



St Patrick's
Catholic Voluntary Academy

ST. PATRICK'S CATHOLIC VOLUNTARY ACADEMY.
Coronation Avenue, Wilford, Nottingham NG11 7AB
☎ 0115 9152961
Email: admin@st-patricks.nottingham.sch.uk
Website: www.st-patricks.nottingham.sch.uk

Headteacher: Miss L Ferrara



23rd May 2024

Dear Parent/Carers,

As we near to the end of this half term, there are lots of items to share with you and celebrate.

Welcome Father David!

Father Wilfred announced a few weeks ago that he was officially stepping down as our Parish priest due to his commitments in his new role. I know you will join me in thanking him for his endless hard work and commitment to the school over the years. We welcome Father David as our new Parish priest who is familiar with the school and our families and look forward to him celebrating more and more occasions with us in the future.

Ascension Day Mass

We celebrated this prayerful occasion at school where the children read and sang beautifully and enjoyed key messages spoken about by Father David about faith, trust and strength to take into their everyday lives. It was lovely to be joined by parents and parishioners, all of whom are always welcome to join with us in prayer and celebration. Please look out for Mass dates, spread the word and come along to celebrate with us.

First Holy Communion Celebrations

Huge congratulations to all of our children who celebrated their First Holy Communion last weekend. It was wonderful to celebrate together at Our Lady and St Patrick's Church which was full to the brim! Children who made their First holy Communion in other Parishes were in our thoughts and prayers too. The sunshine made for an extra special day, filled with lots of faith, hope and happiness. We are so proud of all the children who celebrated this special sacrament with such reverence, maturity and joy – well done! Our thanks go out to Mrs Cannell and Mrs Cotter who gave up their time to help prepare the children, along with the other Catechists at the Parish.

Year of Prayer

We continue to celebrate the **Year of Encounter** and **Year of Prayer** as led by Bishop Patrick. We have a new prayer station in our school hall which is full of Eastertide prayers from the children in this joyful season. As suggested by the children, we had a special bell, which the children rang at 1pm everyday. The children share their joys of the day during this time to ensure the Easter celebrations continued throughout the 50 days of Easter!



Love first,
Live the Gospels,
Learn for Life

KEY DATES

Year 1 Phonics Screening
Week beginning 10th June

To support your children with this, please use the flashcards provided by your child's class teacher.

Year 4 Multiplication Check
3rd June – 14th June

Your child's attendance at school leading up to 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 please click [here](#).

EYFS Stay and Play
14th June, 1.45 – 3pm

Year 4/5/6 Sports Day
17th June, 1.45pm

EYFS Sports Day
18th June, 9.05am

KS1/Year 3 Sports Day
19th June, 2pm

Bastille Day
17th July – Details to follow

Year 6 Musical
Friday 19th July 1.30pm/6.30pm

End of Year/Year 6 Leavers Mass
23rd July – Time TBC

Year 6 Leavers Assembly
26th July, 9.05am

Faith In Action and Makaton

Our Year 6 Faith In Action group are coming to the end of their sessions and will end their programme by visiting Century Court Care home tomorrow to spread joy, laughter and happiness in the form of joke-telling, games and conversations with the elderly. They follow in the footsteps of Makaton Club who visited the Care Home last term. Following the visit, school was inundated with messages from the residents and Care Home employees who were impressed with the children's behaviour and care towards others. Well done to all of our children who represented the school and made it their mission to spread joy – they certainly succeeded!

Sacred Spaces

When gathering in House Meetings, as part of the Synod discussions the children suggested having 'Friendship Benches' in our playgrounds to help support anyone who felt they needed to talk to a friend or felt lonely. These have arrived and are currently being painted by Mr Etches before they will go outside for the children to enjoy.

Our Foundation Stage children also suggested having a new outdoor prayer area and so they now have a brand new Prayer Arch to enjoy. It is a beautiful place to sit under the vines, leaves and prayers made by the children and enjoy some prayer time with friends. Please see the images below.

Catholic Social Teaching

Catholic Social Teaching is founded in Scripture and includes statements and letters written by Church leaders. It offers wisdom and insights on living the Gospel in today's world. The children enjoyed an assembly led by Mrs Cannell about these statements and regularly discuss these during RE and other lessons in school. Next time you're visiting the school, feel free to learn more about this from our Catholic Social Teaching Display where you will find examples of where and how we live out these statements in school. To learn more, please visit the school website or click [here](#).

Magical Maths and Severn Trent

We have recently enjoyed presentations from Severn Trent on water safety and conservation and Magical Maths to promote the after school club. If you would like further information about any of these, please contact the school office.

OPAL Update

Thank you so much for all your contributions towards OPAL. We will launch our OPAL Play on 10th June and are very excited. This would not be possible without the hard work of our OPAL play team and the support of our families. From fancy dress clothes to cable reels to dolls houses, it will be a great experience for all children at St Patrick's to have the opportunity to play. Thank you so much.

