



St Patrick's Catholic Primary Academy Newsletter February 24th

Word of the week

PRAYER

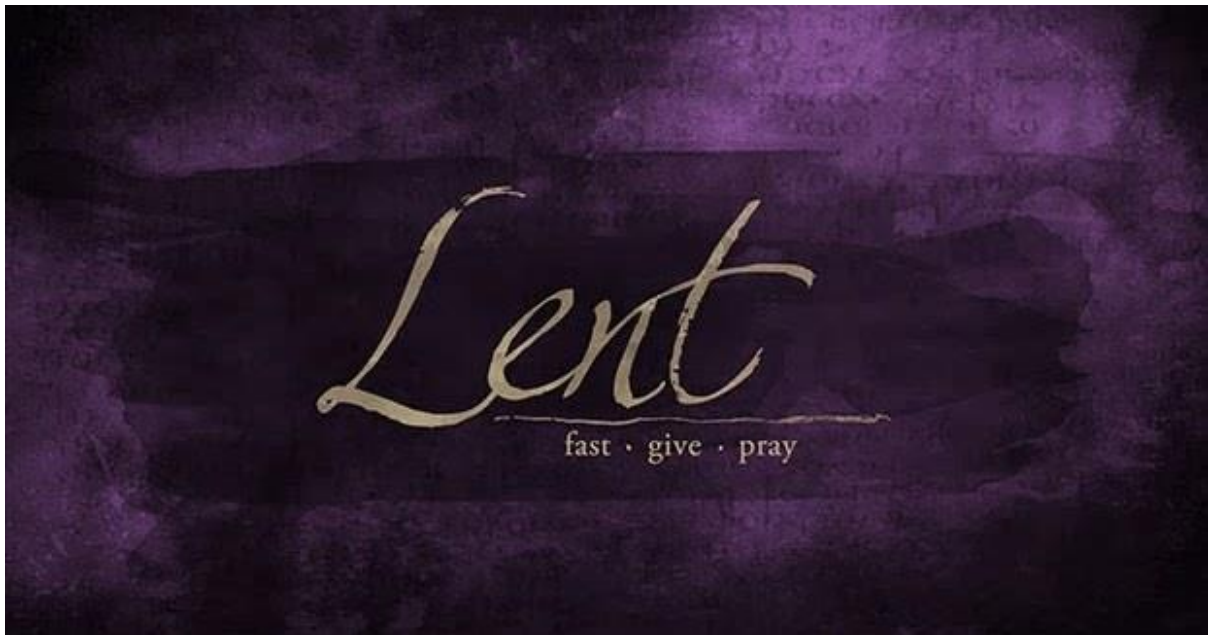


This week's work of the week has been forgiveness. We began this week with a collective worship which focussed upon how we can show forgiveness to others. On Wednesday, our chaplaincy team supported our Ash Wednesday service where we thought about what Jesus did for us during Lent.

Next week's work of the week is: Prayer

Prayer is something that can be really hard to understand, let alone do. Sometimes it comes naturally but usually its something we forget about and don't find time for. Prayer is simply a chat with God and you don't need to use the right words, you don't even need to use any words, you just need to put aside some time to be with God. It's amazing what a difference a few minutes a day can make - try to for yourself this week.

LENT



This Lent we are working as a school to raise money for CAFOD during CAFOD's big Lent walk and also for our house charities at our St Patrick's Mini Market.

We know you will join us in working together during lent to ensure that we support those in need through the three pillars of Lent: almsgiving, prayer and fasting.

Lenten Events in School

Week 1

Ash Wednesday Service – 22nd February – Beginning of Lent

Week 2

Opportunity for Confessions in school – Tuesday 28th February

Buddy Mass Y2/3 - Tuesday 28th February

CAFOD Assembly for all children in school – Thursday 2nd March

CAFOD Family Fast Day and Big Lent Walk- Friday 3rd March

Week 3

Buddy Mass Y4/5 – Tuesday 7th March

CAFOD workshops for all children in school- Thursday 9th March

Week 4

St Patrick's Day Mass – Friday 17th March 9am

St Patrick's Day Mini Market raising funds for house charities (Children only) – Friday 17th March

Week 5

Buddy Mass EYFS/Y1 – Tuesday 21st March

Whole school mass led by Y6 – Tuesday 28th March

Stations of the Cross – Friday 31st March 9am

First Holy Communion update



Due to clergy's commitments, the new date for this is Monday 6th March from 3.30pm to 4.20pm. Due to issues with the heating in church, Fr John has asked that this takes place in school.

The First Holy Communion session will continue whilst the children make their first confession individually. As always, you are very welcome to attend the sessions.

I would be grateful if you could spend time with your child looking over the work that was sent home with your child about this sacrament as this will really help in their preparation.

