



Newsletter

18th November 2025

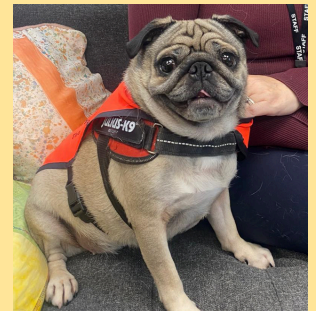
Latest news...

Parent Governor Nominations

Last week I emailed some information requesting nominations for a new Parent Governor. This is a much valued position and is a wonderful way you could support the school to ensure we are a place where everyone shines. I would be grateful if you would consider becoming involved. You do not need to be a Christian but do need to be supportive of the faith nature of the school. You are most welcome to pop in to see me for a chat (or speak with Temi Xavier or Sylvia Ademu, Foundation Governors) if you are interested.

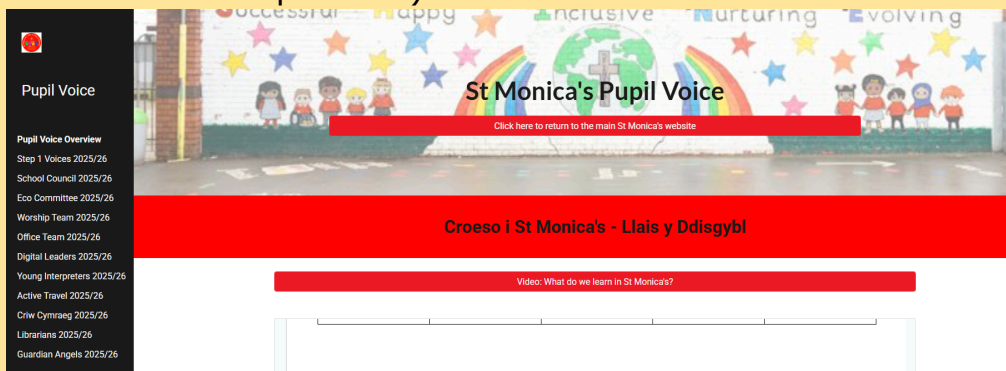
Dog Mentoring Programme

Bella, Mrs Meakins and I have all passed our recent Dog Mentoring update training. I wanted us all to be reassessed as we are now in our new building. Bella will be coming into school on Mondays and Wednesdays, sometimes this is dependent on how busy the school day is going to be and on how tired/motivated Bella appears in the morning. Bella now shares a post box with me, just outside my office door. Children can make requests to come and see Bella, a letter directly to Bella usually does the trick!



Pupil Voice

The children have been voting for their Pupil Voice representatives. They have a website which they will be updating regularly with meeting agendas and minutes of meetings. Children can log into this site using their Hwb email accounts. All former **stmonicasschool.co.uk** accounts will be suspended at the end of this week as we fully make the move over to Welsh Government funded (and Welsh Government protected) Hwb accounts.



Parent Consultations

It was so lovely to see so many parents coming into school yesterday for Parent Consultations. Thank you for taking the time to discuss how your child/ren are doing and ways that we can work more closely to support them in school. All children in Years 2 - 6 have completed the Welsh National Tests in Reading, Procedural (mathematics) and Reasoning (mathematics). The preliminary results will have been discussed with you - we use these tests as a moment in time to then plan the specific areas your child needs to develop. The Step web pages are updated frequently, please take a look (and keep checking back) as specific home learning tasks and ways you can support your child are signposted on there. These are open access pages and can also be found on the school website www.stmonicasschool.co.uk

[Step 1 Web Pages](#)

[Step 2 Web Pages](#)

[Step 3 Web Pages](#)

St Monica's Supermarket

The Fare Share supermarket is going well. Food will be available from 3pm every Thursday, some Y6 pupils are going to be running the supermarket each week from the playground (under the canopy by the Pupil Gate). At the moment, we have been receiving mainly bread products from Marks & Spencer but I have been told that items may change week by week. The Fare Share scheme is one that several supermarkets and food outlets take part in. It helps to eliminate food waste as well as providing food for families and those who may need it - sharing God's bounty with us all.

Staff Contacts

Head - Abi Cuthbert abigail.cuthbert@cardiff.gov.uk

Deputy Head - Richard Thomas (Mr T) thomasr293@hwbcymru.net

Additional Learning Needs Co-Ordinator - Kelly O'Gorman ogormank@hwbcymru.net

Wellbeing Lead - Tanya Meakins meakinst@Hwbcymru.net

Acting Office Manager - Jozefina Fedorova jozefina.fedorova@cardiff.gov.uk

If you have any concerns about the welfare of a child, please contact either Mrs Cuthbert, Mrs O'Gorman or Mrs Meakins. We are the Designated Safeguarding People for the school.

Parent Pay

Please use Parent Pay to book your child's meals, you can do this up to 3 weeks in advance. We will need to know much sooner than 11th December if you wish for your child to have a school Christmas meal, a booking link will appear on Parent Pay. If you are struggling to get into your account, please see Mrs Fedorova in the School Office, she will be able to help you.

