

ST. PATRICK'S CATHOLIC VOLUNTARY ACADEMY.

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Headteacher: Miss L Ferrara

22nd July 2024

Dear Parent/Carers,

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

St Peter and St Paul Mass

We celebrated this wonderful occasion at school a couple of weeks ago. Pupils who have this year received The Sacrament of First Holy Communion for the first time led us in our celebration, reading and singing beautifully. We thank Father Wilfred for joining us and celebrating Mass on this day.

We would like to invite you to our final Mass of this term tomorrow **Tuesday** 23rd July at 1.30pm where we will celebrate and give thanks for all of our achievements this year and for our wonderful Year 6 children.

Choir Concert

Last week we were treated to a choir concert by Years 3 and 4 who showcased their fantastic singing skills. Years 3 and 4 have worked with Mr Treloar since the start of the year and sang a range of modern and traditional songs with such confidence and positivity. Mr Treloar will continue to support the school next year in this way and in his role as a school Governor. We look forward to this Thursday at 9.05am when we celebrate the musical talents of Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 as they perform some of their pieces with Miss Taylor. All parents welcome!

Snow White

Year 6 wowed the school last week with their performance of Snow White. They sang with such joyful energy, spoke with confidence and there were jokes galore throughout! Everyone was thoroughly entertained by their acting and singing skills and it was quite clear to see that we have some children who were born to be on stage! They truly put a smile on everyone's faces and it was a wonderful way to end last week with final performances that raised the roof! We were so proud of all the Year 6 children who let their singing, acting and dancing talents shine!

PFA

Huge thanks to the PFA who have worked hard to fundraise for our new OPAL storage. The school has enjoyed a Film night and disco this year – all suggestions raised by their children themselves in their House Meetings. Members of the PFA give up their time voluntarily to meet, organise events and apply for funding to support the school to grow and thrive; we are so very grateful for their efforts. We look forward to events next year in order to continue to fundraise for key school resources. If you are interested in joining the PFA or could help in any way, please contact the school office.



Love first, Live the Gospels, Learn for Life

KEY DATES

First day back in September Wednesday 4th September

Education Sunday - St Patrick's children reading at Mass

Sunday 8th September, 9am

Year 6 visiting Church for Parish Mass Wednesday 11th September, 10am

> First Whole School Mass Tuesday 17th September, 2pm

Year 5 visiting Church for Parish Mass Wednesday 25th September, 10am

Year 4 visiting Church for Parish Mass Wednesday 2nd October, 10am

Year 3 visiting Church for Parish Mass Wednesday 9th October, 10am

Parent's Consultations Wednesday 9th October, 1pm - 7pm

St Patrick's Children reading at Mass to celebrate Harvest

Sunday 13th October, 9am

Harvest Mass Tuesday 15th October, 2pm

Stay and Play EYFS Thursday 17th October, 9-10.30am

Black History Month Work Presentation Friday 18th October, 2.30pm

Open Morning for New Parents Wednesday 6th November, 10.45 – 11.45am

Farewell and Good Luck

We wish Mr King the very best of luck as he begins teaching in his new school this September. Mr King has worked at the school for six years and we thank him for his service and dedication to the school. We also say farewell to Mrs Dyal who will also be leaving us, having spent the last two years supporting the children at St Patrick's. We keep them both in our thoughts and prayers as they embark on new adventures.

Sacred Spaces



We have used the Trust's Sacred Spaces fund to organise new prayer and friendship areas around school this year. The children gathered together to discuss the Synod back in the Lent term and together they suggested ways to put their faith into action. It was decided that in order to support those feeling lonely or in need of a good friend, new Friendship Benches would be placed around the school site for all to access. Each bench has a special plaque engraved with Scripture chosen by the children which reflect the school's mission statement. It has been wonderful to see children supporting each other on the bench and using it as a place to spread joy



at playtime. Our EYFS unit also benefitted from this fund with a new outdoor Prayer Arch. Children sit here to say and write prayers and enjoy reading the prayers of others which hang from the vines above. These areas have enabled the children to pray together, support

one another and spread the joy of St Patrick's even further.

Sports Update From Miss Lane

Firstly, I'd like to thank everyone for the amazing contribution to the sports provision in St Patrick's this year. Thank you to Miss Thornhill and her team for going above and beyond in the extracurricular activities they have provided. Thank you to all the children who have participated and demonstrated teamwork, resilience and enthusiasm. Thank you to all the parents and carers who have facilitated such an amazing turn out for after school clubs, lunch time clubs and competitive games. Our children have represented St Patrick's in numerous sporting events. We are so proud of not only the sporting achievements they display, but also their sportsmanship, care and consideration for their team mates and opponents. We can't wait to continue this in September.

Remembrance Liturgical Prayer – Parents/Carers Welcome Monday 11th November, 10.45am

Year 2 visiting Church for Parish Mass Wednesday 13th November, 10am

Individual/Class Photographs
Friday 15th November

FS2 visiting Church for Parish Mass Wednesday 20th November

St Patrick's Children reading at Mass to celebrate Youth Sunday/Christ The King Sunday 24th November, 9am

Yr1 visiting Church for Parish Mass Wednesday 27th November, 10am

Advent Mass in School led by Year 4
Tues 3rd December, 2pm

HOPE Liturgical Prayer led by Year 6 Friday 6th December, 2.30pm

Fri 13th December, 9.30am

PEACE Liturgical Prayer led by Year 3
Fri 13th December, 2.30pm

JOY Liturgical Prayer led by Year 5 Fri 20th December, 2.30pm

> Last day of Advent Term Friday 20th December

First day back in January 2025 Monday 6th January

OPAL Update

This academic year began the first step in our OPAL journey. We are truly amazed at the impact this has had on our children. Pupil voice has stated that this is now "the best playtime ever." Our journey is



only beginning but already we have a wide variety of activities for our children to engage with, mud café, sandpit, a boat, small world, den building and more! Thank you for all your donations which have allowed for OPAL to be such a success. Next academic year, we aim to invite parents, carers and families in to join us for an OPAL session so you can have the opportunity to experience OPAL play at its finest. A big



thank you to the OPAL working group which involves staff, parents and governors who support the creation and delivery of OPAL.

Attendance

Regular and punctual attendance of pupils at school is a legal requirement. From the 19th August 2024, there is a new national framework for penalty notices. This is a requirement across the country and will be followed by all schools. We appreciate that holidays are expensive out of term time however please note this is national guidance and schools have a legal responsibility to follow it. Please take this new legislation into account when thinking about booking holidays during term time from September 2024. Further information from Amy Bradshaw, our Education Welfare Officer, can be found here.

INSET Day Dates

Please make a note of useful dates on the previous page. Please also find the INSET day dates for the academic year 2024-2025 below:

INSET Day Dates 2024-25

Return to school Wednesday 4th September 2024
Friday 11th October 2024 – INSET Day
Friday 14th February 2025 – INSET Day
Monday 28th July 2025 – INSET Day
Tuesday 29th July 2025 – INSET Day
(Children finish school on Friday 25th July 2025)

Please note, we have this final full week of school until we finish on Friday 26th July.

Finally, a thank you from the staff and myself for your continued support this year. I look forward to starting the new school year with you this September 2024.

I wish you all a safe and restful summer and will see you when we return on Wednesday 4th September.

With very best wishes,

Miss Ferrara