



Bishop Wilkinson  
Catholic Education Trust  
Through Christ, in Partnership

ST. PATRICK'S



## St. Patrick's Catholic Primary School Newsletter - Issue 18 - March 2024

Executive Headteacher: Mr D Miller

Head of School: Mr S Keys

Chair of Governors: Mrs C Bainbridge

Telephone: 0191 378 0552

E-mail: [stpl@stpl.bwcet.com](mailto:stpl@stpl.bwcet.com)

Website: [www.stpatrickslangley Moor.org.uk](http://www.stpatrickslangley Moor.org.uk)

Dear Parents, Carers & Parishioners,

Another exciting week at school that started with St. Patrick's Day celebrations, featured school football team fixtures and a wonderful choir concert comes to an end today with our FOSPA discos. Next week we will mark Holy Week in school with a variety of pupil led worship—we hope you can join us.

Best wishes,

David and Sam

### Thank you Choir!



A special thank you to Mrs Griffiths and our brilliant school choir. Having such a dedicated choir is a real joy and watching them perform last night was fantastic. Thank you for all of your hard work!

*Thank you!*

### Next Week



# HOLY WEEK

**Class 2—Palm Sunday Liturgy— Monday 25th March**

**Class 3—Last Supper Liturgy—Tuesday 26th March**

**Class 4—Garden of Gethsemane Liturgy—Wednesday 27th March**

**School ends for the Easter Holidays at 3:25pm on Thursday 28th March**

*Use well the gifts that God has given you*



Any new dates added to the calendar will be shown in blue.

Date	Event	Time	Parents Invited
Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> March	Year 1 & 2 Palm Sunday Liturgy	2:45pm	Yes
Tuesday 26 <sup>th</sup> March	Year 3 & 4 Last Supper Liturgy	2:45pm	Yes
Wednesday 27 <sup>th</sup> March	Year 5 & 6 Garden of Gethsemane Liturgy	2:45pm	Yes
Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup> March	Crucifixion and Resurrection Liturgy	1:00pm	No
Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup> March	Break up for Easter holiday	3:25pm	-
Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> April	Return to school for Summer Term	8:45am	-

**Diary Dates for the Summer Term coming soon!**

*Thank you!*  
FOR SUPPORTING

*Use well the gifts that God has given you*

# attendance MATTERS

## Procedure for appointments during school hours

If you have to take your child out of school for any reason, including a medical, dental, school visit appointment, please could you inform the school office prior to the appointment along with any supporting evidence of the appointment. This is so that we can authorise the absence where we can and your child is not marked as unauthorised in our register.

Please see below guidance from the government regarding school attendance. <https://www.gov.uk/school-attendance-absence>

Children should aim to arrive in school by 8.55 am at the latest. **Persistent lateness causes disruption to your child's education.**

Year	Attendance this week:
R	87.5%
1 / 2	87.92%
3 / 4	100%
5 / 6	93.52%
<b>Weekly Overall Attendance: 92.49%</b>	
<b>Yearly Attendance to date: 94.65%</b>	

## Late arrivals

Class registers are taken at 8:55am prompt as we don't want to miss any learning opportunities. **All children should be in class and sat down by 8:55am.**

We want all of our children to be sat down at their desks for 8:40am whenever possible.





## Standards at St. Patrick's

Our expectations on attendance must remain strong and, as the parent community know, we take this part of our job very seriously indeed. We will be contacting parents/carers of those children who are persistently absent, this means any child with an attendance percentage of 90% or less. Please understand that this is a supportive measure and that we are working hard to leave no stone unturned to help your child achieve the very best possible outcomes.



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## HOUSE POINTS

Feast Days:	St. Bede	St. Cuthbert	St. Hilda	St. Aidan
<b>25th May</b> <b>20th March</b> <b>17th November</b> <b>31st August</b>				
Weekly total	226	243	277	252
Running total	2912	2557	2633	2652

### Stars of the week

- Peaches**      **Year R**      for brilliant phonics work.
- Lyla**        **Year 1 / 2**    For fantastic listening in all lessons.
- Matilda**    **Year 3 / 4**    great participation throughout the week.
- Phoebe**     **Year 5 / 6**    For a fantastic effort with all of her learning, this week.

