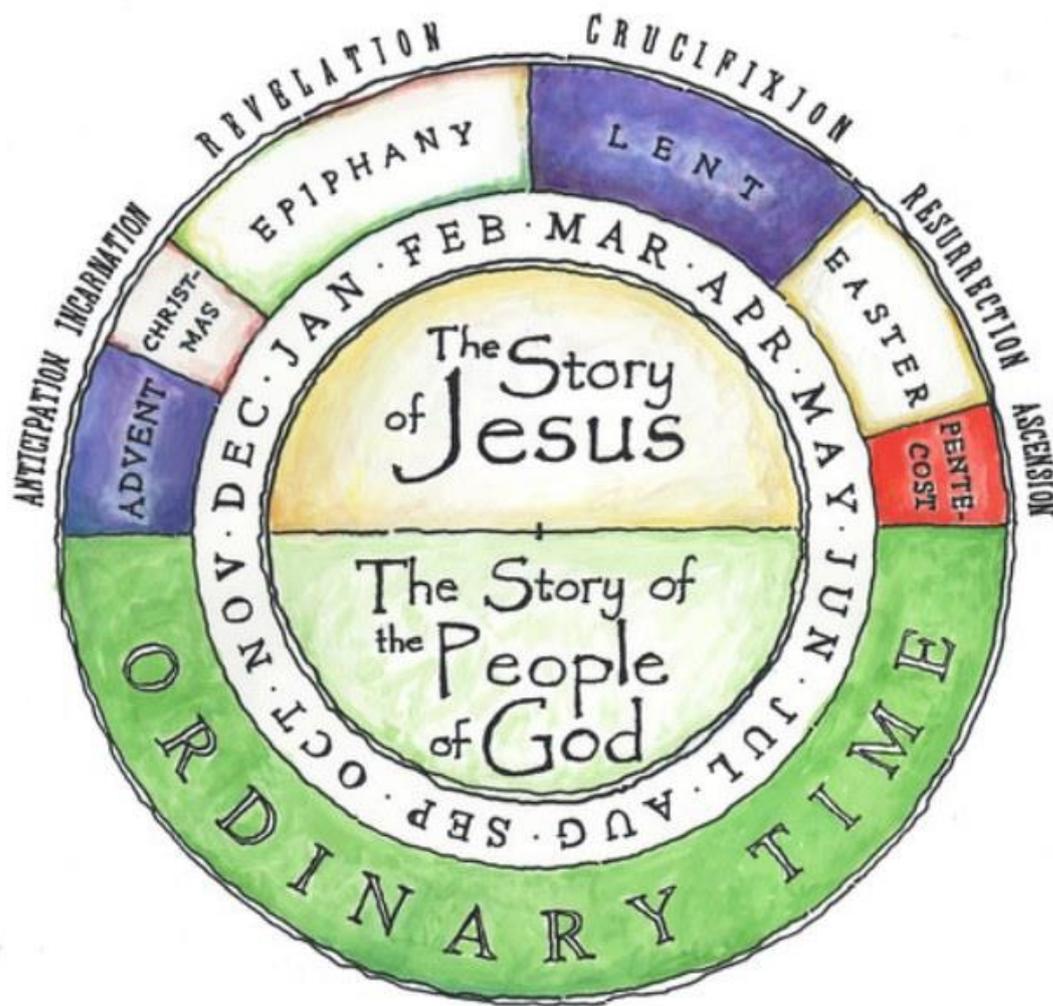




St Patrick's Catholic Primary Academy
Newsletter: Friday 13th February

Catholic Life and Mission



This week our word of the week is... **Diversity**

We are in the 5th Week of Ordinary Time.

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PILGRIMS OF HOPE

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

Diversity calls us to celebrate our differences and to respect the dignity and value of everyone. We are all made in the image and likeness of God and we can recognise God in all people, however different they may seem. Diversity reminds us that we are all called to love one another and to create a world where everyone feels loved, accepted and included.

Mission: Think about those people in your community who may feel left out. This week, try to find a way to help them feel loved and included.

Journey through Lent

Word of the week for week commencing 23rd February is: Perseverance

First week back after half term: Prayer

Class based celebration of the word will be planned by Our Lady of Lourdes.

