

ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

P.O. Box: 52232, DUBAI - U.A.E.

Tel. : +(971) 4 3370252

E-mail : maryscol@emirates.net.ae

Fax : +(971) 4 3368119

website : www.stmarysdubai.com



مدرسة القديسة مريم الكاثوليكية الثانوية

ص.ب. ٥٢٢٣٢، دبي - الإمارات العربية المتحدة

maryscol@emirates.net.ae : بريد إلكتروني

هاتف : ٣٣٧٠٢٥٢ ٤ ٩٧١ +

www.stmarysdubai.com : موقع ويب

فاكس : ٣٣٦٨١١٩ ٤ ٩٧١ +

OUR REF :

TRN : 100259955100003

Saturday, 15th August 2026.

To: Parents of students from Year One to Year Thirteen and PARENTS OF NEWLY ADMITTED STUDENTS TO THE SCHOOL

APPROVED KHDA CALENDAR 2026-2027

Dear Parents,

Greetings from St. Mary's. We have finally received our Approved KHDA calendar for the Academic Year 2026-2027.

In alignment with federal directives and the official academic calendar for the 2026-2027 Academic Year, **the last day of school is 02 July 2027.**

As per these Federal Directives and regulations from the regulatory authorities:

- Final assessments/ examinations or curriculum requirements must be completed during the final week of each academic term to ensure regular student attendance until the last day of school before the approved holiday periods (Winter, Spring and Summer breaks)
- Schools must not issue end-of-year reports, graduation certificates, or any other end-of-year academic documents for any educational stage or grade level before the official end of the academic year.
- End-of-year certificates will be attested only after the academic year has concluded in line with the approved academic calendar.

KEY DATES FOR THE ACADEMIC YEAR 2026-2027

(Dates are subject to change in case of any government declared changes or other unavoidable circumstances)

31 August 2026	First Day of the Academic Year for ALL Students
12-18 October 2026	Mid-Term Break for ALL students
16 - 30 November 2026 7-9 December 2026	First Term Examinations for ALL students. These occur in parallel with regular lessons. (except on days with two exams)
14 December 2026- 03 January 2027	Winter Break for ALL students
15 March -02 April 2027	Mock Examinations for Years 11 and 13
22 March -02 April 2027	Mid-Term Assessments for Years 1-10 and 12
05-11 April 2027	Spring Break for ALL students
07-11 June 2027	Final Examinations Years 1-10 and 12 (In parallel with regular lessons)
14-29 June 2027	Final Examinations Years 1-10 and 12 (students return home at 11:45 am)
02 July 2027	Last Day of the Academic Year for students

KHDA ATTENDANCE MANDATES

At Saint Mary's, attendance and punctuality policies are explained through weekly circulars, newsletters, and student reports. We categorise attendance as per KHDA guidelines:

- Outstanding/Excellent: 98%
- Very Good: 96%
- Good: 94%
- Acceptable/Satisfactory: 92%
- Weak/Very Weak: Below 92%

Parents will receive a fully updated Attendance Policy at the start of the Academic Year 2026-2027.

Parents are requested to check the approved KHDA School Calendar for the Academic Year 2026-2027 that has been attached. This will help you plan.

Please note that only **emergency medical** (for the child in question and substantiated by an approved DHA/Medical certificate) / **bereavement** (of a close family member and substantiated by official documentation) leave will be approved during school days. This leave should be reasonable in nature and commensurate for the medical or bereavement situation. Leave for family holidays and celebrations must coincide with the school holidays as per the KHDA calendar. **Leave from school for events like, but not limited to graduations, weddings, parties, anniversary celebrations etc. will not be granted during school days and if absences like this occur during exams, there will be no re-exams in that case. We expect parents to respect these dates and not request leave during school days.**

INTERNATIONAL BENCHMARK TESTS FOR THE ACADEMIC YEAR 2026-2027

NGRT FORM A, B and C/ GL CAT4/ IBT ARABIC/ GL MATHS, ENGLISH AND SCIENCE

(Dates are subject to change in case of any government declared changes or other unavoidable circumstances)

