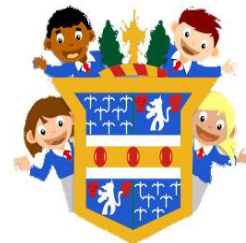


Saint Patrick's Catholic Primary School

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Saint Patrick's Newsletter

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

Week ending Friday 17th October

Dear Parents, Carers, Governors and Parishioners,

I cannot quite believe that we are at the end of the penultimate week of term 1! We are coming to that exciting time of year of darker nights, bonfires and fireworks. We hope you have great fun, but do take care and read the Dorset and Wiltshire Fire and Rescue advice, at the end of this newsletter. **This term finishes on Wed. 22nd October and we look forward to seeing you in term 2 on Mon. 3rd November.**

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 95%**. If you need advice or support on how to improve your child's attendance, please contact the School Office Team 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 Team if your child is not attending school and to give a reason for their absence, for our records. The Department for Education published revised guidance, which came into effect from August 2024. We have attached the guidance to this newsletter and the letter previously sent out to families from Wiltshire LA, which advises of all of the changes and penalties which you could incur. We would ask you to be fully aware of these changes when requesting time away from school or holidays.**



ROAD SAFETY – Please can we ask all families to be careful and considerate, when parking on the Lacock Road. We understand that parking is limited, hence we applied for as many parking permits as possible for families, **but safety must always be the priority**. Please ensure that when driving past the school you stick to a slow and sensible speed, as we do have very young children, parents with pushchairs and older members of the community, who use the narrow pavements. Please also be respectful of our neighbours and do not block driveways or park where there are double yellow lines or hatchings in place. We thank you in advance for your support in this matter.



CURRICULUM

TAPESTRY AND GOOGLE CLASSROOMS – 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

PARENT WORKSHOP REMINDER – Our next parent workshop, focussing on honest parenting and our own mental health, will take place on **Wednesday 12th November @ 5.45pm (arrival and wine)**. Its seasonal theme will be **'How to Survive Christmas and Find the Joy Again!'**. We do hope you will be able to join us to share some advice for the festive season, from how to make financial savings, to how to keep your sanity and remember the true meaning of this special time of year.

Parent Workshops

OPEN EVENING – We hope you managed to speak with your class teacher this week and hear of all of the achievements that your child is making, so far this year. If you could not make the meeting, please can you contact your class teacher to meet again, at a convenient time for you both. These meetings are very important, so that you can celebrate and support your child, for the academic year ahead.

RECEPTION PARENTS EVENING – Reception Parents Evening will be held next term on **Monday 10th and Tuesday 11th November from 3.30pm – 6pm**. You can book your online appointment using the School Cloud system <https://stpatricksatholic.schoolcloud.co.uk/> A guide on how to book your appointment is attached to this letter, but if you encounter any difficulties, please contact the School Office Team. **Bookings will open on Monday 20th October @ 12 noon and close on Friday 7th November.**

LITURGY AND CELEBRATION

CAMINO CHAPLAINCY DAY AT DOWNSIDE SCHOOL – Mrs Minty and myself were exceptionally proud to accompany members of our Chaplaincy Team to Downside School on Wednesday, to meet with other Camino schools, and learn skills to enhance chaplaincy at Saint Patrick's. We took part in a beautiful Mass in the Abbey, before being led by students from Downside School and Saint Gregory's Catholic College, on areas such as Lectio Divina, Prayer Spaces and the Rosary. It was a lovely day and our children took



their training very seriously, returning to school with many new ideas to share with the rest of the team. Many thanks to Downside School for the use of their minibus, to allow us to attend this special day.

YEAR 3 AND 4 MASS AT SAINT PATRICK’S CHURCH – We hope the families of Years 3 and 4 will be able to join us at Saint Patrick’s Church on **Wednesday 22nd October @ 11am**, for their Class Mass, led by Father Michael. We hope to see you there.

ENRICHMENT

CORSHAM FOOTBALL FESTIVAL – Mr Turnbull was brimming with happiness when he returned from the Corsham Football Festival with our Year 5 team last week. The festival included many of the local schools, with our team being some of the youngest children to take part. Although they did not win the festival, their team work, improved football skills (particularly those who took turns in goal) and their sporting spirit were commented on by many. This made them absolute winners in our eyes. A huge well done to our Year 5 football team!



