

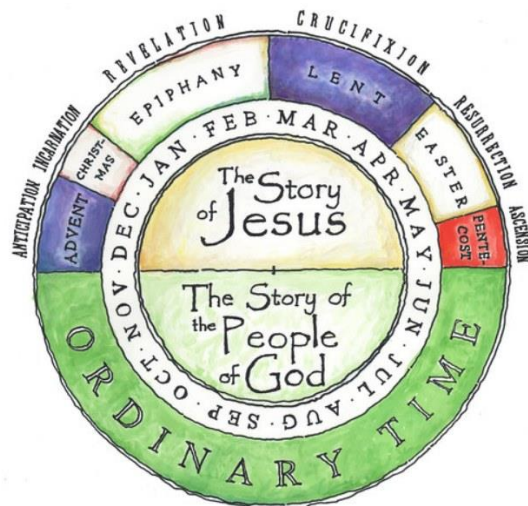




St Patrick's Catholic Primary Academy

Newsletter: Friday 28th February

Catholic Life and Mission



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

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

Temperance is about finding balance in our lives, enjoying God's gifts in moderation and avoiding excess. It's about self-control, discipline, and making choices that honour our bodies and souls. Temperance isn't about deprivation; it's about freedom from the things that hold us back from living a full and joyful life in Christ. When we practice temperance, we cultivate a deeper relationship with God and discover true happiness.

Mission

When you face a difficult situation this week, stop, take some time, and pray about what the right decision might be.

Pope Francis

As a diocese we continue to pray for Pope Francis who, at the time of writing, remains in a stable but critical condition at the Gemelli Hospital in Rome. On Monday, the Vatican announced that a daily evening Rosary will be prayed in St Peter's Square at 9.00pm local time, (8.00pm GMT) for the Holy Father's intentions. Our school is including prayers for Pope Francis in our daily acts of worship/celebrations of the word.

Nottingham Light Night

Friday 28 February and Saturday 1 March 2025 (5pm to 10pm)

This is a great opportunity to introduce (or re-introduce) your children to our Cathedral in a fun and imaginative way. The Cathedral is delighted to once again be part of Nottingham City's annual Light Night trail, during which its magnificent gothic architecture will be brightly illuminated.

You may be aware that the Cathedral has applied for a grant from the National Lottery Heritage Fund which, if successful, will support work to restore the glory of the original Pugin décor. So, in addition to the spectacular colour-washed scenes previously displayed, they plan to feature a light-based reflection of one of Pugin's original 'trademark' styles; star-lit ceilings. We understand most visitors complete a tour within 15 minutes, but others will stay a while to enjoy the choir and organ recitals. Last year, 4,000 visitors were welcomed across the two nights, including many children and families. The Boys' and Girls' choirs will be performing on Saturday, between 6.00 and 7.00pm. All are welcome to this free event – with many other organisations participating across the city, it may be worth a trip!

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.

Come and See Assembly

You are warmly invited to attend the Y4, Y5 and Y6 Come and See Assembly next Friday at 2.30pm as pupils will share their learning from their recent Religious Education topics

School Visit from Local MP

Today, our school has received a visit from Mr Yemm, MP for Mansfield. Our Y6 House Captains led Mr Yemm on a tour of the school and represented the voice of their house groups. The other purpose of the visit was for pupils and representatives of the Local Governing Body to discuss their concerns of the congestion along Ling Forest Road. We will keep you up to date with any developments from these discussions.

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: 03.03.25

Word of the week –Temperance

Mon 3rd March - Y4 swimming begins

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

Y4 Swimming

Y4 will begin their swimming lessons on Monday with other groups of children being invited later in the year.

Attendance

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

Current Whole school attendance is: **96.3%**

F2: 94.5% Y4: 97%

Y1: 96.3% Y5: 95.7%

Y2: 96% Y6: 95.7%

Y3: 96.6%

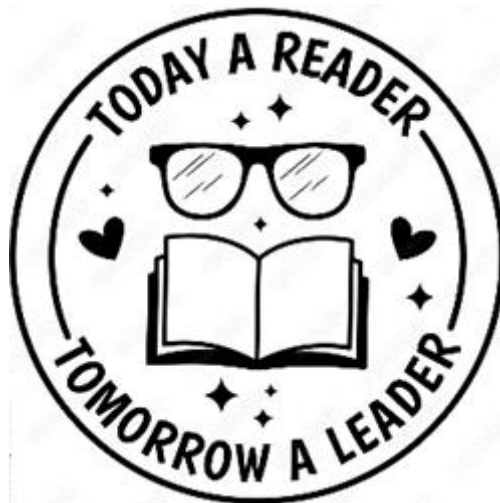
To report your child's absence please can we ask that you email the school office on office@st-patricksrc.notts.sch.uk or ring school on 01623 478090 on each day that your child is absent.

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.

Mansfield Schools' Swimming gala

A huge well done to our squad of swimmers who recently took part in the Mansfield School's swimming gala. Their team spirit shone out brightly as they cheered, encouraged and congratulated each other from start to finish. My grateful thanks to Mr Kitchinson, Mrs Thomson and Miss Robinson for leading the event and for the fantastic parental support received.

PTA Upcoming events

You are very welcome to attend the next PTA meeting next Wednesday at 2.30pm in school to discuss the organisation of social and fundraising events. Please feel very welcome to attend the meeting as without the support and good will of volunteers, the future of further events becomes increasingly difficult to manage. Please feel welcome to contact school to make suggestions/offer help on the day of events if you are unable to make the meeting. Many thanks.

5 Star Kitchen Award

Yesterday, our school kitchen received a 5 star rating following its annual hygiene inspection from the Environmental Health team. This is very well deserved from our kitchen team of Mrs Miller, Mrs Crutchley and Mrs Smith as they work incredibly hard to maintain these outstanding levels of cleanliness and hygiene. We thank them so much for all their efforts.

In prayer and partnership,

Mrs J Smedley

Head teacher