If your child has a fruit snack in school, we ask for a £1 donation per week to go towards the cost. We try to keep the cost of school trips to the absolute minimum but occasionally will need to ask for a donation to help. The school budget is currently in a deficit and as prices rise, we are struggling to reduce it without negatively impacting learning experiences. Your support in this is gratefully received.

School Essentials Grants

Eligible families can apply for a grant of £125 per child per year. Families with children entering year 7 can apply for £200 to help with increased costs associated with starting secondary school. All looked after children qualify for the grant. Schools also receive additional funding as a result of claiming this grant.

New Information Management System

We are due to migrate to a new Information Management System - thank you to all those who have returned the pupil data sheets. We have a legal requirement to ensure that the data we hold for you and your child/ren is accurate and shared only with permission. Our Privacy Notice has been updated and is available on the school website.

Diary Dates

There is a very full diary for this half term. All of the dates and times for Christmas plays/productions have been added, if the diary entry is red and yellow it means that parents are most welcome to attend. I never charge families to see their child perform during school time. We will have a collection bucket for any donations at the end of each performance. This money will go towards the cost of classroom resources in school.

Thank you for taking the time to read these updates - all newsletters are available on the website.

Abi Cuthbert, Head Teacher



**CHRISTMAS
FAYRE**

**St. Michael's Church
Gelligaer Street**

**Saturday November 29th
11am - 2pm**

**Stalls
Grand Christmas Raffle
Café
& SANTA'S GROTTTO!
Free Entrance
All welcome!**



**MAJESTAS
KIDS**

**Do you know a child who loves to sing?
Join the fun in our music group for children
aged 7-13.**

Join our weekly sessions to sing as part of our Junior Choir run by our Animateur, Rachel Kilby. Develop your vocal skills, learn to read music, enjoy games and make friends.

Wednesdays at 4:00 - 5:30pm in term time

For more information, contact Rachel by email:
rachelkilby@llandaffcathedral.org.uk

Membership is £25 per term, or £60 per year.

Scan to sign up



www.llandaffcathedral.org.uk [@llandaffcathedral](https://www.facebook.com/llandaffcathedral) [@llandaffcathedral](https://www.instagram.com/llandaffcathedral) [@llandaffcathedral547](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC547)



**CAROLS BY
CANDLELIGHT
CONCERT**

St Mark's Church

7TH OF DECEMBER 2025

5:30PM OR 7:30PM

St Mark's Church, North Road, CF14 3BL
<https://stmarks-cardiff.co.uk>
Instagram @stmarkscardiff

**SPECIAL GUEST SPEAKER
GRAHAM DANIELS**

**AND ST MONICA'S PRIMARY
SCHOOL CHOIR**



Dates for your diary

I am not able to authorise any absence for term time holiday or any extended time away from school. Please do not be tempted to take your child out of school during term time.

School term dates

<https://www.cardiff.gov.uk/ENG/resident/Schools-and-learning/Schools/School-term-dates/Pages/default.aspx>

Monday 17th November Mr Akrill (Heath Evangelical Church) - worship	Tuesday 18th November	Wednesday 19th November Step 2 - visit St Mark's Church Ms Merriott (Cathays High) to see Y6	Thursday 20th November 9.15am Rock Steady Concert - all welcome to join us Step 3 - visit St Mark's Church	Friday 21st November 2pm Bookable Parent Tour of the school 2.30pm Praise & Celebration Assembly - all welcome to join us
Monday 24th November Charis - St Mark's Church with Y5 & 6	Tuesday 25th November	Wednesday 26th November Rev. Caroline - worship	Thursday 27th November Becky Harris - worship Step 3 - visit St Michael's Church	Friday 28th November Closing date for Estates Manager post
Monday 1st December	Tuesday 2nd December Highfields Church - worship	Wednesday 3rd December	Thursday 4th December	Friday 5th December 2pm Bookable Parent Tour of the school 2.30pm Praise & Celebration Assembly - all welcome to join us
Monday 8th December Dress Rehearsals for all concerts Interviews for Estates Manager post	Tuesday 9th December Step 1 Christmas Concerts 10am & 2pm	Wednesday 10th December Step 2 Christmas Concerts 10am & 2pm Rev. Caroline - worship	Thursday 11th December Step 3 Christmas Concerts 10am & 2pm Christmas Lunch Day	Friday 12th December 9.15am Rock Steady Christmas Concert - all welcome to join us
Monday 15th December Morning Y4 - visit Sherman Theatre	Tuesday 16th December Afternoon Rec, Y1 & Step 2 - visit Sherman Theatre	Wednesday 17th December Morning - Y5 - visit Sherman Theatre	Thursday 18th December Morning - Y6 - visit Sherman Theatre	Friday 19th December Last day of term 2.30pm Praise & Celebration Assembly - all welcome to join us