Wednesday 18th February is **Ash Wednesday** and it marks the start of Lent, a 40-day period of reflection, fasting, and preparation for Easter. It is a time for Christians to say sorry to God for wrongdoings and focus on following Jesus. Ashes are placed on foreheads in a cross shape, symbolising repentance. The ashes used are made from burning palm branches saved from the previous year's Palm Sunday. Having ashes on the forehead acts as a public sign of faith and a reminder to live as Christians. It is the beginning of the 40 days (excluding Sundays) leading up to Easter, recalling the time Jesus spent in the wilderness.

You are all are very welcome to attend Mass on Ash Wednesday at St Patrick's Church at 9.15am.

During Lent, Y1 to Y5 will each plan and lead a celebration of the word for the whole school which parents are welcome to join @9am each Monday. Y6 will then plan and lead the final Easter story presentation on Friday 27th March @9am.

Monday 23rd February @9am - Y4 lead Celebration of the word - Word of the week: Prayer

Monday 2nd March @9am - Y5 lead Celebration of the word - Word of the week: Fasting

Monday 9th March @9am - Y1 lead Celebration of the word - Word of the week: Almsgiving

Monday 16th March @9am - Y3 lead Celebration of the word - Word of the week: Sacrifice

Monday 23rd March @9am - Y2 lead Celebration of the word - Word of the week: Journey

Thursday 24th March @ 2.30pm Foundation 2 and Y1/2 lead their Easter presentation.

Friday 27th March @9am - Y6 lead Easter story presentation

Our Lady of Lourdes Feast day

On Wednesday, our Y6's Our Lady of Lourdes house team prepared a beautiful liturgy with our hub chaplain, Luke. This house team lead the school community in prayer to always

follow the example of Mary. We were so proud of our youngest children in the nursery who joined in so well with the liturgy service.

Multi faith prayer fair

In this week of Diversity, a fantastic team of year four pupils prepared and delivered an inspiring prayer fayre to all other pupils in the school as our community celebrated and showed their respect and understanding of multi faiths.

Safer Internet Day

Our very grateful thanks to our Esafety leader, Mr Kitchinson and our pupil Health and Safety for leading the school in this very special work.

Children's mental health and well-being day

Our grateful thanks to our Mental Health First Aider, Mrs Lowe and her team of well being pupils for the informative assembly and activities which they lead the school with as part of Mental Health Awareness Week.

Travel through Lent together.

Friday 13th February - Inset Day

Week Beginning 16th February - Half term

Break up for half term Thursday 12th February

School reopens on Monday 23rd February

Journey through Lent

Week beginning 23rd February- WOW-Prayer

Monday 23rd February: Y4 lead Whole school Celebration of the Word- families invited @9am

Thursday 26th February: Celebration of Religious Education learning: (Y4, Y5, Y6) @2.30pm

Friday 27th February: Celebration of Religious Education learning: (Y1, Y2, Y3) @9am

Week beginning 2nd March - WOW - Fasting

Monday 2nd March @9am - Y5 lead Celebration of the word - Word of the week: Fasting

Tuesday 3rd March @ 9am- Mass followed by First Confession for First Holy Communion group and all who have made their First Holy Communion

Wednesday 4th March - Travelling book fair open after school until Monday 9th March

Week beginning 9th March - WOW - Almsgiving

Monday 9th March @9am - Y1 lead Celebration of the word - Word of the week: Almsgiving

Friday 13th March: Non uniform in exchange for donation of Easter egg and tins for the Sherwood Food bank.

Week beginning 16th March - WOW - Sacrifice

Monday 16th March @9am - Y3 lead Celebration of the word - Word of the week: Sacrifice

Tuesday 17th March -St Patrick's Day mass @9am followed by Children's mini market

Tuesday 17th March- Y5 and Y6 to attend 9.30am Mass at St Patrick's Church

Friday 20th March- School choir to perform at Berry Hill Care home

Sunday 22nd March- First Holy Communion group to lead 11am Sunday Mass at St Patrick's Church.

Week beginning 23rd March - WOW - Journey

Monday 23rd March @9am - Y2 lead Celebration of the word - Word of the week: Journey

Tuesday 24th March @ 2.30pm- Foundation 2 and Y1/2 Easter presentation: all welcome

Friday 27th March @9am - Y6 lead Y3, Y4 and Y5 in Easter story presentation: all welcome

Travelling book fair

On 4th March, we are excited to see the return of the travelling book fair in school. It will be open **after school** between the 4th - 9th March. There are a wide range of books and stationery available to buy. Payment is via a QR code available on the day.

