



St Patrick's School Newsletter: Friday 20th January 2023

Next week's Word of the Week is: Challenge

How often do we accept the challenges from God and follow Jesus? As Christians, we face many challenges along our faith journey and we can look to the inner strength that is given to us by God so that we are able to follow in the footsteps of Jesus. Think this week about the challenges you face and who you can ask for help.

This week we have focussed on the work 'Inspire'. We celebrated Martin Luther King day on Monday and explored how we can be inspired by his words and actions. In house teams, we started the school day in prayer during a celebration assembly, and then shared how we have lived out the mission which was set.

First Holy Communion

Please see the following information regarding the organisation of the First Holy Communion

Enrolment Mass at St Patrick's - Sunday 5th Feb - 11am

First Confession preparation sessions in school 3.20-4.20pm:

- Monday 6th Feb
- Monday 20th Feb
- **First Confessions - Monday 27th February 3.20-4.30pm (TBC in school/church)**

First Holy Communion preparation sessions:

- Monday 6th March
- Monday 13th March
- Monday 20th March
- Monday 27th March
- Monday 17th April
- **Sunday 23rd April - Preparation Mass 11am St. Patrick's Church**
- Monday 24th April
- **Sunday 14th May - Preparation Mass 11am St. Patrick's Church**
- Monday 15th May
- Monday 22nd May

Communion Practice - in Church - Monday 5th June Time TBC

First Communion Mass at St. Patrick's Church - Saturday 10th June - 10am

Communion Celebration Mass in school - Tue 13th June - 2.15pm



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Staffing

Industrial Action

On Wednesday, you should have received a second letter regarding the industrial action which is being taken by the NEU teaching union. Please make sure you read these letters carefully. As soon as we have any further information we will communicate this with you.

Unfortunately, Mrs Newton-Hewlett is still unable to be in school at present, if you have any SEND enquires please contact the school office FAO Mrs Smedley or via your class email address. We are very fortunate to offer continuity to our Foundation Stage pupils, with Mrs Bointon as class teacher and Mrs Robinson as teaching assistant in F2.



Every student. Every day.

Communication for Attendance

All absences need to be communicated in one of the following ways:

- a phone call to the school office (01623 478090)
- an email to the office email address
- via parentmail

Please do not email class email addresses for absences

Attendance

Reception	97.3%
Year 1	92.7%
Year 2	95.9%
Year 3	99.0%
Year 4	97.4%
Year 5	95.2%
Year 6	99.0%

A fantastic whole school effort!

Well done especially to **Y3 and Y6!**

Y5 Sports Young Leaders Training

On Thursday of last week some of our Year 5 pupils took part in sports leadership training which was facilitated by Nikki Biggs, who works for the Mansfield Sports Partnership. The children were taught vital skills of how to work as a team and how to support other pupils in games. We look forward to the children using these skills on the playground during the coming months. In addition to sports leader training, the Year 5 pupils also took part in 60 active minutes training.



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Upcoming Events

Workshops

Monday 23rd January - Phonics/writing workshop for Reception/Year 1 - 3.30pm Y1 classroom

Tuesday 24th January - Year 4 Timestable workshop - 3.30pm Y4 classroom

Stay and Play - EYFS

Tuesday 24th January

Friday 3rd February

The next PTA meeting is on Monday 23rd January. The PTA would warmly welcome any new members to their group. If you are unable to attend, please feel very welcome to email the school office with any social or fundraising suggestions.

Parents voice group - 31st January 9am - The focus for this session will be internet safety and social media.

Celebration of Learning

Parents evening

If you haven't already done so, please book your parents evening appointments via parentmail.

Parents evening for F1 - Y5 is Thursday 9th February from 3.30pm - 6pm and Y6 parents evening is **Tuesday 24th January 8.30am- 5.30pm.**

On the school calendar you will see that celebration assembly is a celebration of learning. This will give you the opportunity to sit with your child and share their learning so far this year. You will have the opportunity to look through your child's book with them.

Y1/2 celebration of Learning is 8th February at 2.30pm - Only the Ling Forest Road entrance gate will be opened.

