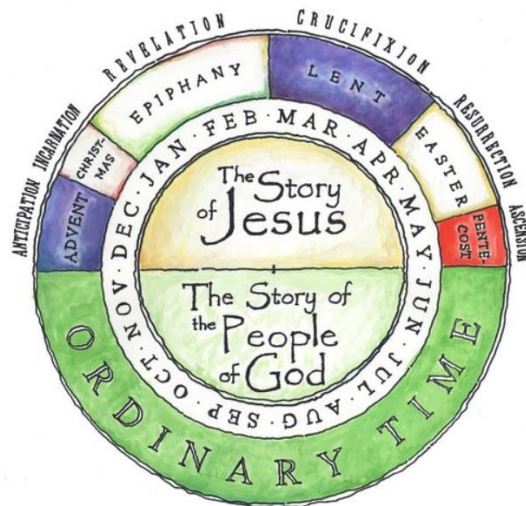






St Patrick's Catholic Primary Academy Newsletter: Thursday 13th February 2025

Catholic Life and Mission



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

First week back after half term word of the week is: **Belonging**

Belonging is a feeling of being accepted and valued. When we belong to a community, we know that we are not alone. Belonging is about being part of something bigger than ourselves, making a positive contribution and loving and supporting others.

This week's Mission being set for all in our community: Think about someone who's new to your community. Spend some time this week to get to know them better.

Catholic Life of the School

As we come to the end of this half term, we thank God for all the wonderful praying, learning and playing opportunities that He has given us. Our children have participated beautifully in their ministries, with our Chaplaincy teams flourishing, pupil leadership further developing and the school choir growing from strength to strength; just a few of the many ways in which pupils are actively participating in the Catholic life of the school. Thank you everyone for living out the school's mission so well.

St Patrick's Church Liturgy group

Children's liturgy group returned last Sunday during 11am mass at St Patrick's church and runs weekly. The group will not run during the Summer holidays. Parents will need to complete a short consent form before their child can attend, these will be available on Sunday. Children under 5 must be accompanied by an adult. If any parents would like to support with Children's liturgy group, please let the Liturgy leaders know.

First Holy Communion programme

Last Sunday, children from the First Holy Communion programme participated in their enrolment Mass at St Patrick's Church. Your prayers and thoughts for the group are very much appreciated as they journey along in faith during their sacramental journey, with their catechists Chaplains Luke and Clare and supported by staff from school.

Come and see assembly

Last Friday was the turn of children in Y1-Y3 to illustrate, present and share their beautiful RE work in the Come and See Assembly.

Mass in school

Thank you to the class teams of **Y2, Y4 and Y5** for their recent Mass in school.

Our next Mass in school: Tuesday 28th February @9am - This is for F2, Y1, Y3 and Y6.

You are all very welcome to attend our school Masses which take place at 9am on: Tuesday 25th Feb, Tuesday 29th April, Tuesday 13th May, Tuesday 3rd June, Tuesday 10th June, Tuesday 24th June, Tuesday 1st July and Tuesday 22nd July.

St Patrick's Mass and Market

We warmly invite you to celebrate with us St Patrick's day in our whole school Mass at 9am. This will be followed by a performance by the school choir and mini-market starting at 1.45pm.

Y3 Trips

Our Y3 children have enjoyed extending their learning at Sheffield Manor Lodge where they worked brilliantly as a team.

This class also journeyed as pilgrims in discovering all the various parts of St Philip's Church alongside classes from the All Saints feeder schools during this Catholic Jubilee Year of Hope. The pilgrimage included reflecting on the Stations of the Cross, learning more about St. Philip Neri, lighting a votive candle, creating a prayer of hope and learning more about the side chapels of the church.

Children's Mental Health week

Children's Mental Health Week

This week is Place2Be's Children's Mental HealthWeek. This year's theme was Know Yourself, Grow Yourself. Many thanks to our Wellbeing Ambassadors, led by Mrs Lowe, our well being coordinator who organised an informative assembly and a range of wellbeing activities to promote mental health.

NottAlone: it's OK to feel not OK, NottAlone service offered by Nottinghamshire County Council. If you or anyone you know needs advice and support, NottAlone is a really good starting point. .This comprehensive website provides local mental health advice, covering a range of areas from self-harm, to family separation, suicidal thoughts or worries about gangs/gang culture. Support is available for adults and children alike so please do click here to find out more <https://nottalone.org.uk/>

Parents evening and SEND reviews

Many thanks for the support we have received from yourselves during the recent parents evening and SEN reviews. We have had an overwhelming majority of attendance. As always, please feel most welcome to contact your child class teacher(s) should you wish to discuss any aspect of your child's education in more detail.

Calendar

The school calendar has been updated for your information.

