



St Patrick's Catholic Primary Academy Newsletter January 19th 2024

Catholic Life and Mission

The new school term has started really well and children are showing a most dedicated approach towards their learning. Please can we ask for everyone's support in sending their child to school as much as possible so that they can fully access all the many learning and enrichment opportunities. Our school follows the Trust's Attendance policy which can be found via this link:

[Attendance Policy](#)

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

Next week's word of the week is: **Scripture**

Scripture is the Word of God. It is a collection of sacred writings that tell the story of God's love for humanity. As we read scripture, we learn about God's plan for our lives, and we are inspired to live a life of faith. Scripture can also be a source of comfort and guidance in difficult times and speaks to us throughout our lives.

Find a passage from the Gospels that you've not read before - reflection what it might mean to you.

First Holy Communion

First Holy Communion this year will take place on Saturday at 10am. If your child is in Year 3 or above and has been baptised Catholic and you would like them to take part in the First Holy Communion Programme, please complete the enrolment form which was sent via Arbor and return this to the school office by Friday 26th January 2024.

Sports Festivals

This week, the children at our school had the opportunity to participate in two exciting sports festivals. Children from Year 2 took part in a Cricket Festival, while Year 5 and 6 children showcased their skills at a Basketball Festival. Both events proved to be immensely enjoyable and highlighted the students' teamwork abilities, whilst giving them an opportunity to enhance their skills with the expert coaches guiding them and providing invaluable advice. The enjoyment and enthusiasm displayed by the children was great to see, and it is wonderful to witness the positive impact of such activities on their personal growth.

Marking and Feedback Policy Update

Please find below the link to the updated marking and feedback policy. This policy has been written in consultation with the Our Lady of Lourdes Trust and has been agreed by the school governors.

[Marking and Feedback Policy](#)

School Calendar

Please use the below link to access the school calendar.

[School Calendar](#)

Upcoming events

9th February - Inset Day

Residential

Year 4 - The Mill - 7th - 8th May 2024

Year 5 - Hathersage - 25th - 27th March 2024

Year 6 - The Briars - 8th- 10th July 2024

You should have now received information regarding the residential for your child. If you have any questions please contact your child's class teacher.

Home School Agreement

Please can we encourage all parents and carers to read and consent to the home school agreement.

Use the below link for the trust home school agreement.

[Home school agreement](#)

Please talk to your child about this and then complete the consent form on Arbor. We would like to bring to your attention a particular aspect of the home school agreement which is the use of social media.

Year 3 Bikeability

Year 3 will be completing their Level 1 bikeability certificate February 7th 2024. If you would like your child to complete this then please make sure the permission slip is returned as soon as possible.

Capital Projects update

Thank you to everyone's patience and understanding regarding the current works to improve our playground and staging projects. Both of these works are nearing completion and will really enhance our enrichment provision for all our children.

Playground

Works have continued this week to improve our playground provision. This includes the demolition of the large apparatus which is then being replaced with new apparatus including outdoor gym equipment.

The site is cordoned off for safety and we ask that children are kept away from the area at all times.

Foundation Stage playground

Works to further improve this area will start during the February half term.

Sensory Room

Renovations have been completed for this and we are just waiting for the equipment to arrive and be installed.

Staff room

Our staff room has undergone a refreshing makeover to support the well being of staff.

Stage

Works include development of the curtains, lighting and sound system which will provide pupils with the very latest technology to support our focus on The Arts. This project will be completed by the end of next week.

Reception area

Works will commence in the near future to move the current office to the back entrance of school to improve this area of school provision.

Please accept my sincere apologies for any inconvenience caused during these works. I am very grateful for the Trust's ambition and support which has enabled these projects to take place. Our school community will benefit in so many valuable ways.

Attendance

Thank you for everyone's continued efforts with your child's attendance. Here is the class attendance from 1st Sept- 12th January 2024: Thank you for everyone's efforts!

F2: 94% Y4: 95%

Y1: 95% Y5: 95%
Y2: 95% Y6: 97%
Y3: 96% Total: 95.3%

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.

Please see the NHS Guidance for the latest advice regarding sending your child to school with the following medical conditions: <https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>

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.

School breaks for the half term break on Thursday 8th February with Friday 9th February being an INSET. School reopens on Monday 19th February.

Thank you for your continued support

In partnership and prayer

Mrs J L Smedley