YEAR 6 HAVE BEEN BAKING LIKE THEY DID IN THE BLITZ – Year 6 had a fantastic time mixing their History and Design Technology learning, when they prepared the classic dish apple crumble last week. They explored which ingredients would have been freely available during wartime and which would have been rationed, discussed whether apple crumble was a healthy choice and then thought of ways to make it even better for their bodies—suggestions included using wholemeal flour or reducing the sugar content. Most importantly they learnt the life skill of cooking and displayed some awesome teamwork, although many in Year 6 believed the eating was the best bit!



PARENTS AS PARTNERS



OPEN DAYS -Our first Open Day was very well attended last week and thank you to Mrs Gilbert (Chair of Governors) and Mrs Minty (Deputy Headteacher) for all of their help with the morning. If you know of anyone with a child starting Reception in September 2026, or with a child in another year group who may be interested in joining our school, please let them know that our second Open Day will be on **Wednesday 5th November @ 9.30am**. All are welcome!

AND FINALLY....Dates for your Diary...

Mon. 20th Oct	Celebration of the Word –focus on St. Luke – school only Rosary 12noon
Wed. 22nd Oct	Year 3 and Year 4 Mass @ Saint Patrick’s Church – families welcome Last Day of Term 1
Mon. 3rd Nov	Term 2 begins! Whole School Celebration of the Word– focus on All Saints / All Souls day – school only
Tue. 4th Nov	Tag Rugby Club– Years 1/2/3 – 3.15 – 4.15pm
Wed. 5th Nov	Open Morning – Reception and new parents @ 9.30am Year 4 whole class swimming 1/6
Thur. 6th Nov	Tag Rugby Club– Years 4/5/6 – 3.15 – 4.15pm
Future Dates....	<p>Mon. 10th and Tues. 11th Nov – Reception Online Parents Evening (School Cloud)</p> <p>Tues. 11th Nov – Remembrance observed by school @ 11am</p> <p>Wed. 12th Nov - Parent Workshop ‘How to Survive Christmas and Find the Joy Again!’ @ 5.45pm</p> <p>Tues. 2nd Dec – KS2 Mass for Years 3/4/5/6/ @ St. Patrick’s Church @ 11am – all KS2 families welcome</p> <p>Christmas Dates!</p> <p>Sat. 29th Nov – PTFA Wreath Making Workshop – book online</p> <p>Fri. 5th Dec – School Bazaar (pm) and Corsham Lights Switch on</p> <p>Wed. 10th Dec – KS1 Nativity @ 9.30 am and 2pm (ticketed)</p> <p>Thurs. 11th Dec – KS2 Christmas performance @ 1.45pm and 6pm (ticketed)</p> <p>Tues. 16th Dec – Christmas Lunch KS1 – parents book online</p> <p>Wed. 17th Dec – Christmas Lunch KS2 – parents book online</p> <p>Fri. 19th Dec – Christingle for school and governors</p> <p>Last Day of term!</p>

INSET DAYS FOR 2025-26
Mon. 1st September 2025
Mon. 5th January 2026
Mon. 1st June 2026
Tues. 2nd June 2026
Wed. 3rd June 2026



Have a lovely half term!
J. Courtney
Headteacher



 **Christmas**
in **CORSHAM**



DESIGN A CHRISTMAS CARD

WIN THE CHANCE TO SWITCH ON CORSHAM'S
CHRISTMAS LIGHTS!

Design the front of your card on A4 paper, put your name, age, address and/or school on the back and get it to the Town Hall by Monday 17 November.

There are three categories:

***Age 6 and under, 7-10 and 11-14**

and each winner must be available to come to the Christmas Lights Switch On - Friday 5 December 2025.

The overall winner will switch on the lights AND their entry will be the Town Council's official Christmas card for 2025.

As last year, we would like to give copies of entries (not the personal details) to local care homes and other organisations to share with Corsham's senior residents or those on their own at Christmas.

*If they wish, parents/teachers are welcome to enter children with SEND in their educational age group rather than their actual age group.



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Fireworks Code, Care, Celebrate!



We would always recommend attending an organised fireworks display, but if you do host your own:

- You must be 18 years or over to buy and set off fireworks
- Store fireworks in a closed box and take them out one at a time
- Follow the instructions on each firework, using a torch to read them, never a naked flame
- Keep a bucket of water nearby
- Make sure everyone stands well back and pets are kept indoors
- Light fireworks at arm's length, using the taper provided

Never go back to a lit firework – even if it hasn't gone off, it could still explode!

- Don't drink alcohol if responsible for setting off fireworks
- Only buy fireworks which carry a CE mark
- We would always recommend attending an organised bonfire or fireworks display.



DORSET & WILTSHIRE
FIRE AND RESCUE