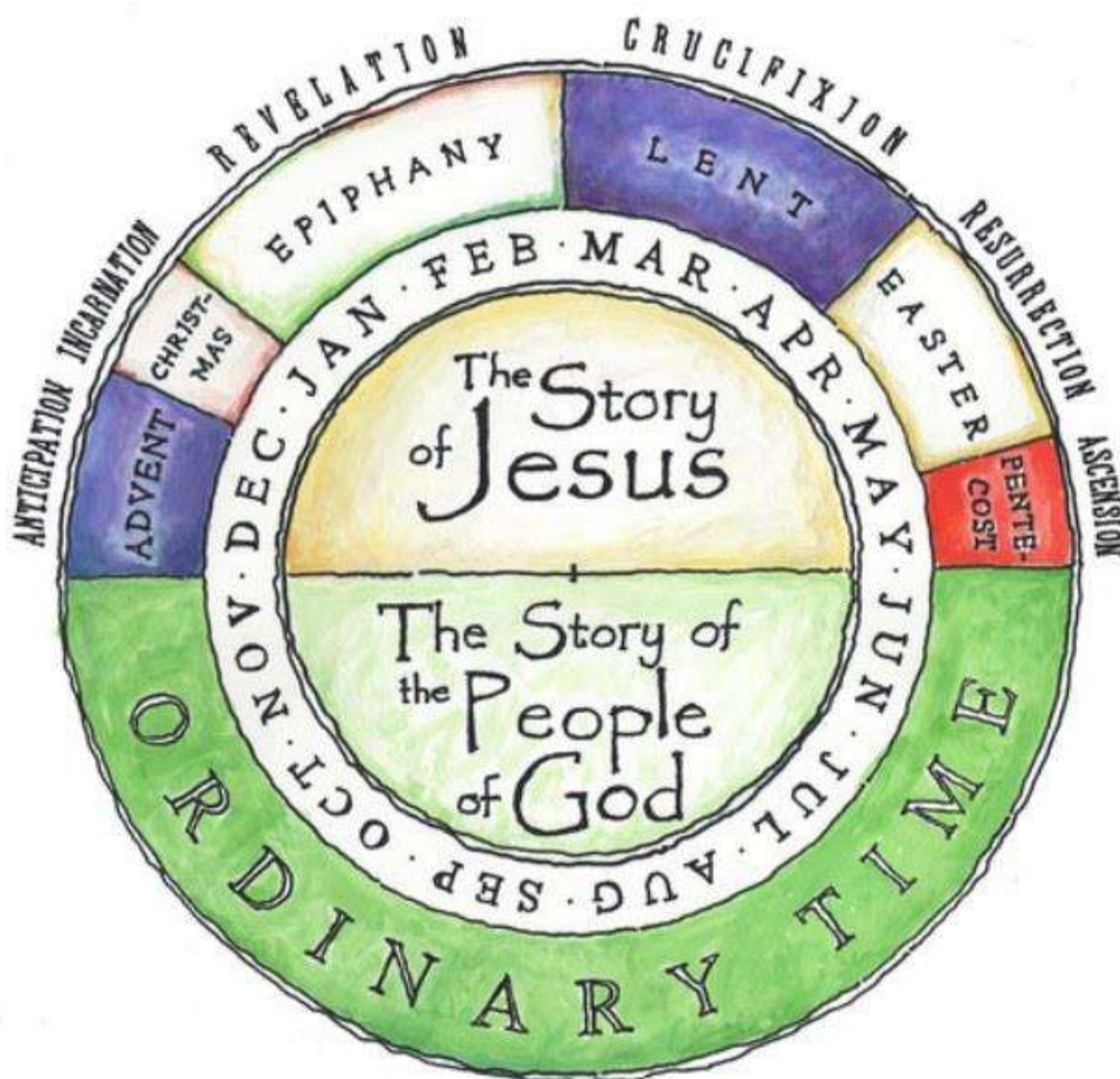




St Patrick's Catholic Primary Academy  
Newsletter: Friday 27th March

## Catholic Life and Mission



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

### **Journey through Lent**

A special thank you to Year 2 children and staff for leading the school in the Celebration of the Word in this fourth week of Lent.

**During this sacred season of Lent, our school parish community has journeyed together with Jesus Christ. It has been a very special time of reflecting on our lives, repenting our sins and growing in our faith. Together, we have focused upon the three pillars of Lent; prayer, sacrifice and almsgiving.**

Thank you so much to our children and staff from Y1/2 who presented 'Easter around the World' and to our children and staff in Y3-Y6 who presented 'The Stations of the Cross' during this week of Lent.

Our children have responded so beautifully to their Lenten missions and we thank each and every one of them for all their gifts and qualities and for all the incredibly special ways in which they have contributed towards the Catholic Life of the school.

We send our very grateful thanks to Father John, Father Liam and our hub chaplains Luke and Clare for their spiritual guidance.

I am so deeply appreciative of all the time, support and generous charity donations that we have received throughout Lent; we have truly journeyed together which has helped us to grow closer to God so that we are ready to truly celebrate Jesus Christ's resurrection at Easter.

Our wonderful PTA provided an Easter treat with egg decorating and rolling today.

On behalf of our school community, we wish you a blessed and Holy Easter break.

School closes today for the Easter break and re-opens on Monday 13th April.