Sports News

Our Year 3 and 4 team played their first home game on the 14th May against Greythorn Primary, winning 1 of the 2 games played. Well done to our team who displayed an excellent attitude and worked well as a team. We look forward to more games in the future.

Mass Dates

Please see the remainder of dates for classes visiting Church to celebrate Parish Mass below:

FS1 and FS2 Mass In Church

Weds 5th June

Faith/Parish Ambassadors to celebrate Mass In Church

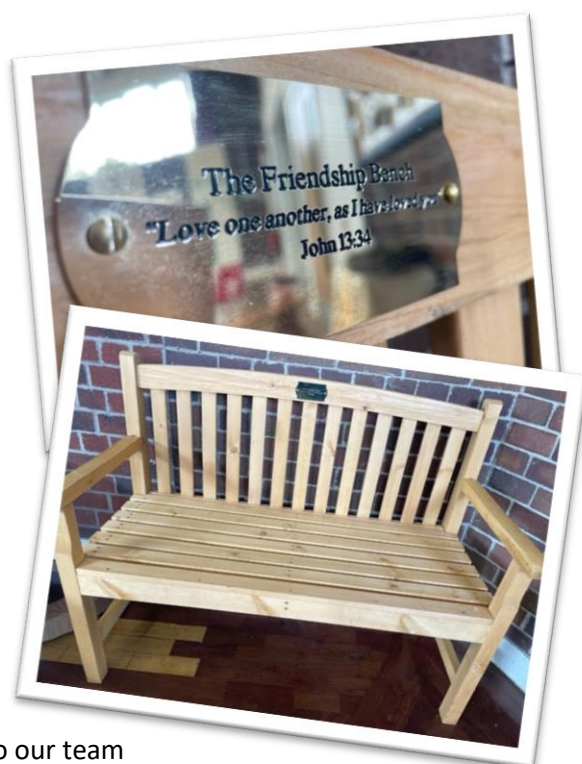
Weds 12th June

Year 2/Year 5 Chaplaincy Team to celebrate Mass In Church

Weds 19th June

Whole School Mass to celebrate the children who have made their First Holy Communion

Weds 26th June, 1.30pm



Well Done!

A very big well done to all of our children in Year 6 who sat their SATs last week. We are so proud of their determination and efforts. Work continues in Year 6 and in the rest of the classes as we venture into the final half term of the year. Please note that the Phonic Screening for Year 1 (and some Year 2 children) and the Multiplication Check for Year 4 will take place after half term. For more information, please see the information boxes on the right on the previous page or speak to your child's class teacher.



Payment Updates

Please ensure dinner money payments for school lunches and other items are regularly paid and accounts are up-to-date as this ensures our school office and school procedures can run smoothly. If you need any support with payments or wish to talk through this, please contact the school office or ask to speak to a member of the Senior Leadership Team where we will be more than happy to discuss options with you.

Parking

A gentle reminder about parking. Our local PCSO will be routinely visiting the area to promote safe parking and ensure parents/carers are parking sensibly to ensure the safety of our children. Please do not park on the yellow lines and avoid blocking the drives of neighbours who require 24-hour access. When dropping children at breakfast club or picking up from after school clubs, please use the white bay parking areas and do not block the parking gates as this prevents staff from being able to access or leave the car park.

Thank you for your continued support this term and I look forward to the adventures of the final summer half term ahead. I wish you all a safe and happy half term and look forward to welcoming the children back on Monday 3rd June.

With very best wishes,

Miss Ferrara



BUSHCRAFT ACTIVITY DAY

'HALF-TERM ACTIVITY'

28th of May
10:00 - 2:00pm

At Bullwell Forest Garden

Austin St,
Nottingham
NG6 9HE



**Come and join the Keyworking Service and Urban Bushcraft for an
family-friendly activity day.**



@keyworking.service



@keyworkingservice



keyworking.service@nottinghamcity.gov.uk

FOR CHILDREN/YOUNG PEOPLE AND THEIR
FAMILIES UP TO THE AGE OF 14 WITH AUTISM
AND/OR A LEARNING DISABILITY



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MUSIC WITH CHRIS HULL + ARTS & CRAFTS



29th May
Starting 10:30am

At The Cathedral

This is a bookable event



The Music Session aim is to engage family members in musical experience and promote well-being, as audience, participants and performers through a range of singing activities, games and enjoyment.

Chris Hull is a singer, musician, teacher, performer & songwriter who has worked in music education in Nottingham for 20 years. He has facilitated music making with all ages across a range of settings; including nursery, primary & secondary schools, as well as music in the community. He has a passion for making music happen with others.

FOR CHILDREN/YOUNG PEOPLE AND THEIR
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