Attendance



Attendance Matters

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 parent mail

Please do not email class email addresses for absences

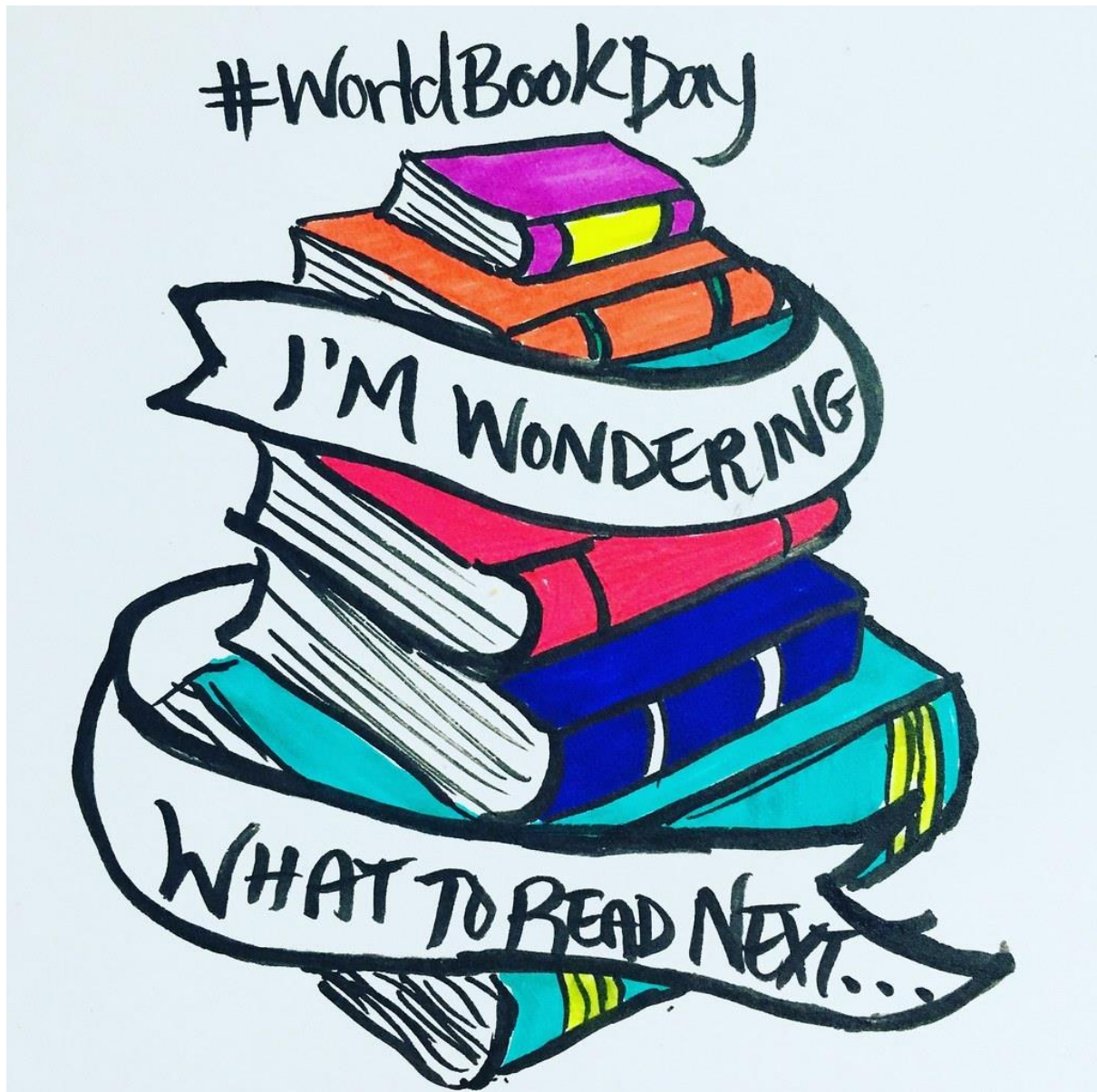
Reception 90.8 %

Year 1 90.8 %

Year 2 100 %

Year 3	95.8 %
Year 4	98.4 %
Year 5	100 %
Year 6	95.4 %

World Book Day



World book day is on Thursday 2nd March

On this day, children are invited to dress up as a character from a book. We know that dressing up is not something everyone likes to do and therefore it is not compulsory and children are more than welcome to wear their school uniform instead.

During the day, all children will gather together to read a whole school book followed by activities in class. There will be many opportunities for the children to listen to books being read, read aloud and also buddy read with children in their house teams.

To support the children's love of reading during the week of 13th March, the travelling book fayre will be in school. Further details will follow nearer the time

Swimming



Monday 27th February marks the start of swimming for this year.

Year 4 will have their block of swimming lessons to start. Mr Kitchinson who is a qualified swimming teacher, will accompany the Y4 pupils to the lessons.

Boys are to wear trunks or thigh or knee length swim shorts. They must be skin-tight (no flappy parts) with no pockets. Girls need to wear a normal one-piece swimsuit. For those with mid/long hair, a swim cap preferably should be worn, failing that, a tight bun on the top of the head with no hair dangling in the water. No earrings/jewellery.

The children will be going on the coach after morning break and returning in time for lunch. At this stage, the staff that are accompanying the children are: Mr Kitchinson (year 5 teacher), Miss Francis, and Mrs Kelly.

If the child wishes to use goggles, the consent form (which was previously sent) needs to be completed.

The changing rooms are single sex and there are private cubicles also available.

The children's abilities will be assessed and they will be placed into groups by fully trained swimming teachers by ability. At no time will the children be out of their depth if the teachers deem it not safe.

The abilities of the children is very broad (as always) so there is no need for any child to worry about their lack of experience.