



# St Patrick's Catholic Primary Academy Newsletter 05.12.25

Word of the Week - Hope



### **This week's word of the week: Hope**

We believe that even in the darkest of times, God's love and light shine through. This hope isn't just wishful thinking, but a confident expectation of God's promises. Hope is a powerful virtue that can give us strength to persevere, even when things get tough, and to trust that God is always with us, guiding us towards a brighter future. In the season of Advent, we hope for the coming of Jesus and that he will bring peace, joy and love to the world.

**Mission: Think of a reason that you have to be hopeful. Share that hope with someone this week.**

### **Next week's word of the week: Peace**

**On Monday Y3 and Y4 will lead us in our 2nd week of Advent assembly @9am all are very welcome to join us.**

### **Year 1/2 assembly**

Our heartfelt gratitude to Year 1 and Year 2 for their wonderful leadership during the first week of Advent assembly focused on the theme of hope. It was a joy to witness their efforts in bringing our community together

The assembly highlighted the key message of hope during Advent, reminding us all of the importance of looking forward with optimism and faith. As we continue through Advent, I encourage you to engage with your children about the themes discussed in all of advent assemblies. This is a wonderful opportunity to reinforce the values of hope and togetherness within our families and community. Your support in nurturing these discussions at home will undoubtedly enhance the impact.

### **First Holy Communion**

For any Catholic families with a child in Year 3 or above, please make a note of the date for this year's First Holy Communion celebration: Saturday 13th June at 10am in St. Patrick's RC Church, Forest Town.

In January, enrolment Forms will be sent out. Please note that we will need evidence of your child's baptism.

## [School Calendar](#)

### **Christmas Jumper Day and Christmas market**

Thursday 11th December is our official Christmas jumper, dinner and market day. We know this is a very exciting day for everyone. Please feel welcome to order your child a Christmas dinner via the Arbor app.

Each class will plan and run a stall for the market however, if any children in Y4 to Y6 would like to make anything at home to sell at the Christmas market they would be more than welcome to do so.

The PTA will additionally be running stalls and any volunteers of help would be warmly welcomed.

Monies raised from the market will go towards supporting school with a portion also being donated towards CAFOD'S World Gifts.

### **Week beginning 8th December - WOW - Peace**

Monday 8th December - Celebration of the Word (Year 3 and Year 4) @9am

Thursday 11th December - Christmas Jumper day, Christmas dinner and mini market (adults welcome) @2.15pm

Fri 12th December- Christmas Party Day- your child is welcome to wear non uniform as each class will enjoy festivities.

### **Week beginning 15th December - WOW - Joy**

Monday 15th December - Celebration of the word (Year 5 and Year 6) @9am

Tuesday 16th December - Mass @ 8.50am (Chaplaincy team to lead)

Tuesday 16th December - Nativity led by F2, Year 1 and Year 2 (2:15 pm)

Wednesday 17th December - Nativity led by F2, Year 1 and Year 2 (9am)

Thursday 18th December - Nursery Rhyme Nativity (9am)

Friday 19th December - Carol Concert Y3-Y6 (9am)

**School breaks up for the Christmas Holidays on 19th December and reopens on Monday 5th January 2026.**

## **Catholic Social Teaching: Supporting others in need**

As a school we are committed to support those in need. Once again this year we are supporting our local and global families.

This initiative we are undertaking is to support the homeless community in Mansfield. This is a wonderful opportunity for us to come together and make a positive impact in the lives of those in need.

We kindly ask that you bring in items for the Shoebox Appeal by Friday, 12th December. Suggested items include toiletries (toothpaste, toothbrush, shower gel, shampoo), warm clothing, non-perishable food, and other essentials that can bring comfort during the colder

months. Your contributions will be collected and distributed to a local shelter, ensuring that they reach those who need them most.

This appeal not only provides much-needed support to the homeless but also teaches our children the value of kindness and community spirit. If you have any questions or would like further information about the items we are collecting, please feel free to reach out.

We are also collecting tins for the local foodbanks and kindly ask for any donations.

### **CAFOD: World Gifts Assembly**

Today, our children enjoyed a visit from a CAFOD volunteer, Mrs Ann Neale, who spoke to the children about raising monies to support our global friends in need around the world. A portion of the profits from the Children's Christmas Market will go towards our school purchasing World Gifts.

Thank you for your generosity and support in making this initiative a success. We look forward to seeing the wonderful contributions from our school community!

## F2 Admissions

### **F2 Admissions – Now Open**

If your child was born between 1st September 2021 and 31st August 2022, it's time to start thinking about applying for a Reception school place for September 2026.

 Key Information:

- Applications open: Tuesday 4th November 2025
- Applications close: Thursday 15th January 2026 (*Applications received after this date will be treated as late.*)


If you live in Nottinghamshire, you can apply online via the Nottinghamshire County Council website:

 [Apply for a School Place](#)


Alternatively, you can contact the admissions team on 0300 500 8080.


 Important Dates:

- National Offer Day: Thursday 16th April 2026
  - If you apply online, you'll receive your offer via email on this date.
  - All other applicants will receive their offer by 2nd class post.