In partnership and prayer,

Mrs Smedley

### [Holy Week Mass dates and times for St Patrick's](#)

Although we brake up from school today, our Lenten journey continues at home and at Church. Please feel very welcome to attend the services and Masses outlined below:

**HOLY WEEK IN THE PARISH OF OUR LADY AND ALL SAINTS, MANSFIELD**

Monday 30 March 6.00pm Mass – St Philip Neri

Tuesday 31 March 7.00pm Service of Reconciliation (Confessions) - St Philip Neri

Wednesday 1 April 11.30am Chrism Mass, St Barnabas Cathedral, Nottingham

Holy Thursday 2 April 7.00pm Mass of the Lord's Supper and watching until 12 midnight in St Philip Neri Church,

Good Friday 3 April 3.00pm The Lord's Passion in St. Philip Neri, Mansfield 7.00pm Stations of the Cross in each church

Holy Saturday 4 April 11.00am & 4.00pm Blessing of Food in St Joseph's, Shirebrook 8.00pm Easter Vigil in St Philip Neri, Mansfield

Easter Sunday 5 April 9.00am St. Philip Neri, Mansfield and St. Joseph's, Shirebrook 11.00am St. Patrick's Forest Town and St. Philip Neri, Mansfield 5.00pm St. Philip Neri, Mansfield

Monday 6 April 10.00am Mass at St Philip Neri

Tuesday 7 April 10.00am Mass at St Philip Neri

Wednesday 8 April 12.10pm Normal Mass times resume

## Wider life of school

A huge well done to all the children in Y3, Y4 and Y6 who have recently participated in the NCC Bikeability course. The instructors were highly impressed with the children's efforts, behaviour and attitudes and asked for their praises to be passed onto all involved.

We were also so proud of our Y3 and Y6 pupils' for representing our school community so beautifully during their recent visit to Yorkshire Wildlife Park.

Thank you to our teaching and non teaching staff for organising these events and for all the parental support received.

## First Holy Communion Programme

The next session takes place on Tuesday 14th April after school with our hub chaplains Clare and Luke.

Everyone is most welcome to come along to St Patrick's 11am Sunday Mass on 3rd May in which our First Holy Communion children will be taking a lead role.

## Staffing News

At the end of this term, Our SENCO, Mrs Wightman is leaving our school to continue on her vocation of leading SEND. Mrs Wightman has given so much to the development of our school's SEND provision and in her role as a Senior Leader, school had improved and developed in so many fantastic ways. Mrs Wightman will be so very much missed by all in our community. For the remainder of this year, the role of SENCO will be lead by Mrs Stimpson who is an experienced SENCO from St Philip's and will be combining the role in both schools. Mrs Wightman works closely with Mrs Stimpson as Family SENCO and will continue to do so in order to provide continuity and support. Please do share your best wishes with Mrs Wightman. She will continue to support our school in her role as Family SENCO so you may see her in and around school throughout the school year. Mrs Lowe has kindly agreed to up her teaching days to take over Mrs Wightman's teaching commitment in Year 3 alongside Mrs Pyatt and Mrs Smedley.

Mrs Tsioslas, who is a highly valued member of the support staff is leaving our school community at the end of this term. We thank her so much for all her incredible efforts to support our children, especially in the Foundation Stage and Key Stage One. We wish her the very best and she will pop in regularly to see us all.

## PTA Memory Garden Project – Call for Volunteers

We are delighted to share that our fantastic PTA will be starting work on a very special project during the holidays on 8th April — the creation of a Memory Garden within the school grounds.

This is being developed as a special community memorial space and will provide a peaceful area for reflection for our whole school community.

The PTA have generously funded this project, and we are incredibly grateful for their support. To help bring the garden to life, we are now inviting families to get involved. Whether you can offer some of your time, practical help, or tools, your support would make a real difference.

If you are able to help on the day, please complete the short form using the link below:

Memory Garden Volunteer Sign-Up  – Fill in form<sup>1</sup>

The form will ask about your availability, how many people can attend, and whether you are able to bring any tools.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. We hope many of you will be able to join us in creating something truly special for our school community.

## A Huge Thank You for a Wonderful St Patrick's Fair

We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to all the parents and families who attended and supported our St Patrick's Day Fair. Your enthusiasm and generosity made the event truly special.

A particular mention goes to the children who ran the stalls — they did us incredibly proud. It was wonderful to see their hard work pay off and to watch everyone enjoying themselves.

We are delighted to share that a fantastic total of **£564.16** was raised. Thank you once again for helping to make the fair such a memorable and successful occasion — a great time was had by all!

## 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:**

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<sup>1</sup><https://forms.cloud.microsoft/e/bHLL5SYWy>

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)<sup>2</sup>
- **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)<sup>3</sup>
- **Common cold:** [www.nhs.uk/conditions/common-cold](http://www.nhs.uk/conditions/common-cold)<sup>4</sup>

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. Thank you for everyone's efforts and support with attending school as much as possible; a wonderful team effort!

Reception - 95.2 %

Year 1 - 95.1 %

Year 2 - 95.4 %

Year 3 - 95.5 %

Year 4 - 96.1 %

Year 5 - 96 %

<sup>2</sup><https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/conjunctivitis>

<sup>3</sup><https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/chickenpox>

<sup>4</sup><https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/common-cold>

Year 6 - 96.6 %

**Whole School from beginning of school year to present date - 95.7%**

**This is such an amazing whole school achievement for this point of the academic school year. Let's keep it going!**

## **Parent Governor Vacancy – Nominations Now Open**

We currently have a vacancy for a Parent Governor and are inviting nominations from parents or carers who are interested in taking on this important role within our school community.

Being a Parent Governor is a valuable opportunity to contribute to the strategic direction of the school, support its leadership, and help ensure the best possible outcomes for all pupils.

If you are interested in applying, please visit the school office to express your interest and collect further information. All interested parents or carers must come to the office **by Friday 17th**.

We encourage anyone who would like to make a positive difference in the school to consider putting themselves forward.

## **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