



St Patrick's Catholic Primary Academy Newsletter 20th October 2023

Catholic Life

This week's word of the week was: **Respect**

On return from half term our word of the week is: **Change**

We can use our power to change the world for the better by standing up for what we believe in and working to make a difference. We can also use our power to change the world everyday by doing ordinary things with extraordinary love.

During this half term we have developed our sacred spaces inside and outside with the support of our Y4,5, and 6 chaplains and hub chaplain. Work is still in progress and we look forward to sharing these sacred spaces with you all very soon.

Our pupil involvement has further developed as we aim for all pupils to take an active part in the Catholic Life of the school. Our school choir is thriving and over the last couple of weeks, pupils in Y3-Y6 have actively participated in Mass and pupils in Y2, Y4 and Y6 have shared their very special RE topic as part of the Come and See assembly.

On Thursday, a group of Y5 pupils attended Lincoln Alive Church for the Trust Synod. This was planned to coincide with the Pope's synod. We look forward to implementing the work from this day during the next half term.



Cross Country

On Tuesday, 17 pupils from Y5/6 represented the school brilliantly in the Mansfield School's Cross country event at Manor Park. It was an absolute privilege to accompany this group with Mrs Hoskins and Mrs Brizzolara as they showed a fantastic team spirit, encouraging and supporting each other. Together, the girls team finished in overall 4th place with the boys team finishing in overall 2nd place with a few pupils also selected to represent Mansfield in the County finals. The team represented the qualities of our school magnificently, shining out in courage, perseverance and determination.

School Calendar

Please use the below link to access the school calendar.

[School Calendar](#)

Upcoming events for Parents/Carers:

Friday 20th October: Break up for half term

Return to school Monday 6th November 2023

Attendance

Thank you for everyone's wonderful efforts with your child's attendance. Here is the class attendance from 1st Sept- 19th Oct 2023:

F2: 96% Y4: 94.63%

Y1: 97.7% Y5: 95.3%

Y2: 95.3% Y6: 96.4%

Y3: 96.8%

To report your child's absence please can we ask that you email the school office on office@st-patricksrc.notts.sch.uk or ring school on 01623 478090.

It is fantastic to see how happy and eager our children are to start the school day, such a wonderful atmosphere. Again, we are so grateful for everyone's effort with punctuality as this really does help to settle your child into the school day.

Below is a table of how school absence could affect your pupil's ability to access the curriculum.

Above 97%	Above 97%. Less than 6 days' absence a year: Excellent attendance! Pupils with this attendance should have access to the majority of the taught curriculum.
95% and below	95%. Less than 10 days' absence in a year: Attendance needs to improve! Pupils with this attendance are likely to access the majority curriculum but will miss out on important educational experiences.
90%	90%. 19 days' absence over the year: Pupils with this attendance are missing <u>1 month</u> of school per year and will miss key curriculum areas; it will be difficult for them to achieve their best.
85%	85%. 29 days' absence in a year: These pupils are missing <u>6 weeks</u> of school per year, it will be very difficult for them to access the curriculum and achieve their best.
80% or below	80%. Pupils with this attendance are missing the equivalent of <u>1 day for every week</u> of school. It will be almost impossible to access all of the curriculum.

Admissions to secondary school

Year 6 Parents — Secondary Applications For parents of pupils in Year 6,

The time has arrived for you to begin the process of applying for a secondary school place. It is absolutely essential that all applications are made to your home Local Authority by the national closing date of Tuesday 31st October, 2023. Nottinghamshire applications can be made here.

Nottinghamshire County Council have produced this factsheet to make the process easier for you. For the overwhelming majority of you who will be applying for a place at All Saints', please note that you must complete a Supplementary Form from All Saints' as well as the Local Authority application form. Information on admissions to All Saints' can be found here:
<https://www.allsaints.notts.sch.uk/information/admissions/>.

If you are having any difficulties, please speak to a member of our office team, who will be only too happy to help. It is important to note that if a late application is made, then this will not be considered until all other applications have been allocated; this means you may not be allocated a place in your preferred choice of school.



PTA Dates for your diary

Our PTA are planning an exciting programme of community events throughout the school year to bring the community together and to raise funds for school. Details of the following events will follow shortly:

Thursday 16th and Friday 17th November- Toy and Book sale

Friday 1st December- Non uniform day- in exchange for a selection box

Friday 8th December- Christmas Market

Donations for class libraries



We are in the process of developing our classroom libraries to make them comfortable and inviting places to choose and read books. We would appreciate any donations of rugs, cushions or beans which would enhance these areas.

LOL 'Little Acts of kindness Fund'

Little Acts of Kindness In order to support our families with the rise in the cost of living, the Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Multi-Academy Trust has a 'Little Acts of Kindness Fund' to offer financial support for all registered pupils who attend a Trust school. The Fund supplements families who need support in paying for: ☐ Curriculum trips and residential visits; ☐ Other educational visits and trips;

- School uniform, shoes or sports/PE kit;
- School meals;
- Educational equipment;
- Travel to and from school;

Please note that all payments are discretionary and if awarded, do not need to be repaid. Pupils may be eligible for grants from the fund if: household income is below £25,000; a pupil whose parents are currently claiming other means-tested benefits including: Income Support, Working Tax Credit/ Child Tax Credit, Income Based Employment and Support Allowance (ESA), Universal Credit – who is not entitled to free school meals; or at the decision of the Headteacher or the Trust's Head of Finance,

any pupil who does not fall under the categories listed above, but consider themselves to be in financial hardship. Further details of the Little Acts of Kindness Fund can be found [here](#) along with the Application Form which can be downloaded to apply.

The Lime Trees Wraparound Care Information

Thank you to everyone who has expressed an interest in having access to a breakfast and afterschool club. Due to unforeseen circumstances, outside of our control, we have been informed that the earliest possible opening is January 2024. We appreciate that this may be inconvenient, however we are very much endeavouring to get the provision in place.

Inspire Libraries Maths development

Inspire Libraries have an exciting opportunity taking place at St Patrick's in January. They are offering a free course for parents/carers on how to support Key Stage 2 Maths. This programme will start on Friday 10th January between 1-3pm, in time for school collection. The course runs for 5 weeks. Even if your child/children are in EYFS/KS1, we believe this will really benefit your children when they start Key Stage 2.

There is a minimum amount of people needed for the course, so it is important to let us know if this is something you would be interested in by 7th November 2023, so we are able to run the course. You can do this by emailing Mrs Lowe on year1@st-patricksrc.notts.sch.uk.

For all the wonderful ways in which you have given so generously to the school community, we say a very heartfelt thank you.

Wishing you all a very happy half term break.

In partnership and prayer

Mrs J L Smedley