



St Patrick's
Catholic Voluntary Academy

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

17th October 2024

Dear Parent/Carers,

As we come to the end of a busy half term, there are lots of items to share with you and celebrate.

Harvest Mass



This week we celebrated our Harvest Mass. Thank you for all of your kind and generous donations. We had a mountain of food products displayed in the hall for the children to see. We have received huge thanks from the Meadows Food Bank who have already collected the items. It really does make a difference to those in our community who need our support at this time. Thank

you to those children who read at Mass last Sunday to promote our Harvest collection. As always, the children did a fabulous job in reading the intercession prayers and represented the school with pride.

Education Sunday

At the start of the academic year, a group of children from St Patrick's represented the school by reading the bidding prayers in Mass at Church. It was wonderful to see children from St Patrick's honour this National Day of Prayer and celebration for everyone in the world of education.

St Francis of Assis Year 6 Hub Mass

Our Year 6 children went along to celebrate Mass at Our Lady and St Patrick's Church last Friday along with children from the other schools in our family hub. A selection of children led the bidding prayers and for the offertory procession, we offered up our huge heart filled with wooden hearts that you will find in our foyer: a symbol of how each of us in our school community is living this year out with love and joy.

Parent Questionnaire



At last week's Parent's Consultation we asked parents/carers to complete a Parent Voice Questionnaire to help us identify the strengths and developments of the school. We will share the outcome of these with you shortly. If you were unable to complete the Parent Questionnaire, please click [here](#) to access it or scan the QR code. If you were unable to attend your appointment, please contact the office to arrange a convenient time.

KEY DATES

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

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

NEW DATE: Tues 26th November, 2pm

HOPE Liturgical Prayer led by Yr 6

Friday 6th December, 2.30pm

At these meetings, your child's progress in a range of subjects including RE was shared. If you wish to find out more details about the **RE curriculum** this term, please click [here](#) to access the page on our website. Additionally, more information regarding our **PSHE curriculum** including RSHE (Relationship, Sex and Health Education) can be found [here](#).

Stay and Play in EYFS

Our EYFS hosted a 'Stay and Play' today where we were able to invite parents in to learn about play-based learning in our Early Years and join in with the fun in the classroom. As always, it was well-attended and we have further dates booked in through the year. To parents/carers of children in the early years, if you were unable to come along please make a note of future dates and we hope to see you there.

Listen to our School Radio!



St Patrick's has its very own school radio! This is led by the digital Leaders in Year 6 who will soon be broadcasting a range of weekly shows including **Mission Monday, Chatty Tuesday, Writer's Corner** and **Funny Friday**. Click [here](#) to

take you straight to the radio listening page where you can be ready to listen to their very first broadcast coming soon!

Year 3 and 4 Carol Concert – Save the date!

This year, the children will be performing their annual Christmas carols with Mr Treloar at Our Lady and St Patrick's Church on **Monday 9th December at 2pm**. We will be walking all the children down to Church to enjoy this event and we invite all our parents/carers to come along to celebrate with us and even join in with a sing-a-long or two.

House Meetings

Two weeks ago our individual House Teams gathered in classrooms and enjoyed House Meetings led by their new Year 6 House Captains. The house Captains led their meetings with professionally prepared powerpoints and were wonderful in motivating their teams and allowing the children to have a voice in identifying the strengths of the school and ways we can improve. They had some fantastic ideas which will be explored. House Meetings will continue half- termly and we look forward to our next one in November.

OPAL

This half term we have continued our OPAL journey. Some highlights have been the addition of the **Golden Welly Award!** This is awarded each play assembly for excellent play. After half term, we will be opening our new digging area. Wellies and waterproof clothing are a must for this so please send your child with these if you have them at home. Thank you for your continued support and donations. Please keep them coming in! We urgently need **donations of play sand and wellies, particularly larger sizes** for our older children.

Extra-Curricular Clubs

Spaghetti Maths has already started this term with a club full of enthused children who were bursting to start after a very exciting assembly. We have a range of other extra-curricular clubs on offer from Makaton, Basketball and Dodgeball to name a few and we will soon be offering Faith In Action Club for Year 6 as well as our popular lunchtime 'Faith and Football' club. Last week we had our first family First Aid session where families were invited to learn basic first aid with their children. It was a wonderful event and great to see adults learning alongside children about how to stay safe and what to do in the event of an injury. Watch this space for more after school opportunities in the future.

Open Morning – Please spread the word!

To celebrate and promote our school to prospective new parents and children, we will be holding an Open Morning on **Wednesday 6th November from 10.45 – 11.45am**. If you know of any parents/carers considering a school place for their children, please spread the word and share the date with them. We would love the opportunity to share how wonderful St Patrick's School is with members of our community.

KEY DATES

Year 3 and 4 Christmas Carol Concert at Our Lady and St Patrick's Church, 2pm

NEW DATE: Monday 9th December

Save The Children Christmas Jumper Day/Christmas Dinner Day

NEW DATE: Thurs 12th December

FS/KS1 Nativity Performance

Fri 13th December, 9.30am

PEACE Liturgical Prayer led by Yr 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

Labelled Uniform

Please ensure all **uniform items are labelled** with your child's name including coats. This really does help with organisation and ensuring we are able to help your child look after their clothing.

Attendance

Regular and punctual attendance of pupils at school is not only vital for learning and development but a legal requirement. The new national framework for penalty notices was launched in August 2024 and includes information regarding penalty notices for irregular attendance, such as the first-time penalty notice issued for term time leave of irregular attendance being £160 per parent, per child if paid within 28 days. This framework 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 that this is now 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](#)

Poppy Appeal



We are supporting the Royal British Legion by selling poppies and poppy-related merchandise. These will be available to purchase after half term from the office for a donation of your choice.

INSET Day Dates

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

INSET Day Dates 2024-25

Friday 14th February – INSET Day

Monday 28th July – INSET Day

Tuesday 29th July – INSET Day

(Children finish school on Friday 25th July 2025)

Tomorrow we will be celebrating our diverse curriculum links in our **Black History Month presentation at 2.30pm**. All welcome and we look forward to seeing you there.

I wish you a happy, safe and restful half term holiday and look forward to welcoming your children back to school on **Monday 4th November**.

With best wishes,

Miss Ferrara

