

St Patrick's School Newsletter
Dear Families
Catholic Life: Lent

The word of the week:
'Forgiveness'

This week we have begun Lent - a very special and important time in the church. On Wednesday, we started our journey towards Easter with our Ash Wednesday liturgy, which was led by our Chaplaincy team. It is at this point that we are reminded that God's forgiveness and mercy is always there for us. The Ashes remind us that we can begin again and let go of the mistakes we have made. We have thought this week about what Lent will mean for us, what we will do and how we will experience God's mercy?



Mass on Tuesday was led by Fr Mark, supported by Y3 children. Y4 and Y6 were invited to attend and showed great respect in their buddy roles together.

We have been overwhelmed with the support given through the donations of food, toiletries and clothing to send to Ukraine. As a school, parish community we are keeping all those in need in our prayers.

Loving God,
We pray for the people of Ukraine,
for all those suffering or afraid,
that you will be close to them and protect them.

We pray for world leaders,
for compassion, strength and wisdom to guide their
choices.

We pray for the world
that in this moment of crisis,
we may reach out in solidarity
to our brothers and sisters in need.

May we walk in your ways
so that peace and justice
become a reality for the people of Ukraine
and for all the world.

Amen.

Upcoming events

Y6 children will be walking to St Patrick's Church on Tuesday to celebrate mass and begin our CAFOD 'Walk against hunger'.



Diary Dates

We are really pleased to be able to invite families back into school to attend community events. Please see the below list of events which are happening over the next few weeks.

Date	Event
Thursday 3 rd March	World Book Day - Children are welcome to dress up or attend school with a symbol of their favourite character or book
Monday 7 th March	After school celebration of learning where families are invited into classrooms at 3.30pm to look at their child's books
Thursday 17 th March	9am- St Patrick's Day whole school mass with parents and families welcome 2.15pm- Child led minimarket- families invited to attend
Friday 18 th March	8.30am- Y1 and Y2 Stay and Pray
Friday 25 th March	8.30am- Foundation Stage – Stay and Pray 2.45pm- Come and See Assembly- Y1,2 and 3 – Families invited to attend
Tuesday 29 th March	2.15pm- Whole school mass
Friday 1 st April	9am Stations of the cross – Y3,4,5 and 6 8.30am- Y1 and Y2- Stay and Pray

Stay and Pray- These sessions will give families the opportunity to bring their child into the classroom to complete early work, read a book or complete an activity before then joining the class for a short collective worship.



Come and see assembly – This assembly will give our children the chance to showcase the work which they have been doing across a range of curriculum areas.

World Book Day

Thursday saw the whole school come together to celebrate World Book Day. The children looked fantastic in their costumes and they had a fun filled day celebrating with lots of different activities. All class started the day with an assembly where our theme for the day was introduced, the book 'The Invisible String.' Classes then buddied up together to share stories. Each child made a heart to add to our book display in school based on our book. £1 book day tokens were handed out; these can be used at many shops or can be saved to use at our upcoming book fair.



Refurbishment of the Foundation Unit

St Patrick's Early Years Foundation Stage has been extremely fortunate to have had a considerable development over the past few weeks. A big thank you our Director of Estates at the Trust Dave Burrough, who has supported both through financial backing and through planning. Both Nursery and Reception have had all new furniture and the developments will continue over the rest of the year with the development of the outside area, decorating of the whole unit and the purchasing of new resources. We feel extremely fortunate to have been able to make these renovations and know that the children are already benefiting from the changes.

Redevelopment of the ELSA room

We are very thankful to our wonderful PTA who have funded the renovations of our 'Emotional Literacy Support' room. This room is now a warm, comfortable and inviting room where our ELSA and Child and Family support worker can meet with children and families. Our thanks also go to Mrs Stevenson who has planned and developed this room with the help of other staff and children within school.

Extra Curricula Activities

We still have places available on the below extra curricula activities. It would be wonderful to see more of our pupils join these clubs.

Day	Activity	Year groups	Payment
Monday	Art and Craft	Y1-Y6	4 weeks £3 per week £12 in total
Monday	Dance	Y1-Y6	4 weeks £3 per week £12 in total
Tuesday	Ball games	Y1-Y6	4 weeks £3 per week £12 in total
Thursday	Reading and writing	Y1-Y6	4 weeks £3 per week £12 in total
Thursday	ICT	Y1-Y6	4 weeks £3 per week £12 in total

We would like to say a very special welcome to our new Sports Apprentice Teaching assistant, Miss Francis. She will be supporting PE lessons across the whole of school, providing activities and games at lunch and break times and will also be running some of our after school clubs. The children have already made Miss Francis very welcome.

Foundation Governor Vacancy

We are looking to fill a foundation governor vacancy. This vacancy is for a practicing Catholic who would like to join the St Patrick's governing body. If you feel this is something that you would be interested in doing please contact the school office for a chat with either Mrs Smedley or Mrs Maria Keay (our Chair of Governors).

Attendance

We are so proud of the community and the way that you have all attended school as much as you can.

F2: 97.3%

Y1: 97.7%

Y2: 91.3%

Y3: 96.8%

Y4: 99%

Y5: 99%

Y6: 97%

Overall: 96.87%



Staffing news

We are delighted to offer our congratulations to Mrs Wightman and family, and Mrs Gripton and family, upon their very special news that they are both expecting a baby. Mrs Wightman is due to commence her maternity leave at the end of this term. I am sure you will join us in sending prayers and best wishes to both of them.

In prayer and partnership

Mrs J L Smedley

"Outstanding relationships exist between all members of the school community"

Denominational Inspection Report Dec 2013

