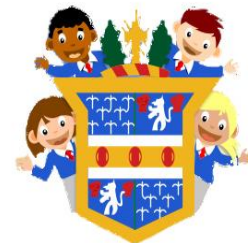


# Saint Patrick's Catholic Primary School

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## Saint Patrick's Newsletter

(for parents, pupils, governors, staff and parishioners)

### Week ending Friday 24<sup>th</sup> January

#### Dear Parents, Carers, Governors and Parishioners,

The school was buzzing with excitement last week! Year 3 and Year 6 had a wonderful visit to 'We the Curious' on Wednesday, where they made fossils, took part in a coding workshop and viewed the night sky in the planetarium. On Friday we were visited by some sixth formers from Downside School, who trained our Chaplaincy Team in leading Lectio Divina (contemplative prayer). We are so grateful to the Downside students and so proud of our children, who both on Friday and on their school trip, were complimented on their sensible, mature behaviour and excellent manners. Well done all!

#### KEEPING OUR CHILDREN SAFE

**ATTENDANCE** - As a school we continue to aim for our school attendance to be **96%**, and this week our whole school attendance has been 93%. If you need advice or support on how to improve your child's attendance, please contact the school office and we will be happy to discuss this matter further with you. From children having difficulty sleeping to medical concerns, please contact us and we can support your family or signpost you to the best people. **Please remember to inform the School Office if your child is not attending school and to give a reason for their absence, for our records. Our School Office is open daily from 8.45am – 3.15pm.** We are required to monitor the amount of time missed due to medical appointments carefully. We acknowledge that hospital and specialist clinic appointments, including orthodontic and on-going dental treatment may require a student having time out of school. Our expectation is that the minimum amount of learning is lost. We must seek an explanation from parents where a whole day is missed for this reason. Proof of unavoidable medical appointments in school time must be provided for the school. Routine, non-urgent appointments must be made after school time and during the 13-week school holidays.

**JOIN A FREE WEBINAR – GAME ON: SUPPORTING NEURODIVERGENT CHILDREN IN THE ONLINE WORLD** – As part of safeguarding and working with parents to keep all of our children safe, in day to day life and online, it has been brought to our attention that Ambitious about Autism (in partnership with Internet Matters and Roblox) will be hosting a free online webinar for parents and carers of neurodivergent children and young people. In this live session, you'll hear from a diverse panel of experts including online safety professionals, autism specialists, and a fellow parent sharing their personal experience. The webinar will cover a range of important topics, such as:



- Understanding life online for neurodivergent children and young people
- Insights from the online gaming research project
- Practical tools and resources to help you support your neurodivergent child in the online gaming world
- Tips to help your child stay safe online

This session is interactive, with time set aside for questions. The event takes place on **Wednesday 29th January 2025 19:30 - 20:30 GMT and registration is required, but the event is FREE.** To register please follow this link <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/game-on-supporting-neurodivergent-children-in-the-online-world-tickets-1109313168549?scrllybrkr=780e926c>  
We hope families will find this information useful.

#### CURRICULUM

**TAPESTRY AND GOOGLE CLASSROOMS** – Google Classrooms is fully accesible to all families with children in Years 1 to Year 6 and Tapestry is available for our Reception families. If you encounter any difficulties, please speak to our Office Team, for further guidance. Here you will find all of our curriculum updates for your child/ren's class. This information includes:

- A curriculum update for the term
- Termly curriculum newsletter
- Weekly Home Learning
- \* PE days for your child/ren
- \* Termly key vocabulary
- \* Notices e.g. school trip details, changes to normal timetable

**WORKING TOGETHER WITH THE CAMINO SCHOOLS AND WITH THE CORSHAM SCHOOLS HUB** – We are very excited to be working with our Camino School friends on the Jubilee Year of Hope, more details to follow next term, and with the Corsham Schools Hub on a local writing project. The project is focussed on engaging ALL children in writing, encouraging children to be brave in their creativity and challenge themselves to be the best writers they can be. Miss Wilkinson, Writing Subject Leader, will be leading the project and we have already worked on sharing some of the best texts available, community engagement ideas and most importantly, how to make writing fun! We will keep you up to date with the project, but keep an eye on your Tapestry and Google Classroom pages and Instagram, for further information.