Y3/4 Celebration of Learning is 1st February at 2.30pm - Only the Ling Forest Road gate will be opened

Y5 Celebration of learning is 3rd February at 2.30pm - Only the Ling forest Road entrance gate will be opened
Y6 pupils will be invited along to their parents evening to share their learning. This is to prepare the children for when they go to secondary school.

If you are not able to attend the Celebration of Learning but would like to your child to share their learning with you, please contact your child's class teacher.

Outside awards: We would like to encourage children in bring in outside awards on Friday to share their success with their class.

INSET DAY

There is an INSET day on **Friday 10th February**. School will be closed for all pupils.

Please find below the link for the parent school calendar

[Parent Calendar](#)



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NSPCC

As part of our RSHE and PSHE programmes, we will be sharing in the NSPCC's Speak Out Stay Safe programme from next week. This will include online assemblies in class, age-appropriately, followed by lessons and, for Y5&6, a workshop led by NSPCC volunteers.

For further information, please read the information below and feel free to contact Mrs Lund or any of the Senior Leadership Team if you have any questions.

RE: NSPCC's *Speak out. Stay safe. online programme*

I am pleased to tell you that this term we will be participating in the NSPCC's *Speak out. Stay safe. online* programme. This consists of an online assembly and supporting classroom based activities. *Speak out. Stay safe.* is a safeguarding programme available to all primary schools in the UK and Channel Islands. It aims to help children understand abuse in all its forms and to recognise the signs of abuse in a child friendly way. Children are taught to speak out if they are worried, either to a trusted adult or Childline.

In the online assembly, the *Speak out. Stay safe.* messages are delivered in a fun and interactive way with the help of their mascot Buddy as well as special guest appearances from Ant and Dec.

We have studied the content of the materials and are extremely confident that they are appropriate for primary-school-aged children. By the end of the programme, we're convinced children will feel empowered - knowing how they can speak out and stay safe.

If you would like to know more about the *Speak out. Stay safe.* programme you can find information on the NSPCC website www.nspcc.org.uk/speakout or I would be happy to discuss any questions that you may have.

Additional resources

Activities for children at home

Keep busy while learning about staying safe and speaking out with our at-home activities for primary school children. These are hosted on the NSPCC website www.nspcc.org.uk/activities.

Online safety hub

You may also like to visit the NSPCC [Online Safety Hub](http://www.nspcc.org.uk/online-safety) where you will find advice and information on a range of different online safety topics including gaming, social media, sharing nudes, parental controls and more.

You will also find online safety information for families of children with additional needs and disabilities. We have worked with Ambitious about Autism and parents and carers who have children with additional needs and disabilities to create activities to help talk about online safety which you can find at www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/online-safety-families-children-with-send.

Childline Under 12's Website

Childline also have a website with age appropriate advice for primary school children on topics such as bullying. It also has games and other interactive tools. Your child can visit it at www.childline.org.uk/kids. The Childline website has an accessibility tool too, you can find out about it by clicking on the accessibility link in the Get Support menu. Children can use it to:



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- Read the website out to them
- Change the text size and font
- Change webpages to just text only
- Add a mask or ruler to help them focus on just part of the page
- Magnify parts of the webpage
- Translate the website in to over 120 languages

Talking PANTS with your children

Talk PANTS is a simple conversation to help keep children safe from sexual abuse. From P through to S, each letter of PANTS provides a simple but important message that can help keep children safe. You can find out more and download the free resources at www.nspcc.org.uk/pants.

Penguin and Ladybird have partnered with the NSPCC to create a Pantosaurus book aimed at children aged 4 - 8. You can find copies of the new book on sale at <https://shop.nspcc.org.uk/> or in Matalan's selected stores. All profits from the sale of this book will support the NSPCC.

Support the NSPCC

You may be interested in the NSPCC's new selection of BUDDY goodies available from the NSPCC shop at <https://shop.nspcc.org.uk/collections/buddy> which make perfect gifts for children - and all profits go to help keep children safe.

If you'd like to know more about the NSPCC's work, or take a look at the wide range of information and advice which is available for parents and carers, please visit their website www.nspcc.org.uk/parents.

In partnership and prayer

Mrs J L Smedley



St Patrick's Catholic Primary School, A Voluntary Academy

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