Please use the link for the term dates for the year 2025/2026 and 2026/2027 - [Term dates](#)

Lent Term 2

Week: 24. 02.25

Word of the week – Belonging

Tuesday 25th Feb – Mass @9am F2,Y1,Y3 and Y6 (Parents welcome)

Friday 28th Feb – Y5 Residential meeting @ 3pm

Week: 03.03.25

Word of the week –Temperance

Wed 5th March – Ash Wednesday – Beginning of Lent

Thurs 6th March – World book day

Friday 7th March – Come and see assembly, Y4, Y5 and Y6 @2.30pm (Parents welcome)

Week 10.03.25

Word of the week – 1st Week of Lent – Prayer

Book Fair in school – all week

Monday 10th March – Celebration of the word @9am – Y1/2 (Parents welcome)

Wed 12th March - Non uniform day in exchange for Easter egg

Friday 14th March – Celebration of the word @9am – F1/F2 (Parents welcome)

Week: 17.03.25

Word of the week – 2nd Week of Lent - Fasting

Monday 17th March – St Patrick’s Day mass @9am (parents welcome)

Monday 17th March – St Patrick’s day mini market (children only)

Thurs 20th and 21st March – Y5 Residential

Week: 24.03.25

Word of the week – 3rd Week of Lent – Almsgiving

Mon 24th March – Celebration of the word @9am – Y3/4 (parents welcome)

Monday 24th – Thursday 27th – Y6 Bikeability

Monday 24th March – Y1 trip to Bestwood

Thurs 27th March – Y2 Trip to Bestwood

Week: 31.03.25

Word of the week - 4th Week of Lent – Sacrifice

Mon 31st March – Celebration of the word @9am – Y5/6 (parents welcome)

Mon 31st March - Y4 trip to Bestwood lodge

Tues 1st April – Y4 Bikeability

Wed 2nd April – Y3 Bikeability

Thurs 3rd April – ‘The Donkey Story’ – F2 and KS1 (Parents welcome)

Friday 4th April – Stations of the cross – KS2 - @9am (Parents welcome)

Fri 4th April – School closes for Easter

Easter holidays – 7th April to 21st April

Return to school 22nd April

Attendance

We send out a huge thank you for everyone's wonderful continued efforts with your child's attendance. At the mid-point of the school year, the overall total for attendance is **96.1%** which is a fantastic achievement. We are so proud of all our children who attend school as much as they are able and would like to also thank yourselves for your support.

F2: 94.3% Y4: 96.9%

Y1: 96.8 % Y5: 96.1%

Y2: 96% Y6: 95.5%

Y3: 96.5% Total: 96.1%

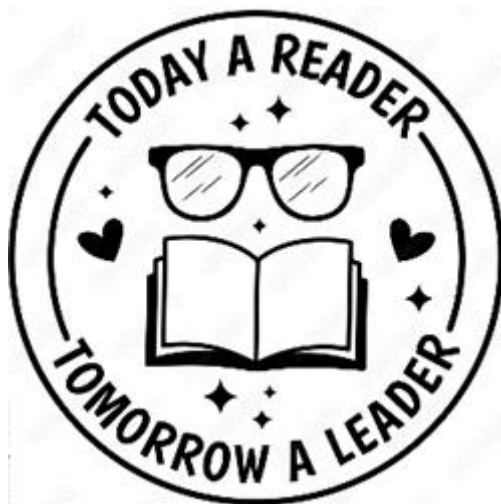
To report your child's absence please can we ask that you email the school office on office@st-patricksrc.notts.sch.uk or ring school on 01623 478090 on each day that your child is absent.

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.

Reading at home



At St Patrick's, we have high expectations for reading as we know that research shows pupils who read for pleasure have a higher academic success across the curriculum.

We also know that the more fluently a child can read the more pleasure it is for them to read. The only way to improve reading is through consistent practice.

Our expectations

At St Patrick's we expect all children to read 4 times a week (in addition to the reading they do at school); however, we always strive for all children to be reading for 20 minutes daily at home.

Recording and monitoring reading

Children must record all reading in their reading diary, which should travel to and from school daily (or as directed by your child's class teacher). We ask that children in KS1 have all reading signed off by an adult (including the date, book title and a comment). We encourage KS2 children to do this independently, but we kindly ask for your support and monitoring of this at home. A member of staff will check reading diaries every Monday. It is important that we can monitor reading, so if your child does not have their reading diary in school every day or does not record reading regularly, the class teacher may be in touch to find ways to support with this.

Rewarding reading

- If your child has read 4 times in the week and recorded it in their reading diary, they will receive a sticker to go on their bookmark, as well as a golden ticket to go on the class recognition board.
- For every 3 stickers they receive (a full row on the bookmark) they will choose a prize from the class Reading Wow Box.

- When a full bookmark is complete, children will receive a reading badge to wear on their tie as well as a reading certificate

World Book Day

Thursday 6th March is World Book Day. We invite the children to dress up as 'Bedtime Stories'. This can be a costume based on their favourite story or pyjamas. or bringing in a storybook, whatever your child prefers. If your child/children bring in a book to share with their friends, we ask that their name is written in the book. The children will be working hard retelling or writing about their favourite class stories.

We also have the book fair visiting the school from 11th March to the 14th March- this will be open after school and payments to be made via the QR code or cash available on the day.

Half term holiday

On behalf of the school community, may we wish you a very happy half term holiday.

School closes on Thursday 13th February due to the INSET on Friday 14th February.

School re-opens on Monday 24th February.

In prayer and partnership,

Mrs J Smedley

Head teacher