk

Year 6: jess.finan@st-christophers.tameside.sch.uk and kim.mcGovern@st-christophers.tameside.sch.uk



Healthy Eating

Packed lunches should not include:

- Fizzy / high sugar drinks
- Energy drinks
- Sweets / confectionary
- Chocolate spread
- More than one sugary or high fat item.

Healthy Snacks:

At breaktime the children are only allowed to be eating healthy snacks.

Breaktime Snacks

Children are encouraged to bring their own snacks.

This includes:

- Vegetable sticks – such as celery, cucumber, peppers or carrot, a range of colour ensures different vitamins and minerals.
- A piece of cheddar cheese or Babybel.
- A piece of fresh or dried fruit, high in soluble fibre and vitamins would also be a great snack– pineapple, mango, kiwi, plain raisins, apricots, blueberries, banana slices.
- Bread sticks, plain pretzels, banana bread, malt loaf, oat/rice cakes and small pitta breads are also good snacks, providing children with carbohydrate to sustain them in-between meals.

At breaktime we do not allow: Frubes, crisps, yoghurts or any cereal bars as they contain high amounts of sugar and fats.

Please refer to the Healthy Eating Policy on the school website.



After School Clubs

Last year club places were booked via a Microsoft form that came through to the office. Club places were then allocated on a first come first served basis and charges were added to school money accounts for parents/carers to pay for club places.

This school year, we will not be using the Microsoft form and any after school club places will **only be available to book via your**

Arbor app. Please note that you will only be able to book club places if you have access to your account, as the new system requires you to book and pay for club places at the same time. All clubs will be loaded onto the Club page early next week and we will notify you once they are on the system.

Please see the table below for the new after school club schedule for this half term:

After School Clubs – Autumn Term 1

Mondays 3.15 – 4.15pm	KS1 Multi Sports (PAS) Years 1 & 2 6 x Sessions: 14/09/26 – 19/10/26	KS2 Football Years 3 – 6 6 x Sessions: 14/09/26 – 19/10/26
Tuesdays 3.15 – 4.30pm	KS2 MMA* Years 3 - 6 6 x Sessions: 15/09/26 – 20/10/26	
Wednesdays 3.15 – 4.15pm	KS1 Football (PAS) Years 1 & 2 7 x Sessions: 09/09/26 – 21/10/26	KS2 Cheerleading Years 3 – 6 7 x Sessions: 09/09/26 – 21/10/26
Thursdays 3.15 – 4.15pm	KS1 Street Dance Club Years 1 & 2 7 x Sessions: 10/09/26 – 22/10/26	KS2 Multi Sports (PAS) Years 3 – 6 7 x Sessions: 10/09/26 – 22/10/26
Fridays 3.15 – 4.15pm	Drama Years 2 – 6 7 x Sessions: 11/09/26 – 23/10/26	KS2 Chess Years 3 – 6 7 x Sessions: 11/09/26 – 23/10/26

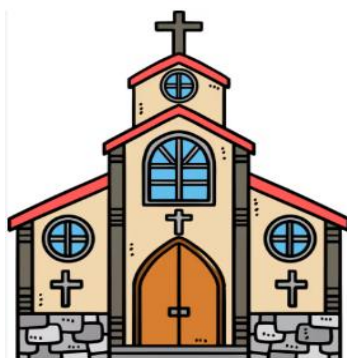
****Please note the slightly later finish time for this club only.***



Attendance

We are delighted to celebrate the fantastic commitment shown by our children towards their attendance last year. We are particularly proud to report that our overall school attendance is **95.4%**, which is **above the national average**. Children who achieved an outstanding **100% attendance** were recognised for this and were presented with a **certificate**.

Regular attendance plays an important role in supporting children's learning, confidence and overall progress. We are incredibly proud of all our children and thank our families for their continued support in ensuring children attend school regularly.



Mass and Children's Liturgy

Father Jude has asked that we remind parents and carers that mass is celebrated at St Ann's at 5.30 p.m. Saturday and Sunday at 11.00 a.m. It is also celebrated at 9.00 a.m. at St Christopher's. **At all masses there is a children's liturgy where the children go during mass to a smaller children's service that caters for their age group.**

Prayer for the new school year

Dear Lord.

Open my mind to see new friends,

Open my ears to listen to my teacher,

Open my ears to learn new skills.

Let my heart love everyone around me,

Help me grow and learn each day,

Help to be the best I can be this school year.

Designated Safeguarding Lead: Mr Noone and Deputy DSL Miss Mulhall.



Class	CLASS MENTION AWARD WINNERS
Reception	Rowan & Fabian
Year 1	Jenson & Felicity
Year 2	Jessica & Halle-Mae
Year 3	Violet & Eva
Year 4	Maisie & Damir
Year 5	Hanna & Sophia
Year 6	Thea & Alessia

Autumn 1 2026 Half Term Events

7 th Sept	Meet The Teacher: Yrs 1, 2 and 3 (3.15 - 3.45pm)
8 th Sept	Meet The Teacher: Yrs 4, 5 and 6 (3.15 - 3.45pm)
23 rd Sept	Mass
25 th Sept	MacMillan Coffee Morning
1 st Oct	Full Governors
13 th Oct	Year 6 trip to Air Raid Shelters
15 th Oct	Year 5 Assembly
15 th Oct	FFSC Glow Disco
23 rd Oct	School Closes at 3.15pm for Half Term holiday