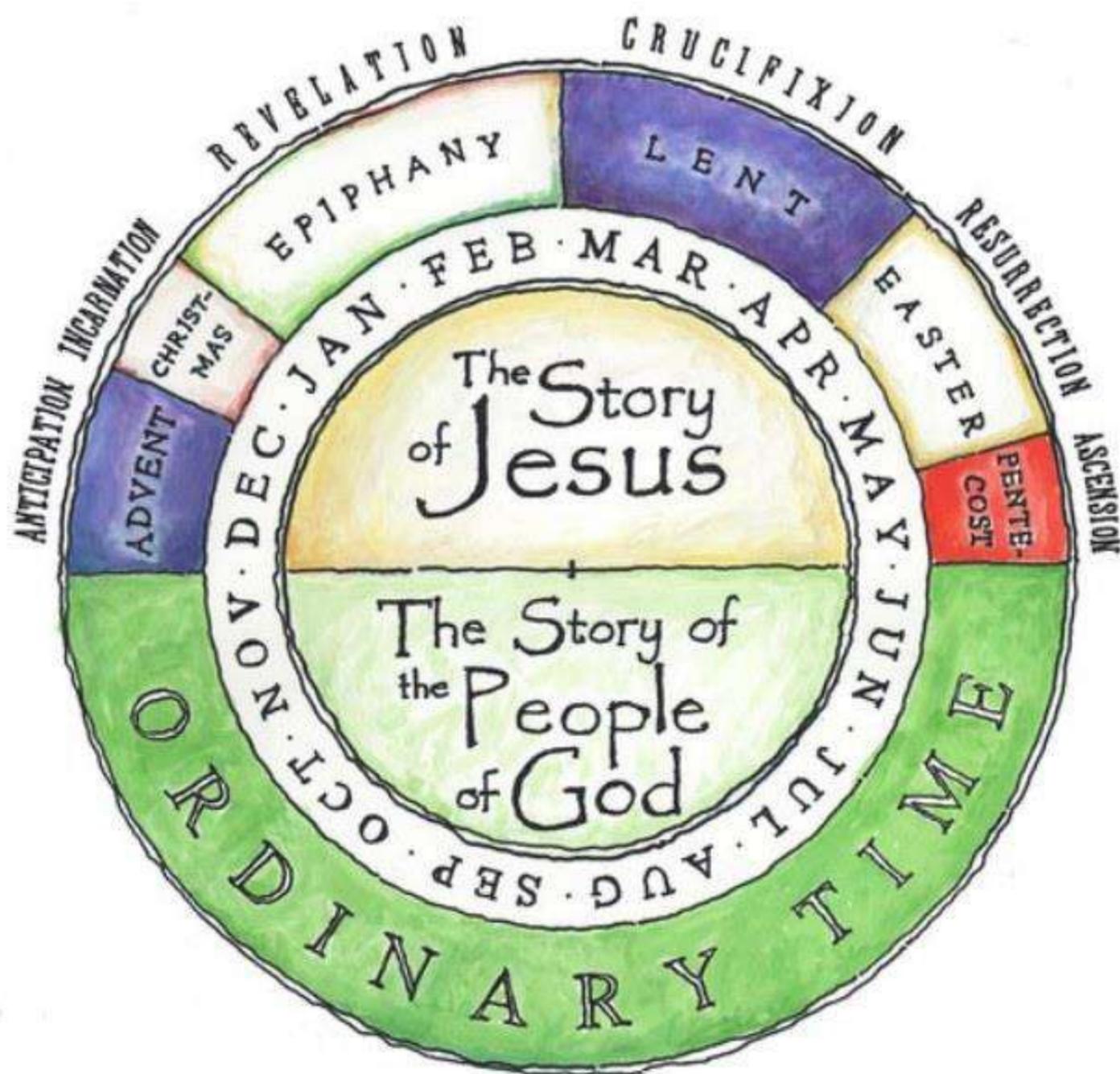




St Patrick's Catholic Primary Academy
Newsletter: Friday 6th March

Catholic Life and Mission



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

Journey through Lent

A special thank you to Y5 children and staff for leading the school in the Celebration of the Word in this second week of Lent.

Thank you to our Y4 and Y5 children who prepared and lead Mass this week and to Father Liam who celebrated the Mass and also enjoyed spending time in school having school lunch with the children and staff!

Word of the week for next week commencing 9/3/26 is: ALMSGIVING

Almsgiving is the practice of giving to those in need. It is a way of showing love and compassion for others. Almsgiving can also be a way of expressing our gratitude for God's blessings. Almsgiving is an important part of Lent, as it allows us to share with those in need and to be an example of mercy in the world.

Mission: Find a way to give something to charity or to someone in need this week.

Next week's Class based celebration of the word will be planned by Year one.