## LITURGY AND CELEBRATION



**BE PART OF TEAM TOM** – We will be working together as a school to help to support a truly inspirational young man and past Saint Patrick's pupil, Tom. Tom is an inspirational and very sports driven young man, in his final year at university, who at the end of 2023 had a life changing accident on his bike which left him with paralysed. Tom is the embodiment of hope and determination and a great role model for our children. He now has a GoFundMe page to buy a modified bike, and would like to take part in the LA Paralympics. **On Fri. 14th February**, we will be holding an event, more details to follow, with the balance bikes, scooters etc to fundraise for Tom and support this incredible young man. We will be asking for donations towards Tom's Bowhead (modified bike) and any amount will be gratefully received. If you would like to read more about Tom's story or donate, please follow the link to his GoFundMe page <https://www.gofundme.com/f/6vgcn-toms-bowhead-fund> If you donate, please add that you are a Saint Patrick's School member, so Tom knows who to thank.



**2025 JUBILEE YEAR OF HOPE** – Today we began our celebrations for the start of the Jubilee Year of Hope, with our 'Colourful Mufti Day'. The children looked fantastic in their bright clothes and in our Celebration of the Word, learnt all about the meaning behind the jubilee logo, and the significance of the Jubilee Icon artwork. They then made their 'Hearts of Hope and Kindness' to decorate our 'Door of Hope' onto our playing field. If you would like to complete your own 'Heart of Hope and Kindness', to add to our school community display, you can collect a heart from the lobby outside the School Office. Please keep a look out for other Jubilee events, which will be taking place throughout 2025.



## ENRICHMENT

**SAVE THE DATE - 2025 ART EXHIBITION** – Thank you to all who have helped to share the date of our next Art Exhibition, on **Saturday 17th May 2025**. We have had returning and new artists contact us and cannot wait exhibit and celebrate their talent!



**A SPECIAL VISITOR TO SCHOOL** – We are very excited to share that we will be having a visitor from Dogs for Health, coming to see us on the afternoon of Wed. 5th Feb. Ms Wilkes and Acorn (Oakfield Academy School Dog) will be visiting us to explain how Acorn supports learning, encourages participation and emotional wellness at their school, as part of the Dogs for Health charity. We know that some people are allergic to dogs, or nervous around them, so please let Mrs Courtney know if this is the case.

## PARENTS AS PARTNERS

There are lots of things going on this term, please see below for dates when we welcome you to join us in school. Key Stage 2 Class Assemblies will take place in Term 4.

### Dates for your Diary...

<b>Mon. 27th Jan</b>	PE Enrichment Day (Reception, Y1, Y2, Y3, Y4) PE uniform to be worn
<b>Tues. 28th Jan</b>	Celebration of the Word – School Only
<b>Wed. 29th Jan</b>	Year 6 swimming – whole class swimming 2/3 Online Safety GAME ON: SUPPORTING NEURODIVERGENT CHILDREN IN THE ONLINE WORLD @ 7.30pm
<b>Thurs. 30th Jan</b>	Dance Workshop (Y4 and 6) @ The Corsham School 3.30 – 4.45pm
<b>Fri. 31st Jan</b>	Year 2 Class Assembly @ 2.30pm – Year 2 families welcome
<b>Mon. 3rd Feb</b>	Celebration of the Word – School Only
<b>Tues. 4th Feb</b>	Reception children height and weight check – School Nurses
<b>Wed. 5th Feb</b>	Year 6 swimming – whole class swimming 3/3
<b>Fri. 7th Feb</b>	Reception Celebration – Celebrating half the way through the Reception school year! – Reception families welcome @ 9.30am Father Michael visiting Year 1/2/Reception Year 1 Class Assembly @ 2.30pm – Year 1 families welcome
<b>Future Dates for your Diary...</b>	
10th February – Meeting for Year 5 parents re: Kilve Court Residential @ 3.15pm (Year 5 Classroom)	
11th February – Safer Internet Day – lessons in all classes	
14th February - Team Tom Fundraising Day – PE Uniform to be worn, donations gratefully received Reception Class Assembly @ 2.30pm – Reception families welcome	

### INSET DAYS FOR 2024-25

**Mon. 2nd September 2024**  
**Tues. 3rd September 2024**  
**Mon. 2nd June 2025**  
**Tues. 3rd June 2025**  
**Wed. 4th June 2025**

We are very happy to announce that this week, we have appointed Miss Joanne Knight to work in Year 2 for Terms 5 and 6 of this academic year, and Terms 1 and 2 of next academic year while Miss Jones is on maternity leave. We hope you will join us in warmly welcoming Miss Knight to Saint Patrick's.

*Jennie Courtney*  
(Headteacher)