### Rainbow Rewards

<b>Red</b>	Is for the blood he gave (Be Kind)	Faelene, Lucas, Benediktas, Ruby, Ava
<b>Green</b>	Is for the world he made (Be a steward)	Faelene, Isobel, Lily S-R
<b>Yellow</b>	Is for the light so bright (Be humble)	Faelene
<b>Orange</b>	Is strong and full of might (Be courageous)	Faelene, Peaches
<b>Purple</b>	Is for his hour of sorrow (Be compassionate and say sorry)	Faelene
<b>Pink</b>	Is for a new tomorrow (Be just and fair)	Faelene
<b>Blue</b>	Is for the sky he made so we can aim high (Never give up or take the easy option)	Faelene

**The rainbow is a sign of God's promise,  
 He will guide us through any storm.  
 When you feel battered by life's storms,  
 Just remember God's rainbow is coming -  
 It's only a prayer away.**

*Use well the gifts that God has given you*

## Ask your child



We're sure you all ask your children what they have learned at school every day. We're also sure that the depth of answers that you receive will also vary, with some children saying, 'nothing'. To help aid your discussions, each week in the newsletter we will include a starter question that will help your child to talk about what they have been learning that week in school. Try it tonight

Reception	What do people remember on Good Friday?
Year 1 / 2	Can you describe the Palm Sunday story?
Year 3 / 4	What is an exoskeleton?
Year 5 / 6	What facts can you remember about the Iliad story?
General	A famous legend says that St. Patrick scared ..... from Ireland. What were they?

## Article 14: The right of freedom of thought, belief and religion

### The Gospel in Church - Sunday 24th March

When Jesus and his disciples were on their way to Jerusalem, they came to the Mount of Olives. Jesus sent two of his disciples into the nearby village to collect a donkey. He said to them, "If anyone stops you, tell them that it is for the Lord, and that the donkey will be returned." So the disciples set off and found the donkey. When they untied it from its post, some people said to them, "What are you doing?" The disciples answered just as Jesus had told them, and the people let the disciples take the donkey to Jesus. Then Jesus rode into Jerusalem. People were spreading their cloaks and palm branches on the road in front of him. They praised God, shouting: "Hosanna! Blessings on him who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest heavens!"



Taken from the Gospel of Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> March 2024. Mark 11:1-10 (Passion/Palm Sunday)

**"God is full of love: to him be praise forever!"** Pope Francis

Why were the people shouting? This coming Sunday is known as Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord. It is the start of Holy Week. Palms will be handed out in Church in remembrance of the welcome and great praise that the people gave to Jesus when he entered Jerusalem. As we grow in our knowledge and love of Jesus, it's natural to want to praise God. Ask your child what the word 'praise' means to them. Ask who regularly praises them and lets them know how good they've been. How does your child feel when they receive praise? Does your child praise anyone - and why? How does your child feel when they praise someone? It may help to share an example of someone you feel deserves praise.

Dear Lord Jesus, as Holy Week approaches, we thank and **praise** you for giving your life for us, so that one day we too may know the joys of heaven. Amen.

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# Top Tips for... MANAGING SCREEN TIME

According to the latest stats, people aged between 8 and 17 spend four hours on digital devices during an average day. Obviously, a new year is ideal for fresh starts and renewed efforts – so lots of families are trying to cut down their combined screen time right now, creating more moments to connect with each other and relying less on gadgets to have fun. Our top tips on reducing screen time are for everyone, so you can get your whole family involved in turning over a new leaf this year!

**BUY MILK**

### GET OUT AND ABOUT

If the weather's decent, spend some time in the garden or go for a walk. Even a stroll to the local shop would do: the main thing is getting some fresh air and a break from your screen.

**30'**

### TRY A TIMED TRIAL

When you're taking a screen break to do a different activity or a chore, turn it into a game by setting yourself a timer. Can you complete your task before the alarm goes off?

### GO DIGITAL DETOX

Challenge yourself and your family to take time off from screens, finding other things to do. You could start off with half a day, then build up to a full day or even an entire weekend.

### LEAD BY EXAMPLE

Let your family see you successfully managing your own screen time. You'll be showing them the way, and it might stop some of those grumbles when you do want to go online.