Children's Mental Health Week

This year's Place2Be Children's Mental Health Week will be held next week. This year's theme is 'This is my place' focusing on fostering a sense of belonging for children and young people in their schools, communities, and homes. To find out more about Place2Be's Children's Mental Health Week, please visit their website. We also have a wealth of resources to support mental health and wellbeing on our website which may be of use to you

The mental health of our children is extremely important to all so our Wellbeing Ambassadors have met with our well being leader, Mrs Lowe to organise a range of wellbeing activities on Thursday 12th February where all children will spend time carrying out activities to promote mental health and recognising the importance of knowing that they belong. All children (and staff!) will be invited to wear non uniform on Thursday 12th February'

Pupil Premium Grant

For those of you who may be unaware, the government provides a Pupil Premium Grant (PPG) for eligible families. This funding gives schools additional money to help improve educational outcomes for children. This funding not only supports schools, but also offers direct benefits to families. Eligible pupils are entitled to:

- Free school meals
- Free milk
- Subsidised trips and residential visits (50% of the cost covered by school)
- Subsidised after-school clubs (50% of the cost covered by school)

Checking your eligibility is quick and easy and takes just a couple of minutes. Simply log in to Nottinghamshire County Council's SynergyHub (click [here](#)) and enter your National Insurance number, date of birth, and your child's details. The system will let you know if you are eligible. The Local Authority will then inform the school, allowing us to offer the above subsidies.

Children attending maintained nurseries (which ours is) may also qualify.

Further information about the Pupil Premium Grant can be found online. If you need any help or support with the process, please don't hesitate to ask. As with all personal data, please be assured that receipt of the Pupil Premium Grant is kept confidential and is never shared.

Parents' Evening

A huge thank you to everyone for the support shown during your child's SEND review/ parents evening appointment. The vast majority of parents/carers attended this valuable opportunity. If you were unable to attend, please speak to your child's class teacher or contact the office to make an appointment. Many thanks for your continued support.

First Holy Communion Programme

The First Holy Communion programme is open for pupils who are baptised into the Catholic Church. Children will be enrolled onto the programme during Sunday's 11am Mass at St Patrick's Church with the programme starting on Tuesday 3rd February at 3.30pm in school. The sacrament of First Reconciliation takes place on 3rd March in school and the sacrament of First Holy Communion takes place on Saturday 13th June @ 10am. A letter has been electronically sent out to Year 3-Year 6 with further details. Please contact the school office for further details. Please hold the children, their family and the catechists in your prayers.

Pupil Premium Grant

Pupil Premium Grant For those of you unaware, the government provides a Pupil Premium Grant (PPG) for eligible families which provides additional money for schools to use to improve educational outcomes for our children. Not only does PPG funding help schools, but it also benefits parents too as it entitles you to:

- Free school meals;
- Free milk;
- Trips and residential visits subsidised where 50% of costs are paid by school;
- Participation in after school clubs subsidised by 50%;

Checking your eligibility is easy and takes just a couple of minutes. Login to Nottinghamshire County Council's Synergy Hub, simply enter your National Insurance Number, Date of Birth along with your child's details and the system will inform you if you are eligible. The Local Authority will then inform school which will enable us to offer you the above subsidies. Children attending maintained nurseries (which ours is) can also qualify.

More information about Pupil Premium can be found [here](#). If you need any further help, please don't hesitate to ask. And, like all other personal data, please be assured that being in receipt of the Pupil Premium Grant is never shared.

World Book Day

This takes place on 5th March with the theme being 'Reading for Pleasure' as part of National Year of Reading. Your child is welcome to wear a costume, pyjamas or their own comfortable clothes as well as being invited to bring in a favourite book from home.

Attendance

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
- **Hand, foot and mouth disease:** www.nhs.uk/conditions/hand-foot-mouth-disease
 - **Chickenpox:** www.nhs.uk/conditions/chickenpox
- **Common cold:** 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 this academic year

Reception - 95.1 %

Year 1 - 94.6 %

Year 2 - 94.8 %

Year 3 - 95.2 %

Year 4 - 95.7 %

Year 5 - 95.6 %

Year 6 - 96.2 %

Whole School - 95.3 %

St Patrick's church Liturgy group

Your child is most welcome to take part in the St Patrick's church Liturgy group which takes place during 11am mass on a Sunday. Children experience the gospel and associated activities which also link to the school's word of the week.

Volunteers are also very much appreciated to help support the group in any way.

With prayers, wishing you a wonderful half term break term and we look forward to journeying through Lent with our school parish community upon school's return on Monday 23rd February.

In prayer and partnership,

Mrs J Smedley

Head teacher