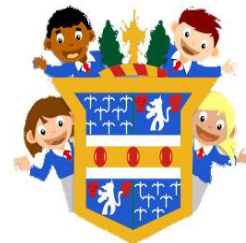


Saint Patrick's Catholic Primary School

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Saint Patrick's Newsletter

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

Week ending Friday 23rd January

Dear Parents, Carers, Governors and Parishioners,

Thank you to all of our children and families who 'glammed up' today and looked so fantastic! Thank you to those who donated glue sticks to our classes. These are a much used and needed resources and we are very grateful for your generosity.

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 if your child is not attending school and give a specific reason for their absence, (please do not say 'unwell' or 'sick') this will need to be done for each day your child/ren is absent for our records.

Our School Office is open daily from 8.45am – 3.15pm The Department for Education published revised guidance, which came into effect 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



NEW SCHOOL PARKING INFORMATION – We have been encountering a number of issues with parking at the start and end of the school day. While we appreciate that parking is limited and the frustrations this can cause, all parents who applied for a parking permit for free use of the town car parks were allocated one, and we would ask you to use these. In recent weeks, we have had a number of people trying to access the school car park or to turn around in the school driveway at the start and end of the day, which is dangerous for our families, especially those with very young children. **Can we take this opportunity to remind all families that there is no access to the school car park between 8.30am and 9am and 3pm and 3.30pm.**

We now have a number of our families with Blue Badges and we would ask our school community to leave space near the front of the school for these families to use. As you all know we have 2 parking spaces for Blue Badge holders, at the start of our school driveway, but this is not enough at present. **Blue Badge holders in Wiltshire can park on double yellow lines for up to 3 hours (with clock), but NOT where there are loading bans or signs prohibiting parking, especially near school entrances where safety is paramount and local rules (like "No Stopping on School Keep Clear" zig-zags or times) often override general badge rights.** Those with Blue Badges can park near the school entrance on the double yellow lines, if the allocated bays are full, but must remember not to park on the zig zags and always display your badge and clock. **In order to keep our children safe we will be now closing the main school gates from 8.30am every morning.** We thank you in advance for working with us to keep all of our children safe.

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

MATHS WORKSHOP FOR YEAR 3 AND 4 PARENTS REMINDER– We are delighted to invite parents of Years 3 and 4 children to attend a Maths Workshop, led by Mrs Osborne (Year 3 Teacher), Mrs Henry-Chapman (Year 4 Teacher) and Mrs Wood (Maths Subject Leader). This is focussed on the Multiplication Check at the end of Year 4, what children need to know and fun ways of gaining Times Tables knowledge! It will take place on Thursday 29th January at 2.30pm and we hope many of you can join us.

YEAR 6 CLASS ASSEMBLY – It was wonderful to finish last week with Year 6's class assembly, focussing on their historical learning on WWII and the Bath Blitz. This is learning which has to be approached with great maturity and empathy, which Year 6 did brilliantly, as well as entertaining us with their acting, singing and creative writing. They made us think, laugh and nearly cry. A wonderful assembly, thank you to Year 6 and the Year 6 teaching team.

LITURGY AND CELEBRATION

CELEBRATION OF THE WORD FOCUS ON 'FLOURISHING IN FAITH AND HOPE' – Our focus of this term and term 4's Celebration of the Word will be on 'flourishing'. A document was written in 2021 called 'Flourishing Together', written by the Church of England and the Catholic Education Service, 'to set out a collective and hope-filled vision - that the best unifying concept around which to build the education system for the coming decades is that of flourishing – flourishing children and flourishing adults in flourishing schools'. A following document 'Called to Flourish in Faith and Hope' was then shared in 2024, exploring this understanding more fully from a Catholic educational perspective. We will help our children to understand the key message through the word 'flourish' itself e.g. **F** reminding us about our faith and **L** teaching us to live and share our love. Our aim is to be, 'an educational community, a place of differences living together in harmony' i.e. a flourishing school.



