

Saint Patrick's Catholic Primary School

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Saint Patrick's Newsletter

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

Week ending Friday 14th March

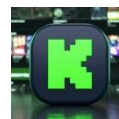
Dear Parents, Carers, Governors and Parishioners,

On behalf of myself and all of the staff, we would like to thank you for the kind messages and words you shared last week, ahead of Mr Newstead's funeral. It was a beautiful service and the family greatly appreciated the beautiful class cards and your thoughts and prayers.

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 91%. 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.

FOR PARENTS, WHAT IS KICK STREAMING? - Many parents may be aware of Twitch, especially if their children like gaming. Owned by Amazon it has become incredibly popular over the years for children to watch live streams. But in the past, there's been plenty of controversy about the platform, particularly in relation to restrictions that imposed upon streamers. So, it's no surprise to see other platforms becoming more popular and one of those platforms is Kick (not to be confused with Kik Messenger). It was launched in 2022, **users should be 13+** and it follows the same process as Twitch where live streamers can make money. However, much of the content on Kick is adult in nature. Internet Matters has a good article about Kick and you can find the article at the following link <https://www.internetmatters.org/hub/news-blogs/what-is-kick-streaming/>



CURRICULUM

TAPESTRY AND GOOGLE CLASSROOMS – Google Classrooms is fully accessible 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

WE WELCOME MRS OBORNE AS FULL TIME TEACHER IN YEAR 3 – We are delighted to share with you all, that from Term 5, Mrs Osborne will be the full time teacher in Year 3. Mrs Osborne has worked at Saint Patrick's for many years and is a greatly valued member of staff, who always puts the children in her class at the centre of all she does. We know you will be as happy as we all are, to know that she will be now be a full time teacher in our team.

'HELLO YELLOW' FOR WORLD MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS DAY – This week on Wednesday we raised awareness for World Mental Health Day. It was a fantastic atmosphere, the school was bright and cheerful as children and staff all dressed up in yellow! There were a variety of conversations held in classes to raise awareness and encourage wellbeing and mental health dialogue. Mental health can impact everyone. If you would like further information or support, here are some useful websites: <https://www.nhs.uk/nhs-services/mentalhealth-services/> <https://www.youngminds.org.uk/> <https://www.mind-blmk.org.uk/how-we-can-help/milton-keynes/>



BRITISH COUNCIL INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL AWARD FOUNDATION LEVEL – We are very proud to say that as a school we have been awarded the British Council Foundation level of the International School Award. This is for schools embarking on their international journey, and includes us introducing the concept of internationalism across the curriculum, getting ready to form an international partnership in the future with schools around the world and have conducted at least one international classroom activity. As you know we have had a few of these across the school in the last 12 months and are very grateful to Ms Skelly and her team, who visited Years 3 – 5, to share their own beautiful languages and teach our children some new words. We have many budding linguists among us!



YEAR 4 CLASS ASSEMBLY– It was lovely to see so many families join us for Year 4’s class assembly this afternoon. Year 4 shared their geography learning about volcanoes and earthquakes, through art, singing and their acting skills. It was a real treat to end the week with.

LITURGY AND CELEBRATION

YEAR OF HOPE RECEPTION AND KEY STAGE 1 PILGRIMAGE - As the Jubilee Year theme is 'Pilgrims of Hope', Year 6 planned and led a special Pilgrimage for our Reception and Key Stage One children this week. The children worked in small groups to create one of six reflection areas to visit. The pilgrimage started with an introduction to what the Jubilee Year of Hope is, followed by an explanation about what a pilgrimage is and why we might choose to go on one. Each class was presented with a bag to fill on their way around. The 'pilgrims' then journeyed to the different reflection areas around the school. Each reflection area was focused around part of the Jubilee Logo. For example, when looking at the people in the logo, we heard how people from all corners of the earth are as important as each other in God's eyes and all can be pilgrims if they choose to be. The activity at this station was to draw yourself in the same style as 'Luce' the official Jubilee Mascot, before participating in prayer and receiving a model 'person' to add to their class bag. We are so proud of the thought which went into this by Year 6, who ensured that this pilgrimage was interesting, fun and most importantly meaningful for all of the Reception and KS1 Pilgrims. These classes all now have a bag full of symbolic objects, which can help them reflect further both independently and together in class. Key Stage 2 will take part in their pilgrimage in May!



ENRICHMENT

SAINT PATRICK’S DAY CELEBRATIONS ‘A DAY OF HAPPINESS AND SMILES’ – A day of happiness and smiles



is indeed the order of the day. On Monday, children can wear any clothes which make them happy, a favourite jumper, dressing up, a colour they love or a sports kit that brings them joy, it is completely up to them! During the day, every class will take part in a happiness workshop with Mrs Courtney and Mrs Minty. They will be thinking about



how important a smile is, what makes us smile, playing games to make us smile and then having a day of learning which makes us smile. At a time when our school community has been through a sad time and there is so much instability in the world around us, a day of happiness, smiles and laughter is the aim of our feast day celebrations. We would like to thank our PTFA who will be providing a ‘treat’, to keep the smiles a plenty at the end of what we hope will be, a lovely day!

Dates for your Diary...

Mon. 17th March	Saint Patrick’s Feast Day Celebrations in school ‘A Day of Happiness and Smiles’
Wed. 19th March	Y5 Whole Class Swimming (3/3)
Fri. 21st March	9.30am Reception Class Celebration – Reception families welcome Year 6 @ Town Hall for Story Town Project Year 6 Class Assembly – Year 6 families welcome
Mon. 24th March	Year 5 leave for Kilve Court Residential
Wed. 26th March	Year 5 return from Kilve Court Residential
Fri. 28th March	Mass at St. Patrick’s @ 11am – Year 3, 4, 5 and 6– families welcome
Mon 31st March	We begin ‘Stay and Pray’ daily drop in prayers for anyone 9 – 9.30am all week – all are welcome!
Tues. 1st April	Key Stage 1 Sorry Service and KS2 Reconciliation – school only
Wed. 2nd April	World Autism Awareness Day- Assembly led by Mrs Robertson – school only
Thurs. 3rd April	Rock Steady Concert – invited families only
Friday 4th April	Last day of term Year 5 Class Assembly – Year 5 families welcome Year 1 – Year 6 Mid-Year Reports out to Parents
Future Dates for your Diary...	
Tues. 22nd April – First day of Term 5 – CoW Palm Sunday focus – school only	
Wed. 23rd April – St. George’s Day – Brownie, Guides, Rainbows etc uniforms can be worn CoW Maundy Thursday focus – school only Parent Drop in to discuss Reports 3.30pm	
Thurs. 24th April – CoW Good Friday focus – school only	

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

A huge thank you to all who have already been donating to our running team, who will be taking part in the Corsham 10k, to raise much needed funds for our PTFA. We are aiming for to raise£1,500 and have already seen we have reached £230 on our GoFundMe page. The following link will take you to our donations page <https://www.gofundme.com/f/please-help-us-raised-funds-for-our-school?qid=c59032409bf6d9b0769c8d0f8f494a59>

Have a wonderful weekend!

Jennie Courtney (Headteacher)