### AGREE TECH-FREE ZONES

Nominate some spots at home where devices aren't allowed. Anywhere your family gathers together, like at the table or in the living room, could become a 'no phone zone'.

### HOLD A SCREEN TIME AMNESTY

As a family, agree specific windows when it's OK to use devices. This should help everyone to balance time on phones or gaming with enjoying quality moments together.

### BE MINDFUL OF TIME

Stay aware of how long you've been on your device for. Controlling how much time you spend in potentially stressful areas of the internet – like social media platforms – can also boost your wellbeing.

### 'PARK' PHONES OVERNIGHT

Set up an overnight charging station for everyone's devices – preferably away from bedrooms. That means less temptation for late-night scrolling.

### SWITCH ON DND

Research shows that micro-distractions like message alerts and push notifications can chip away at our concentration levels. Put devices on 'do not disturb' until you're less busy.

### TAKE A FAMILY TECH BREAK

Set aside certain times when the whole family puts their gadgets away and enjoys an activity together: playing a board game, going for a walk or just having a chat.

### SOCIALISE WITHOUT SCREENS

When you're with friends, try not to automatically involve phones, TVs or other tech. Having company can be loads more fun if your attention isn't being split.

### WIND DOWN PROPERLY

Try staying off phones, consoles, tablets and so on just before you go to sleep. Reading or just getting comfy in bed for a while can give you a much more restful night.

## Meet Our Expert

Minds Ahead designs and delivers the UK's only specialist postgraduate mental health qualifications. They also provide training and support to education organisations and local authorities – empowering school leaders and staff with the knowledge and tools to bridge their settings into inclusive communities where the mental health of pupils and personnel is prioritised.



DEVICE BOX



National Online Safety  
#WakeUpWednesday

@nationalonline

/NationalOnlineSafety

@nationalonlinesafety

@national\_online\_safety

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 03.01.2024

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## Recommended Reads

This week taken from 'No Shelf Control' a monthly book newsletter available here: <https://misterbodd.wordpress.com/no-shelf-control/>



### The Secret of the Moonshard

Struan Murray

Puffin 9+

Domino lives happily(ish) in a floating laboratory until everything she thought she knew starts to unravel. Pursued by Science Barons, she becomes pivotal in a war between science and magic. With rich description and breathtaking twists, this adventure captivates from start to finish. Perfect for Year 5 and up, it will leave you gripped and wanting more.

### I Love Books

Mariajo Ilustrajo

Frances Lincoln Children's Books 4+

I love books about loving books. This one is a magical tale celebrating the joy of discovering the enchantment of books. Perfect for convincing reluctant readers, it follows a girl's transformation from hating books to embracing their wonder. With vibrant illustrations and a captivating narrative, this charming picture book will hopefully inspire a lifelong love for reading.



### Stitch Head - The Graphic Novel

Guy Bass & Pete Williamson

Little Tiger 8+

The massively popular and brilliant Stitch Head has been turned into an equally brilliant graphic novel! Created by eccentric Professor Erasmus, Stitch Head finds himself drawn into a world beyond the castle walls when a circus ringmaster offers him stardom. A heart warming message about friendship and teamwork, Stitch Head's journey is as delightful as it is eerie.

### Peng and Spanners

Steve Webb

Faber & Faber 8+

Time to meet Peng and Spanners, the dynamic duo of sarcasm and cleverness, in a hilarious graphic novel. With a disappearing pizza parlour and a giant robot on the loose, their slapstick adventures and bold artwork make for an unputdownable read. Get ready for laughter and excitement as they save the day in their own unique style.



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LK Health &  
Wellbeing



# LK EASTER CAMP @ Bow School, Durham 8.30am-4.00pm

8.30am-4.00pm = £18 per child

8.30am-12.30pm = £10 per child

12.00noon-4.00pm = £10 per child

## Primary aged children



Book via the link:

<https://bookwhen.com/lkhealthandwellbeing>

☎ Text or call me on 07834205866

✉ Email me on  
[lkhealthandwellbeing@outlook.com](mailto:lkhealthandwellbeing@outlook.com)

👧 Primary School children, 4 years + 👧

Leanne Murray-Kemp  
TEAM LK x

*Use with the gifts that God has given you*