ENRICHMENT



YEAR 3 AND 4 LUNCHTIME CHESS CLUB – In Term 2 a group of Year 6 boys came up with the great idea of a lunchtime chess club, for those who love the game, and for those who wanted to learn. It was a great success for Years 5 and 6 in Autumn and this term it is available for Years 3 and 4. If you would like to attend, please sign up on the sheet outside your classroom. The club will run on **Tuesday lunchtimes**. A huge thank you to Beau, Aidan, Jacob, Joshua (Year 6) for starting and running the club and Orlando, Audrey and Ciara (Year 5) who help to run the Year 5 session. It has been a great success.

OUR NEW MONDAY YEAR 5 LUNCHTIME SKETCHING CLUB – The Chess Club inspired some of our Year 5 girls to start a Year 5 sketching club this term. They will be looking at the technique of sketching and how to boost confidence in these artistic skills. The club will run on **Monday lunchtimes** and you can again sign up to join. A huge thank you to Phoebe, Elsie, Poppy and Bea (Year 5) who have to set up this club for others. We are sure it will be very popular.



PARENTS AS PARTNERS

NEW HOME/SCHOOL AGREEMENT REMINDER – You should have received a Parentmail with our new Home/School Agreement attached. Please can you read and explain this to your child and then print, sign and return to school. This agreement is important in explaining how we work together, in the best interests of our children. We acknowledge our responsibility as a school, to support parents/carers in their task of nurturing their child(ren) towards being the best they can be, within a caring Catholic community. We ask parents as the primary educators of their children, to work with us to support their child's learning at school and for our children to recognise the different and unique talents which God has given them and their responsibility to use them wisely.



'IT MUST BE LOVE', A SONG FOR OUR FRIEND MR NEWSTEAD – We're happy to share further details of the recording of our school song 'It Must Be Love', for our friend Mr. Newstead, on **Saturday 14th February**. We can't wait for our children to be part of this special experience! Here are the details for the day:

Arrival: 9:45am

Recording starts: 10:00am

Finish time: 1:00pm

We're incredibly lucky to be working with a world-renowned recording studio, Real World Studios, who have kindly donated their time and expertise. Because of this, we'll need to be flexible, patient, and ready to follow the direction of the professional recording team – it's all part of the magic! Please note that there are some lovely local walks for parents to enjoy while they wait, if the weather is kind, but otherwise there is an indoor space that the studios have kindly allowed us to use. **To help us prepare, all children attending must be signed up with the School Office Team by 12 noon on Friday 23rd January.** We know the children will have a fantastic time, and we're so excited to create something special together, in memory of our friend Mr. Newstead.

Dates for your Diary...

Mon. 26th Jan	PE Enrichment Day – Winter Olympics – Reception to Year PE uniform to be worn Lunchtime Sketching Club for Year 5 – please sign up ahead Gardening Club – KS2 2/4 Corsham Youth Council Meeting for our Representatives
Tues. 27th Jan	Celebration of the Word – school only Multi Sports Club Years 3-6 - 3.15 – 4.15pm Lunchtime Chess Club for Year 3 and 4 – please sign up on Monday

Wed. 28 th Jan	Father Craig visiting KS2 Year 6 Swimming - postponed – please see parentmail
Thurs. 29 th Jan	Multi Sports Club Years 1-2 - 3.15 – 4.15pm 3.30 – 4.45pm Dance Workshops Year 5 @ The Corsham School – families will be contacted individually
Fri. 30 th Jan	Year 5 Class Assembly – Year 5 families are invited to join us
Future Dates....	
Mon. 2nd February – Celebration of the Word – Candlemas – school only	
Tues. 3rd February – Anaphylaxis UK Assembly for whole school	
Mon. 9th February – Yellow Mental Health Day – wear as much yellow as you can or your favourite mufti to feel your best!	
Tues. 10th February – Safer Internet Day (more details to follow)	
Wed. 11th February – Year 6 Trip to Hampton Court – school uniform and comfortable shoes to be worn Ash Wednesday Service for Reception – Year 5	
Fri. 13th February – Year 4 Class Assembly – Year 4 families welcome	
Sat. 14th February – Real World Recording Day for Mr Newstead	

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

On 30th January we will be saying goodbye to Ms Knight, who has been co-teaching Year 2 with Mrs Solomon, while Miss Jones has been on maternity leave. We would like to thank Ms Knight for being part of our school family and such a valued member of our team. We know you will join us in thanking her and wishing her well for the future.

Have a lovely weekend!

Jennie Courtney
Headteacher

