



St Patrick's Catholic Primary Academy Newsletter: Friday 14th March

Catholic Life and Mission





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

Next week second week of LENT: **Fasting**

Fasting is a way of showing self-discipline and of focusing on our relationship with God. Fasting can also be a way of expressing solidarity with those who are less fortunate. Fasting is an important part of Lent, as it allows us to follow the example of Jesus in the desert, and to grow in our compassion for others.

Mission

What can you go without this Lent? Think of something that you can give up to leave more time and space for what's important.

First Confession

Well done to our First Holy Communion children who made their first confession on Monday. A big thank to Fr John and Fr Liam for supporting our pupils with this sacrament. The children were very reverent in their attitude and responses. All children will take part in penitential services during Lent.

Almsgiving: giving to Charity

Almsgiving is one of the pillars of Lent. A time for giving towards those in need as part of our commitment towards looking after all in God's beautiful world.

Non- Uniform Day.

Thank you for all the donations of Easter eggs on our Non- Uniform day on Wednesday. We were overwhelmed with the amount of eggs sent in and are looking forward to our St Patrick's mini market on Monday where they will be used as part of the tombola.

The Big Lent Walk

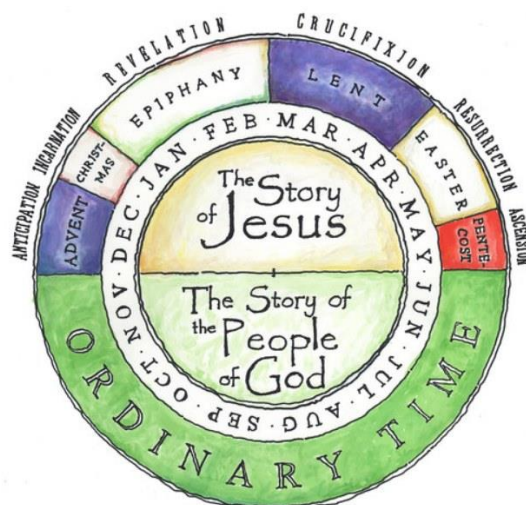
As we support our Global neighbours, our school is taking part in CAFOD's Big Lent Walk. These walks will take place throughout Lent as children walk as 'Pilgrims of Hope' in and around school. Your child will bring home a sponsor form and any monies raised for this charity will be gratefully received.

St Patrick's Church Liturgy group

Everyone is very welcome to attend the liturgy group during the 11am Sunday Mass at St Patrick's Church so please feel very welcome to bring your child. The group follows the Diocesan Word of the week which is then followed up throughout the school week; providing a most valuable link to home-school and church.

St Patrick's Day

We are very much looking forward to celebrating St Patrick's Day on 17th March with a whole school Mass at 9am led by St Patrick's House group followed by a retreat. You are warmly invited to attend the Mass as well as the afternoon festivities. **This begins at 1.45pm** with a performance from the school choir followed by a St Patrick's fayre in which children and classes are invited to organise and run stalls. Children from Y3-Y6 are also welcome to bring in offerings from home for the market. All proceeds from the market will go into school funds with a contribution also made to CAFOD. If any adult is able to help out at the market, please contact school as this will be much appreciated. School uniform will be worn during this day with symbols of green warmly encouraged.



Journey Through Lent



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 (parents welcome)

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)

Thursday 3rd April- F1 Easter crafts @ 9am (parents welcome)

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)

Thurs 3rd April – ‘The Donkey Easter Story’ – F2 and KS1- @ 2.30pm (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

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](#)

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 (parents welcome)

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)

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Attendance

We send out a huge thank you for everyone's wonderful continued efforts with your child's attendance.

Current Whole school attendance is:

F2: 94.8% Y4: 97%

Y1: 96% Y5: 95.6%

Y2: 96% Y6: 95.8%

Y3: 96.7%

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.

Y5 Sports Leaders

Thank you to Nikki Biggs from the Mansfield Sports Partnership for working with a group of Y5 pupils on Wednesday afternoon. She has supported a group of pupils to become sports leaders. During the afternoon, the pupils learnt leadership skills alongside being able to plan

activities which can be used to engage children during dinner times. We are now looking forward to putting a timetable in place for these leaders to support dinner time activities throughout the week.

Y5 Hathersage Residential Visit

Next week, our Y5's will be going on residential to Hathersage. We wish them a wonderful learning experience together.

Road Safety Update

The roads around school, continue to be very busy. We are reminding children during school time about the importance of making sure they are being very careful when crossing the roads. We would like to remind parents that you should not be parking on the yellow crossings near the school gates or overtaking queuing vehicles. Please could you reinforce the key messages of road safety with your child. The safety of everyone is of paramount importance and we respectfully ask for your support.

Book Fair

Thank you for another successful book fair this week, we really appreciate all the money raised and we look forward to sharing the new books received for the school with each class. Thank you to Mrs Lowe, our Reading leader, for all her hard work in organising the book fair to celebrate pleasure for reading.

In prayer and partnership,

Mrs J Smedley

Head teacher