



St Patrick's
Catholic Voluntary Academy

ST. PATRICK'S CATHOLIC VOLUNTARY ACADEMY.
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Love first,
Live the Gospels,
Learn for Life

March 31st 2023

Dear Parent/Carers,

As we near to the end of this Spring Lent term, there are lots of items to share with you and celebrate. Its been a busy term indeed filled with lots of opportunities for reflection, fundraising fun and celebrations along the way.

St Patrick's Day Mass



On March 17th, Year 6 represented the school proudly at the Mass celebrated by Bishop Patrick at Our Lady and St Patrick's Church. The children read and sang beautifully and enjoyed presenting Bishop Patrick with a gift at the end of Mass. He was touched by the gift and expressed his gratitude to the children and the school. Back at school, the children enjoyed a St Patrick's themed day complete with festive bunting, a reflective Whole school liturgy led by Miss Lane and of course, it wouldn't be St Patrick's day if there wasn't an opportunity for ice cream complete with green sprinkles. I hope you all had a wonderful day on this occasion. Please know that the community of the St Patrick's school and parish were in our thoughts and prayers.

School-Parish Links

Father Wilfred enjoyed being the Foundation Stage's mystery reader on World Book Day and he also visited the school last week to lead the school in a Service of Reconciliation. Mrs Cannell regularly publishes a short feature about the school in the Parish newsletter and we are very lucky indeed to have some Parishioners volunteer to read with the children. Watch this space for Parish Prayer Partners coming soon.

Holy Week

The children in KS2 led us in a series of Liturgical Prayer Presentations to reflect the events of Holy Week. The Foundation Stage joined with KS1 to celebrate the joyful events of Psalm Sunday. Year 3 led us in a dramatisation of Jesus in the Temple. One parent described this powerful presentation as giving them 'goosebumps.' Year 4 depicted the Last Supper with reverence and the message of serving others with kindness. Yesterday, Year 5 continued the reflections by leading us in prayer based on the Garden of Gethsemane. Today our Year 6 children led us in a powerful presentation of the stations of the cross. All the children led the school beautifully on these important events in the lead up to Easter.

Fundraising Fun

The school was a hive of activity this half term with every class taking part in some sort of fundraising activity for Lent. Our EYFS children have completed a walk for CAFOD and to date have raised over £150! Years 3 and 4 have been selling Easter eggs and prayer beads to raise money for a Prayer Garden for the school and Years 5 and 6 have been donating items for our Food Bank. Watch this space for Year 1 and 2's Cake Sale after Easter! We have also had a number of staff members

KEY DATES

First day back after the Easter break

Monday 17th April

KS2 (Yr6) SATS Week

Week beginning 9th May

KS1 SATS

During the month of May

Year 1 Phonics Screening

Week beginning 12th June

Year 4 Multiplication Check

5th June – 16th June

Your child's attendance at school leading up and during the assessment period is extremely important in order for the children to prepare fully for these assessments

For copies of the assessment letters sent to Year 1, 2, 4 and 6 detailing all the relevant information, please [click here](#).

INSET DAYS

Friday 26th May

Friday 7th July

Half Term Dates

May 29th – Friday 2nd

Children return on June 5th

Last Day

Tuesday 25th July

give up their time to make and sell 'Chocolate Egg Rabbits' for the Prayer Garden too. Thank you to Mrs Foote, Miss Buchanan, Mrs Faulconbridge, Mrs Russell and Mrs Cannell for their creative rabbit making skills and to you at home for supporting us with all our fundraising efforts.

Prayer Garden

Amidst all the fundraising fun, BBC Radio 1 spotted Miss Sutton's tweet about our Prayer Garden plans. They were so intrigued with the project that they contacted school and invited me to talk about it live on air! They were impressed with the children's ideas about how we can make the prayer garden a meaningful space for the school and community. The site for the project will be at the side of the Year 6 classroom – watch this space for a transformation very soon!

Science Week

British Science week was a huge success across the school with pupils engaging in exciting experiments and participating in live online teaching sessions. In line with this year's theme of 'Connections', these online teaching sessions explored some very unexpected links between tractors and space and even pigs and seaweed! We ended on a high with a fabulous visit from staff and students from the University of Nottingham, who helped us to engage in some very exciting forensic science. Lessons starting off with finger print exploration using everyday items such as sellotape and pencils and then moving on to solving a crime using finger print analysis! It was an amazing end to a thoroughly thrilling week and we're already looking forward to next year!