17 September 2026	NGRT FORM A YEARS 7 AND 9
18 September 2026	NGRT FORM A YEARS 4 AND 10
21 September 2026	NGRT FORM A YEARS 5 AND 8
24 September 2026	NGRT FORM A YEARS 3 AND 6
28 September 2026	NGRT FORM A YEAR 2
01 October 2026	GL CAT-4 EXAMS YEAR 4
05 October 2026	GL CAT-4 EXAMS YEAR 8
08 October 2026	GL CAT-4 EXAMS YEAR 6
19 October 2026	GL CAT-4 EXAMS YEAR 10
16 November 2026	IBT ARABIC A YEARS 5-10

17 November 2026	IBT ARABIC B YEAR 5
18 November 2026	IBT ARABIC B YEARS 7 AND 9
19 January 2027	NGRT FORM B YEARS 3,7 AND 9
20 January 2027	NGRT FORM B YEARS 4 AND 10
21 January 2027	NGRT FORM B YEARS 5 AND 6
22 January 2027	NGRT FORM B YEAR 8
25 January 2027	NGRT FORM B YEAR 2
22 APRIL 2027	NGRT FORM C YEARS 3, 7 AND 9
23 APRIL 2027	NGRT FORM C YEAR 10
26 APRIL 2027	NGRT FORM C YEARS 4 AND 8
27 APRIL 2027	NGRT FORM B YEARS 2 AND 5
28 APRIL 2027	NGRT FORM C YEAR 6
24 MAY TO 11 JUNE 2027	GL EXAMINATIONS IN ENGLISH, MATHS AND SCIENCE -YEARS 4-10

OTHER IMPORTANT DATES FOR THE ACADEMIC YEAR 2026-2027

(Dates are subject to change in case of any government declared changes or other unavoidable circumstances)

03 September 2026	University Fair -Years 11-13 – Open to parents of students in these year groups as well.
22 September 2026	International University Fair - Years 11-13 – Open to parents of students in these year groups as well.
25 September 2026	Building Our Future Stars commences
03 November 2026	UAE FLAG DAY-Coloured Clothes Day in UAE Flag colours.
06 November 2026	Graduation Ceremony for the Class of 2026. Evening Ceremony -Parent and student event.
09-13 November 2026	Anti-Bullying Week

01 December 2026	National Day Assembly and Coloured Clothes Day-UAE Flag Colours and/or traditional clothes.
02-04 December 2026	National Day Holiday-Subject to Government declaration.
10 December 2026	Educational Outings – Years 1-6
07 January 2027	Field Trips-Years 1-4
14 January 2027	Field Trips-Years 7-11
19 January 2027	Sports Day -Years 5 and 6
20 January 2027	Sports Day-Years 7 and 8
21 January 2027	Sports Day-Years 9,10 and 11
22 January 2027	Sports Day-Years 12 and 13
04 February 2027	Sports Day Years 3 and 4
05 February 2027	Sports Day-Years 1 and 2
08-12 March 2027	Eid Al Fitr Holidays-Subject to Government Declaration
25 March 2027	Online School Day
26 March 2027	Online School Day
17 and 18 May	Eid Al Adha Holidays - Subject to Government Declaration
30 June 2027	Science Exhibition Primary and Re-examinations
01 July 2027	Science Exhibition Secondary and Re-examinations

Please note that some re-examinations towards promotions may even be scheduled earlier to not delay final results for students.

Yours sincerely,


Mr . Paul Asir Joseph
(Principal)



August 2026						
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
.	.	.	.	.	1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31	.	.	.	.	.	.

School Days: **1**

September 2026						
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
.	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	.	.	.	.
.	.	.	.	.	.	.

School Days: **22**

October 2026						
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
.	.	.	1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	.
.	.	.	.	.	.	.

School Days: **17**

November 2026						
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
.	.	.	.	.	.	1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	.	.	.	.	.	.

School Days: **21**

December 2026						
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
.	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31	.	.	.
.	.	.	.	.	.	.

School Days: **6**

January 2027						
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
.	.	.	.	1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
.	.	.	.	.	.	.

School Days: **20**

February 2027						
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
.	.	.	.	.	.	.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
.	.	.	.	.	.	.

School Days: **20**

March 2027						
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
.	.	.	.	.	.	.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31	.	.	.	.

