



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

Catholic Life and Mission



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

St. Patrick's community spirit has shone so very brightly in so many beautiful ways during Advent and your children have truly lived out their Advent missions in their prayers, contributions and actions. We thank you all for your incredible attendance, support and partnership with our Advent offerings. Our community has truly journeyed together during Advent.

As we approach Jesus' coming, we do so in hope and love. We wish everyone a most holy and peaceful Christmas.

We would also like to offer thanks to everyone involved in the life of the school and to all those who have supported us in any way, sharing their gifts and talents in such a special way during Advent. This message of sincere thanks extends to all who volunteer; including our dedicated governing body, hardworking PTA and reading volunteers.

My grateful thanks to the teaching and non-teaching staff, whose efforts and commitment in nurturing the gifts and talents of every individual child is just admirable. Thank you too yourselves for all the support you give our staff teams.

We are also so blessed and thankful to have the spiritual support of Canon John, Father Liam and Sister Susan as well as our Hub Chaplains, Clare Lund and Luke Potter; our school community has benefitted immensely from their guidance.

Shining our Lights brightly in Advent 2024!

During the last couple of weeks of Advent, our children have fully lived out their Advent missions; including:

F1 Nativity: The Nursery Rhyme Nativity

Well done to our youngest children and their staff in retelling this very special story alongside their families who also enjoyed spending time in the Foundation unit afterwards with their child reading books, completing crafts and enjoying a biscuit!

F2, Y1 and Y2 Nativity: Jesus in the Manger

We are so very proud of the very special ways in which our children have retold the Christmas Story so very beautifully. Through song, word and action, the true meaning of Advent and Christmas has been revealed. Thank you so much to all the children and their staff for all their star efforts and hard work.

Supporting others in Need

As a Catholic school, it is our Christian duty to reach out to others, as John's Gospel reminds us: "This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you."

Thank you to a group of Y4 for organising and coordinating this year's shoe box appeal; a fantastic community effort so well done to all involved in this most valuable project.

Christmas Lunch and PTA Christmas Market

Our very grateful thanks to our wonderful kitchen team, Mrs Miller, Mrs Crutchley and Mrs Smith for cooking up a very tasty Christmas lunch. Our children enjoyed eating together in their house teams whilst also involved in a range of Christmas crafts.

We were then so amazed by everyone's contributions efforts with the **Christmas raffle and Market** with over £700 raised for school funds; monies to be spent on bibles, books and a Christmas party treat. We would also like to thank the PTA and our staff for all their time and efforts with the Christmas disco as a great festive time was had by all!

School choir

With over 50 members; our school choir have truly shone out in sharing their singing gifts with all in our school community during Advent. This has included performances before Nativities and performing at Berry Hill Care Home where residents also received handmade Christmas cards. Our Y3/4 pupils also took part superbly well in the Carol Concert at St Philip's Neri's Church. Thank you so much to our Music Leader, Mrs Gripton and to all staff and families

Whole School Mass and Penitential Services/Confession

Our thanks to our Y4, Y5 and Y6 Chaplaincy teams for preparing and leading the penitential services and Advent Mass so beautifully this week. Our grateful thanks also to Father Liam and Canon John for celebrating Mass with us and facilitating the Sacrament of Confession.

Next week's word of the week is: Love

In the season of Advent, we are reminded of the great love that God has for us and the love we should have for each other. We know that Jesus Christ is the true example of love, and we celebrate this gift of love at Christmas time.

Think of someone who you love this week and make an effort to show and tell them that you love them.

Carol Concert

Thank you in advance to our Y6 for leading our Carol Concert on Friday at 9am and to all who contributed to make this event such a special community event.

We return to school on Monday 6th January, we will be celebrating the feast of 'The Epiphany'.

When we return from the Christmas break the word of the week will be: Epiphany

Epiphany celebrates the revelation of Jesus Christ to the world. It is a time to reflect on the mystery of Christ's birth and to renew our commitment to following him. For us, Epiphany is

a time to recognise that Christ came for everyone and we see this reflected in the visit of the Magi and the gifts that they brought. What is a gift that you can give to others?