World Maths Day

The school celebrated World Maths Day last Friday and the children not only looked the part in Rockstar outfits but they sounded the part too with every class having an extra special timetables/number facts focus for the day. We enjoyed an exciting (and nerve-wracking!) Staff Vs Children timestable competition to start the day and a fun maths-based morning was enjoyed by all! Learning timetables and number facts really are the basis of understanding all mathematical concepts. It is vitally important that your child learns these facts as well as they can. Challenging them to know the answers to these questions as fast as they can answer the question, 'what's your name?' is a great goal to aspire to and will help no end. Thank you for all your support with this.

Parent Voice QR Code



Thank you to those parents/carers who attended our Parents Consultation last week. It was lovely to see you all and provide the opportunity for you to look at your children's work and learn about your child's progress from their class teacher. If you haven't already done so, please click [here](#) or scan the QR code to access our Parent Voice questionnaire on RE and the Catholic Life of our school. As always, your views and feedback are important to us.

Sporting News

Congratulations to our dance team who had been practising twice a week in readiness for their competition at the Albert Hall. They performed amazingly and were a credit to the school. They scored highly and even received 10's for stage presence and crowd appeal! The sports hall athletics group took part in a sports hall athletics event last Tuesday. We're pleased to announce that St Patrick's took home the gold in every event! In football news, the team hosted home games and played away at Greythorn School last week. The first game ended in a loss but the team didn't let that stop

Mass Dates

Please see when each class is visiting Church to celebrate Mass below:

FS2 Mass In Church

Weds 26th April

Year 5 Mass In Church

Weds 3rd May

Year 4 Mass In Church

Weds 10th May

FS1 Mass In Church

Weds 17th May

Ascension Day Celebration

Thurs 18th May Time TBC

Year 3 Mass In Church

Weds 24th May

Year 1 Mass In Church

Weds 7th June

Year 2 Mass In Church

14th June

Year 6 Mass In Church

Weds 21st June

Feast of St Peter and Paul – TBC

Wed 28th June

Year 2/Year 5 Chaplaincy Team 5th July

OTHER DATES

Year 6 Leavers/End of Year Mass

24th July, 1.30pm In School

Year 6 Musical

Friday 21st July 1.30pm/7pm

KS1/Year 3 Sports Day

Mon 19th June, 1.30pm

Year 4/5/6 Sports Day

Wed 21st June, 1.30pm

EYFS Sports Day

Fri 23rd June, 9.05am

them and came back to win the away game. Well done to all our sporting superstars! Keeping active is very important so keep a look out for some of our sports clubs beginning after Easter.

Carter's Education Foundation

This Foundation is a local charity which offers families in financial need assistance with educational costs for children and young people up to the age of 25. This could be help with school visits, school uniform or PE kit, clubs, music activities, school travel costs or any other sporting activity that supports physical and mental well-being. If you feel you could benefit more from this support or would like to know more, please visit www.wilford-carters-education.org. The organisation offers annual grants with this year's application deadline being May 31st.

Congratulations!

During the last half term, Mrs Trueman (formally Miss Booth) celebrated her wedding. I know you will join me in wishing her our very best wishes and congratulations.

With Heartfelt Thanks

This term Mr Les Sullivan has sadly ended his term of office as a Foundation Governor for the school. Mr Sullivan has been a Governor and a true champion of the school for many years, with his total service to Governance across the Trust totalling 22 years. On behalf of myself and the entire school community, I express our upmost sincerity and gratitude for his service. The school has been lucky enough to benefit from his unwavering support and dedication for many, many years and the school has grown as a result,

Holy Week and Easter Celebrations

Please visit <https://olspsnottingham.com> for times of the Easter celebrations at Our Lady and St Patrick's Church. The children who are making their First Holy Communion will be leading the Stations of the Cross at 9.30am on Good Friday.

Thank you for your continued support this term and I look forward to the adventures of the summer term ahead. I wish you a happy and holy Easter and look forward to seeing the children back at school on Monday 17th April.

With very best wishes,

Miss Ferrara