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 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

First Confession

Our warmest congratulations to the children who this week made their First Confession with Canon John and Father Liam as part of their sacramental programme.

Thank you to our hub Chaplains, Clare and Luke for preparing this group so beautifully and to Canon John and Father Liam for leading the group in this sacrament.

Children who have made their First Holy Communion were then given the opportunity to go to Confession. During Lent, everyone will take part in a Reconciliation Service as part of their Lenten journey.

Travel through Lent together.

Journey through Lent

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

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

Tuesday 17th March - Children's mini market @2:30pm. This will be lead by Y3-Y6 as stall holders so please start thinking about ideas for stalls. **All welcome to visit the market!**

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

Friday 20th March- PTA Meeting @ 2pm - all welcome to attend to share your ideas for fundraising and future events.

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

World Book Day

What a fantastic time was had by all to celebrate the pleasure of reading. Thank you to all who contributed to make the day such a success. A special thank you to our Y5 children who lead each class in stories from the bible.

Thank you Mrs Lowe and Mrs Pugh for all your efforts in organising the day and book fair and for your support with purchasing books as the commission from this being given for extra books for each class chosen by the children.

Staffing Update

Our warmest wishes to Mrs Flaherty as she commences her maternity leave today. We send her all our love and best wishes. Mrs Lowe and supply teaching cover will provide maternity leave cover for Foundation 1.

PTA News

At the recent Junior and adult PTA meetings; discussions were held as to spending monies raised from the Advent term to further support everyone in school. Items for purchasing include:

- Little Wandle Reading resources for Y2, Y3 and Y4
- Recommended reading books for each class to supplement the current provision
- Well being resources for unstructured times of the school day
- Gardening resources for the garden development

The PTA has also exciting plans to develop the gardens outside the front of school. Resources will be purchased and utilised to further develop the outdoor sacred space and there are also plans to create a sensory garden which the Junior PTA children are currently planning and creating. More details to follow! If you feel able to contribute to these developments, the PTA would love to hear from you, so please feel welcome to contact the school office with your details.

Save the date:

The opening of the gardens will take place on Wednesday 22nd April, National Earth day, with a whole school parish community event. Further details to follow!

First Holy Communion Programme

Your prayers are asked for this group of pupils as they make their First Confession next week before continuing upon the next stages of their First Holy Communion programme.

Sporting Successes This Week!

This week has been a busy and exciting one for sporting events, and our pupils have represented the school brilliantly.

10 of our Year 2 pupils attended a Multi Skills Event at West Nottinghamshire College. They did us proud throughout the event, showing fantastic effort and determination. Their positive attitude and enthusiasm were noticed by the organisers, who praised them highly. They were wonderful ambassadors for our school and truly showed what lovely pupils we have here at St Patrick's.

We also had children taking part in the Swimming Gala this week. The standard of swimming was incredibly high, but our pupils gave it their all in every race. Their effort was amazing, and they showed fantastic sportsmanship throughout the event. Once again, they made us proud with their excellent behaviour and positive attitude.

Today, some of our Year 6 children began their Bikeability training. The trainers were beaming as they told us how fantastic the children were. They listened carefully, worked hard, and showed great enthusiasm while developing their cycling skills.

Well done to all the children who took part in these events this week – we are very proud of you all!

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.

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/conjunctivitis¹**
- **Hand, foot and mouth disease: www.nhs.uk/conditions/hand-foot-mouth-disease**
 - **Chickenpox: www.nhs.uk/conditions/chickenpox²**
- **Common cold: www.nhs.uk/conditions/common-cold³**

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.

¹<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/conjunctivitis>

²<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/chickenpox>

³<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/common-cold>



Attendance per class this academic year. Thank you for everyone's efforts and support with attending school.

Reception - 95.4 %

Year 1 - 94.8 %

Year 2 - 95.2 %

Year 3 - 95.3 %

Year 4 - 96 %

Year 5 - 95.6 %

Year 6 - 96.4 %

Whole School - 95.3 %

Parent Governor Vacancy – Nominations Now Open

We are pleased to let you know that we have a vacancy for a Parent Governor on our Local Governing Body and we are now starting the election process.

This is a fantastic opportunity to play an active role in supporting and shaping the strategic direction of our school. Parent Governors work with school leaders and other governors to ensure the very best outcomes for all pupils.

Any person who is the parent or carer of a registered pupil at the school is eligible to stand for election and to vote.

Nomination forms will be sent out soon and will include the closing date for nominations, allowing at least seven school days for responses.

If you are interested in standing for election, please look out for the nomination form and further details. If you would like to find out more about the role before applying, please contact the school office and we will be happy to arrange a conversation.

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.

In prayer and partnership,

Mrs J Smedley

Head teacher