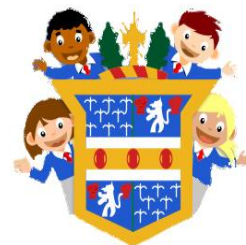


Saint Patrick's Catholic Primary School

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Saint Patrick's Newsletter

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

Week ending Friday 10th July

Dear Parents, Carers, Governors and Parishioners,

We have seen many happy, but slightly tired, children in school this week following the England victory on Sunday night. I know Year 2, who have England as their school team, were particularly proud! It was great to celebrate not only the team's success, but also some great sporting values, seeing the world brought together through sport.

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 94%**. 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 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



IT'S NEARLY THE HOLIDAYS, BUT WE NEED TO STAY SAFE - As we head towards the end of the school year, the warmer weather and excitement of the holidays can make children a little less focused on staying safe. If your child walks to and from school, please take a few moments to remind them about road safety. Encourage them to use safe crossing places where possible, stop, look, listen and think before crossing, and avoid distractions such as mobile phones. If you are walking with your younger child, please ensure they are close to you at all times. We all know how busy the Lacock Road can be! **Please also remember that children should not run around the parked cars in the school car park, for their own safety and the safety of others.** We are seeing more hot days ahead this week and on these days, it's important to stay hydrated, wear a hat and sun cream and to take extra care in the sun. A little reminder now can help everyone enjoy a safe and happy end to the school year.



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

HOT WEATHER SCHOOL UNIFORM – With the warm weather expected to continue over the coming weeks, children are welcome to wear either their PE uniform or light summer uniform to school until the end of term. We hope this will help everyone stay comfortable during the hotter days. Please continue to ensure your child comes to school with a water bottle, sun hat and we recommend applying sunscreen before they leave home. Thank you for your support as we help keep everyone safe and comfortable in the sunshine.

PARENTS EVENING AND RECEPTION REPORTS – We hope you will all have received your report or attended your Parents Evening. However, if you didn't manage to speak with your class teacher(s), please do contact them, to book in a conversation.

LITURGY AND CELEBRATION

CELEBRATION OF THE WORD AND SPORT – This week's Celebration of the Word focused on the idea of carrying heavy loads in our lives. We all face challenges and responsibilities, whether they are big or small. Our Year 6 pupils are preparing to leave us for new and exciting adventures, and with that comes a mixture of emotions. For others, it may simply be the everyday responsibilities of school, learning, friendships or helping with jobs at home. To help us think about this, we reflected on the pressures that people can experience, even those we admire. We thought about footballer Harry Kane and the responsibility he carries as England captain, leading his team on one of the biggest stages in the world. It reminded us that everyone has moments when life can feel a little heavy.

The wonderful message we shared is that we never have to carry our burdens alone. God is always with us, giving us strength and comfort. He also places people in our lives to support us—our families, our friends, our teachers and our wider school community. Together, we can help one another through life's challenges and celebrate each other's successes.

ENRICHMENT

SPORTS DAY 2026 SUCCESS! - What a fantastic Sports Day we had last week! It was wonderful to welcome so many parents, carers and friends to cheer on our children. The sun shone, the atmosphere was full of encouragement, and it was a joy to see every child taking part with such enthusiasm while supporting one another throughout the day.

A huge thank you goes to Mr Turnbull for organising such a successful event—especially as this was his final Sports Day with us. We are incredibly grateful for all the hard work and planning that went into making the day so enjoyable. We'd also like to thank all of our staff and our fantastic Year 6 helpers, whose support ensured everything ran so smoothly.

We hope you enjoyed the day as much as we did, and thank you for helping to make it such a memorable occasion for everyone.

AWARD-WINNING GARDENING CLUB! - We are absolutely delighted to share the fantastic news that St Patrick's Gardening Club has been recognised through the prestigious Bees' Needs Champion Awards, organised by DEFRA. These awards celebrate exceptional work that supports pollinators and helps create wildlife-friendly environments. Please see below a letter from Mary Creagh CBE, the Minister for Nature.