Think of a way to share your gift with your community.

Christmas Masses

Sunday 22nd December

11am Mass - St Patrick's (Children mass - Children can come dressed up in Nativity costume)
If any children would like to do a reading; please arrive at church at 10.45am where parishioners will be there to allocate parts.

Christmas Eve - Tuesday 24th December

5 pm - St Philip Neri, Mansfield (Children mass, children may be dressed as angels/shepherds)

5pm - St Joseph's, Shirebrook (Children's mass, children may be dressed as angels/shepherds)

7.30pm - St Teresa's, Warsop

11.00pm - St Philip Neri, Mansfield (Carols and readings from 10.30pm)

Christmas day - Wednesday 25th December

10am - St Philip Neri, Mansfield

10am - St Patrick's, Forest Town

Attendance

Thank you for everyone's wonderful continued efforts with your child's attendance this term.

F2: 92% Y4: 96.4%

Y1: 96% Y5: 96.2%

Y2: 96% Y6: 95%

Y3: 96.5% Total: 95.8%

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.

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.

Admissions - Apply for a Reception place for September 2025

First Admissions to Primary School September 2025

Please see the admissions information below regarding applying for a place in school for September 2025.

Applying for a place in school for an F2 place.

If you live in Nottinghamshire and **require a school place for your child in September 2025**, you will be contacted by Nottinghamshire County Council with further information and their Admissions form which must be completed so an F2 place can be allocated.

If you do not receive any information from Nottinghamshire County Council, please call the Admissions Team on this number: 0300 500 8080.

If you are applying on faith grounds you will also need to complete our supplementary form which is available from the school office or via school website.

An allocation of a place in Nursery does not grant a place in Main School.

All applications must be made via Nottinghamshire County Council.

First admissions dates to remember:

Children starting school for the first time. Relevant age group: Reception: children born between 01 September 2020 and 31 August 2021

National open date for applications: 4th November 2024

National closing date for applications: 15th January 2025

It is extremely important that you complete your application on time.

Applications received after the closing date will be ranked and considered as late applications.

Please use this link for the parents' guide to admissions:

[admissions to schools: guide for parents \[PDF\]](#)

Extra Curricula Clubs - January 2025

Extra Curricular Clubs: We are pleased to share that the following clubs will run for the first half of the Spring term

Monday: Mansfield town football club Y2-Y6

Wednesday: Multi skills club Y1 - Y6

These are all bookable via Arbor.

Limetrees Wraparound Provision

Subject: Claim Your Free Taster Session - The Lime Trees Breakfast & After-School Clubs!

Dear Parent/Guardian,

We are excited to share an amazing opportunity from The Lime Trees, who provide high-quality Breakfast and After-School Clubs designed to support families just like yours.

They are offering [30 FREE taster sessions](#) to introduce their Breakfast and Afterschool clubs to our school community!

At Lime Trees, children are offered more than just care before and after school – they enjoy a space where they can grow, learn, and have fun. The clubs are designed to complement your child's school day, with activities that support their development, healthy meals, and a safe, friendly environment.

Why are these taster sessions being offered?

These free sessions will give you and your child firsthand experience of how The Lime Trees can enhance your child's daily routine, whether through a productive start to their day at the Breakfast Club or a relaxing, enriching end to their day at the After-School Club.

How to Claim Your Free Taster Session:

- Register your interest using the link below, please select our school name from the drop down list.
- The first 30 families to register will receive a special code to book their free session.

- Free sessions must be used between 1st December and 31st January.

If you do not hear back from The Lime Trees by the 20th December, it means all 30 slots have been filled.

Be sure to register early to secure your child's FREE taster session!

Form Link - <https://keap.app/contact-us/1442578764257857>

Best regards,

St Patrick's on behalf of The Lime Trees

On behalf of the school community, we wish you all a very happy and holy Christmas and a peaceful new year.

In prayer and partnership,

Mrs J Smedley

Head teacher