 Top Tips for Applying:

- Use all four preferences on your application.
- Listing only one preference may reduce your chances of securing a place at your preferred school.

 If You Are Applying for a Place at St Patrick's:

- Attendance in our Nursery does not guarantee a Reception place – you must apply through the local authority.
- If you would like your child to be considered under a faith criterion, please complete and return a Supplementary Information Form, along with supporting faith evidence.  
 [SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION FORM](#)
- If you do not have your child's baptism certificate or faith evidence, please contact the parish where your child was baptised to request a copy in good time.

If you have any questions about the admissions process or our school, please don't hesitate to contact us – we're happy to help.

## Attendance

We were delighted with the overall attendance and punctuality rates from the last academic year. Please can we continue to make every effort with your child's attendance. We understand that there are times when your child is too unwell to attend school. We will also contact you should your child be unwell in school. Please find attached

**In line with the Trust's attendance policy, please note that requests for holidays in school time will not be granted unless for exceptional reasons.**

**Public Health Agency gives the following advice for self-care for minor illness:**

**The following illnesses can be managed safely with self-care and do not require to see a GP routinely.**

**The links below offer clinically approved information on how to recognise them.**

- **Conjunctivitis:** [www.nhs.uk/conditions/conjunctivitis](http://www.nhs.uk/conditions/conjunctivitis)
- **Hand, foot and mouth disease:** [www.nhs.uk/conditions/hand-foot-mouth-disease](http://www.nhs.uk/conditions/hand-foot-mouth-disease)•
  - **Chickenpox:** [www.nhs.uk/conditions/chickenpox](http://www.nhs.uk/conditions/chickenpox)
- **Common cold:** [www.nhs.uk/conditions/common-cold](http://www.nhs.uk/conditions/common-cold)

Please also see the information sheet giving advice on minor illnesses from Public Health Agency.

Please note that staff are only able to administer medication that is prescribed 4 times a day.



Attendance per class

Reception - 95.04%

Year 1 - 93.93%

Year 2 - 93.97%

Year 3 - 96.9%

Year 4 - 96.59%

Year 5 - 96.36%

Year 6 - 96.39%

## Parental Survey

At Our Lady of Lourdes Trust, we firmly believe that parental engagement is a foundation of our pupils' success. Your perspective, opinions, and feedback are invaluable to us in shaping the educational journey of your child and enhancing the quality of our school and wider Trust community.

To ensure that your views are listened too we launched an online survey last year. This survey was very successful and has helped us collect vital information from our parents across our trust. Due to its success we would like to again, provide you with an opportunity to share your thoughts on various aspects of your child's education, the school environment, and areas where we can further improve.

By participating in this survey, you contribute to the continuous growth and development of our school community. Your insights will continue to help us:

- 1. Understand your needs and aspirations:** Your feedback will provide us with a deeper understanding of your child's experience at school.
- 2. Further strengthen communication and collaboration:** We are committed to encouraging open and transparent communication between our school and parents. Your input will help us identify ways to improve our communication channels.
- 3. Continue to enhance our strategies and initiatives:** Your feedback is important to us.

We value your time, and we have ensured that the survey is user-friendly and can be completed conveniently. The questions cover a range of topics and will only take 5 minutes to complete.

**To access the survey: Either access the below QR Code: Or the below website address:**



[St Patrick's Catholic Primary, A Voluntary Academy \(Mansfield\), parent survey 2025. – Fill in form](#)

We kindly request you to complete the survey by **19th December 2025**, as this will allow us to analyse the results and carry out necessary changes quickly. Your active participation in this project is invaluable, and we greatly appreciate your time and effort in providing us with your honest feedback. Together, we can create an even more enriching educational experience for our students. If you have any questions or require further information, please feel free to contact your school.

## Y5/6 Notts police visit and E - safety workshop

We are pleased to share that our Year 5 and 6 students recently participated in an engaging e-safety workshop delivered by local police officers. This informative session provided valuable insights into the world of online safety, focusing on crucial topics such as bullying and the importance of recognising what is right and not right in digital interactions. The officers encouraged our students to think critically about their online behaviour and to be aware of the potential risks they may encounter.

During the workshop, children learned practical steps to take if they come across something concerning online. They were reminded that it's always okay to talk to a trusted adult if they feel uncomfortable or unsure about something they see. The session was not only

educational but also fostered an open dialogue about the challenges of navigating the digital world. We believe that equipping our students with these essential skills will help them make safer choices online. Thank you to the police for their support in helping us create a safer environment for our children!

Mr Kitchinson, Esafety Lead and Mrs Pugh, Designated Safeguarding Lead, are hosting an E Safety Workshop for parents/carers and their child on 10th December at 3.30pm- 4.00pm. There will be an opportunity to look at parental controls on electrical devices so please feel welcome to bring your child's electronic device into school during this workshop.

Please know that we operate an open door policy and place the highest priority on our home-school partnership. Please feel encouraged to contact school via phone from 8am-4pm or via email which has a 48 hour working day turnaround response.

In partnership and prayer

Mrs J L Smedley