Dear Bees' Needs Award Champion,

I'd like to offer my hearty congratulations on being one of Defra's brilliant Bees' Needs Champions for 2026. The fantastic work that you and all our other champions have done over the last year or more is so valuable, not only in helping our pollinators survive and thrive, but also as an example of what can be achieved with passion, planning and people power. The UK's insect pollinators, of which there are at least 1500 species including bees, butterflies, hoverflies and even beetles, play a crucial role in our lives, helping our flowers, fruit trees and crops to grow. Not only this, but they are also beautiful creatures that we value in their own right. Pollinators are key to supporting our biodiversity, and it is so important that we take action to protect them. Please keep up your brilliant work, spread the word and inspire others to learn more, and take their own steps to help pollinators and nature thrive.

Thank you again for everything you have done, and congratulations on your achievement.

Yours sincerely

Mary Creagh

Mrs Minty will be attending a ceremony at RHS Wisley on July 14th and will collect the award on behalf of our wonderful gardeners. Well done Gardening Club, you should feel very proud!

Mrs Minty – Gardening Club

WE HAD SOME SPECIAL VISITORS – Our Year 6 and Year 1 children enjoyed a wonderful Monday morning, with members of the charity Golden-Oldies. Together, they sang a selection of well-loved classic songs and spent time playing board games. It was a fantastic opportunity for the children and visitors to connect across generations, building confidence, communication skills and friendships. The smiles on everyone's faces showed just how much the experience was enjoyed, and it was heart-warming to see the positive impact that spending time together had on both the children and our Golden Oldies guests. We look forward to welcoming them back again soon!

A NEW ART INSTALLATION – Are you thinking about a fun (and free) activity for your child/ren during the summer holiday? We may have just what you need! Take a walk with your family along Pockeridge Drive, to see the new sculpture. 77% of local voters have loved the nature-themed design, with the inner band reading **“Roots of ancient oaks below...Branches of our community above”**, created from ideas generated during workshops of the Potley and Pockeridge Art Community Project (PACT). These were led by Caroline Rudge <https://www.carolinerudge.com/> and one of our past parents, Rachel Heard <https://www.rachelheard.com/>. It's well worth a look!



PARENTS AS PARTNERS



STILL SOME AVAILABILITY AT THE CIRCUS – There is still some availability for the 5pm Circus show with Lucas Jet, on Monday 20th July. It should be a great evening with lots of fun and action. Snacks, drinks and circus accessories will be available to buy and tickets are £6pp, with the under 2's being free. They will still need to be booked on, so that capacity is managed safely. A HUGE thank you to our imaginative PTFA, who bring us yet another great event, and one which we know

will be a great success. Please use the QR code on the end of the newsletter to book.

Dates for your Diary...

Mon. 13th July	Changeover Afternoon Children to New Classes for September 1-3pm
Tues. 14th July	KS2 Play 'Shakespeare Rocks' 1.30pm & 6pm Racket Club Years 1-2 3.15-4.15pm
Thurs. 16th July	Racket Club Years 3-6 3.15 – 4.15pm
Fri. 17th July	Year 3 lead Celebration of the Word on St. Christopher – school only

Future Dates....

Monday 20th July – International Chess Day

Circus Day and Evening

Wednesday 22nd July – Father Craig visit

Leavers' Assembly @ school for Year 6 families

Last Day of School Year

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



We hope everyone has a lovely weekend.
Please continue to follow Teddy's 'Stay Safe in the Heat' rules to take care of yourselves and others in the hot weather.

Good luck to England in their match against Norway!

Jennie Courtney

Headteacher

Monday 20th July

TICKETS £6 pp
Under 2's FREE
(Must purchase the appropriate ticket so we can manage capacity)

FAMILY TICKET £20
for 4 people

GET READY FOR FUN!!!

SHOWTIMES
1ST SHOW **3.45pm**
2ND SHOW **5pm**

A high energy circus show where the children become the stars!

Each show lasts approx. 1 hour

4 x British Unicycle Champion

ST PATRICK'S SCHOOL
Taking place in St Patrick's School

SNACKS, DRINKS AND CIRCUS ACCESSORIES
available to purchase before and after shows.

Scan the QR code to buy your tickets today!