Christmas Break - no school for 2 weeks

Monday 5th January Children return to school - Breakfast Club doors open at 8.10am	Tuesday 6th January New Nursery children start	Wednesday 7th January Morning - Bishop Mary blesses the new school	Thursday 8th January	Friday 9th January
Monday 12th January Closing date for new Reception applications	Tuesday 13th January	Wednesday 14th January	Thursday 15th January 11am Vision & Values GB meeting 4pm Finance, Premises + H&S GB meeting	Friday 16th January 2.30pm Praise & Celebration Assembly - all welcome to join us
Monday 19th January Mr Akrill (Heath Evangelical Church) - worship	Tuesday 20th January	Wednesday 21st January	Thursday 22nd January 4pm Standards GB meeting	Friday 23rd January

Monday 26th January	Tuesday 27th January	Wednesday 28th January	Thursday 29th January 4pm Full GB meeting	Friday 30th January 2.30pm Praise & Celebration Assembly - all welcome to join us
Monday 2nd February	Tuesday 3rd February RWCMD workshops - Y4	Wednesday 4th February	Thursday 5th February RWCMD workshops - Y5	Friday 6th February
Monday 9th February Longtown Residential Trip	Tuesday 10th February Longtown Residential Trip	Wednesday 11th February Longtown Residential Trip	Thursday 12th February Longtown Residential Trip	Friday 13th February Longtown Residential Trip 2.30pm Praise & Celebration Assembly - all welcome to join us

Half Term Break - no school for 1 week

Monday 23rd February Children return to school - Breakfast Club doors open at 8.10am Closing date for Nursery applications (Sept 2026 start)	Tuesday 24th February RWCMD workshops - Y6	Wednesday 25th February	Thursday 26th February	Friday 27th February Eisteddfod - celebrating all things Welsh - children wear red or dress up in Welsh costume 2.30pm Praise & Celebration Assembly - all welcome to join us
Monday 2nd March	Tuesday 3rd March	Wednesday 4th March	Thursday 5th March	Friday 6th March
Monday 9th March	Tuesday 10th March	Wednesday 11th March	Thursday 12th March	Friday 13th March 2.30pm Praise & Celebration Assembly - all welcome to join us
Monday 16th March	Tuesday 17th March	Wednesday 18th March Y4 + Y5 - Llandaff Cathedral all day	Thursday 19th March 4pm Premises, Finance + H&S GB meeting	Friday 20th March
Monday 23rd March	Tuesday 24th March	Wednesday 25th March	Thursday 26th March 4pm Full GB meeting	Friday 27th March 2.30pm Praise & Celebration Assembly - all welcome to join us

Easter Break - no school for 2 weeks

Monday 13th April Children return to school - Breakfast Club doors open at 8.10am	Tuesday 14th April Nursery Summer intake start	Wednesday 15th April	Thursday 16th April	Friday 17th April
Monday 20th April Y6 Cycling	Tuesday 21st April Y6 Cycling	Wednesday 22nd April Y6 Cycling	Thursday 23rd April Y6 Cycling 4pm Full GB meeting	Friday 24th April 2.30pm Praise & Celebration Assembly - all welcome to join us
Monday 27th April	Tuesday 28th April	Wednesday 29th April	Thursday 30th April	Friday 1st May

Monday 4th May Bank Holiday - no school	Tuesday 5th May	Wednesday 6th May	Thursday 7th May	Friday 8th May 2.30pm Praise & Celebration Assembly - all welcome to join us
Monday 11th May	Tuesday 12th May	Wednesday 13th May	Thursday 14th May	Friday 15th May
Monday 18th May	Tuesday 19th May	Wednesday 20th May	Thursday 21st May 4pm Premises, Finance + H&S GB meeting	Friday 22nd May INSET Day - no school for children

Half Term Break - no school for 1 week

Monday 1st June Children return to school - Breakfast Club doors open at 8.10am	Tuesday 2nd June	Wednesday 3rd June	Thursday 4th June	Friday 5th June 2.30pm Praise & Celebration Assembly - all welcome to join us
Monday 8th June	Tuesday 9th June	Wednesday 10th June	Thursday 11th June	Friday 12th June
Monday 15th June	Tuesday 16th June	Wednesday 17th June	Thursday 18th June 11am Vision & Values GB meeting	Friday 19th June 2.30pm Praise & Celebration Assembly - all welcome to join us
Monday 22nd June	Tuesday 23rd June	Wednesday 24th June	Thursday 25th June 4pm Standards GB meeting	Friday 26th June
Monday 29th June Closing date for Nursery (Spring/Summer 2027 applications)	Tuesday 30th June	Wednesday 1st July	Thursday 2nd July	Friday 3rd July 2.30pm Praise & Celebration Assembly - all welcome to join us
Monday 6th July	Tuesday 7th July	Wednesday 8th July Y6 Leaver's Service in Llandaff Cathedral	Thursday 9th July	Friday 10th July
Monday 13th July	Tuesday 14th July	Wednesday 15th July Y6 Leaver's Treat 6pm Y6 Leaver's Celebration Evening	Thursday 16th July	Friday 17th July Last day of term for children

Summer Break - no school for 6 weeks
Children return to school on Wednesday 3rd September 2026

Our remaining INSET days (training days where children are not in school) this academic year

- 22nd May = INSET day 5, training linked to the School Development Plan
- 20th July = INSET day 6, training linked to the School Development Plan