School Days: **18**

April 2027						
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
.	.	.	1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	.	.
.	.	.	.	.	.	.

School Days: **17**

May 2027						
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
.	.	.	.	.	1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31	.	.	.	.	.	.

School Days: **19**

June 2027						
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
.	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	.	.	.	.
.	.	.	.	.	.	.

School Days: **22**

July 2027						
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
.	.	.	1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	.
.	.	.	.	.	.	.

School Days: **2**

		Total days
Academic Year (Total School Days) (Minimum days required to submit the calendar is 185)		185
The total number of days that students formally attend school and includes instructional days, examinations, academic and non-academic activities.		

Events descriptions				
Icon	Event/Definition	Academic / School Days?	Max. No of days	Mandatory/Optional
	Summer break Summer break for students	No	Range of days	*Mandatory for April start schools.
	Winter break Winter break for students	No	Range of days	*Mandatory.
	Spring break Spring break for students	No	Range of days	*Mandatory for Sept start schools
	First midterm break (MoE Schools) Summer break for students	No		Optional
	Second midterm break (MoE Schools) Summer break for students	No		Optional
	Third midterm break (MoE Schools) Summer break for students	No		Optional
	First midterm break Summer break for students	No		Optional
	Second midterm break Summer break for students	No		Optional
	First academic day for pre-primary students The first day of the academic year for pre-primary students (do not use after winter and spring breaks)	Yes	Start date (1 day)	Optional
	Last academic day for pre-primary students The last day of the academic year for pre-primary students (do not use before winter and spring breaks)	Yes	Last date (1 day)	Optional
	First academic day for students The first day of the academic year for students	Yes	Start date (1 day)	*Mandatory
	Last academic day for students The last day of the academic year for students	Yes	Last date (1 day)	*Mandatory
	First working day of the year for teachers The first day of the academic year for teachers	N/A	Start date (1 day)	*Mandatory
	Last working day of the year for teachers The last day of the academic year for teachers	N/A	Last date (1 day)	*Mandatory
	External examination days during which there is no formal teaching Examination/assessment days fixed by examination boards (for example, IGCSE, IB, CBSE, A-level etc.). Please specify the grade(s)/year(s)	Yes	Range of days	Optional, but Comment is mandatory to fill
	Internal examination days during which there is no formal teaching Examination/assessment days organized and conducted by the school. Please specify the grade(s)/year(s)	Yes	Range of days	Optional, but Comment is mandatory to fill
	Internal examinations occurring in parallel with regular classes A regular school day during which internal examination/assessment takes place. Please specify the grade(s)/year(s).	Yes	Range of days	Optional, but Comment is mandatory to fill
	External examinations occurring in parallel with regular classes A regular school day during which external examination/assessment takes place. (e.g. National Agenda assessments, ASSET, GL tests, MAP tests, IELTS etc.). Please specify the grade(s)/ year(s).	Yes	Range of days	Optional, but Comment is mandatory to fill
	Parent Teacher Conference Days for parent teacher meeting. Please specify the schedule and the grade(s)/year(s).	Yes	Range of days	Optional, but Comment is mandatory to fill
	Principal/ superintendent unavailability Days when the principal/superintendent of the school is unavailable for any reason (e.g., recruitment days, conferences, training, etc)	N/A	Range of days	Optional, but Comment is mandatory to fill
	Unavailability of any grade(s)/year(s) due to educational purposes for students Days when students are away on educational mission or field trips (Please specify the grade(s)/year(s) and the event). Kindly refer to KHDA guidelines for trips and events.	Yes	Range of days	Optional, but Comment is mandatory to fill
	Other school holidays Any other holiday (not public holiday) in which the school is off and/or students are not in school	No	Range of days	Optional
	Government holidays Any tentative public holiday whose exact dates will be announced by the government of the UAE. These holidays can be communicated to parents on a tentative basis in which the school is off, but must not be confirmed until officially declared by the UAE government.	No	Range of days	Optional
	Other events Any other events in school occurring in parallel with regular classes; such as celebrations, graduation of a phase, sport day etc. (Please specify)	Yes	Range of days	Optional, but Comment is mandatory to fill
	Professional Development (Students are in School) Days for continuous professional development and training for staff when students are in school	Yes	Range of days	Optional