



St. Patrick's Catholic Primary School Newsletter - Issue 21- 14th February 2025

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Dear Parents, Carers & Parishioners,

Thank you to those parents who came along to our information meetings this week, it is always great to have your continued support. As we enter the final week of the half term, we look ahead to the many more opportunities to come into school following the half term break. Our 'learn with me' events will take place in the week beginning 10th March and we can't wait for you to see what is going on in school.

Have a great weekend,

Sam Keys

Class 2 Celebration of The Word—Wednesday 19th February at 9:15am

On Wednesday next week you are very welcome to come and join us as Class 2 lead us in a Celebration of The Word. I am sure it will be a lovely and prayerful occasion.



INSET Day Reminder

An additional reminder that school will be closed for a staff INSET day on Monday 3rd March. Pupils will return to school on Tuesday 4th March.



Accelerated Reader

Children in Key Stage Two (Year 3, 4,5 and 6) may have come home talking about accelerated reader this week. The pupils have taken a quiz that gives them a range of books to choose from. You will find out more about this at the upcoming parents evenings, where we will give you some information about appropriate reading books and how best to support.



Packed Lunch and snack reminder

Please can we remind parents that any snacks that are brought in for morning breaktime should be a piece of fruit or cereal bar—we have noticed that some children have recently been bringing in crisps or chocolate bars as snacks. It is also important that where possible, packed lunches are a balanced meal. We know that sometimes this can be challenging and we are always willing to work with parents where the answer is not as simple! Thanks for your support.

Use well the gifts that God has given you

Attendance

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.**

Holidays in term time

It is Bishop Wilkinson Catholic Education Trust policy that we as a school must refer to the local authority when a child takes holiday during term time. You can see Durham's procedures here: [Holidays in term time - Durham County Council](#)

"Where leave of absence has not been granted, but the pupil does not attend, the headteacher will refer the case to the local authority in line with the National Framework. This may lead to the local authority issuing a fixed penalty notice." - BWCET Attendance Policy





Year	Attendance this week:
R	97.22%
1 / 2	94.77%
3 / 4	91.98%
5 / 6	95.91%
Weekly Overall Attendance: 94.62%	
Yearly Attendance to date: 95.72%	

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.



Use well the gifts that God has given you

HOUSE POINTS				
Feast Days:	St. Bede	St. Cuthbert	St. Hilda	St. Aidan
25th May				
20th March				
17th November				
31st August				
Weekly total	184	150	245	130
Running total	8399	8293	8057	8919

You will see your child's house points add up throughout the week via Class Dojo. This will only be used for house points this year and not school to home communication.

Stars of the week

Ada Year R For not giving up and always smiling even when things got tricky.

Jake Year 1 / 2 For wonderful work in maths.

Maddison Year 3 / 4 For being a great role model.

Finn Year 5 / 6 For very thoughtful answers in RE.

Rainbow Rewards

Red	Is for the blood he gave (Be Kind)	Summer, Jacob, Kaylee, Oliver R, Myven, Xu
Green	Is for the world he made (Be a steward)	Aria, Maddison, Mrs Nowell, Miss Holden, Oliver B
Yellow	Is for the light so bright (Be humble)	
Orange	Is strong and full of might (Be courageous)	
Purple	Is for his hour of sorrow (Be compassionate and say sorry)	
Pink	Is for a new tomorrow (Be just and fair)	Dylan
Blue	Is for the sky he made so we can aim high (Never give up or take the easy option)	

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 (Class 1)	How does a polar bear stay warm in the Arctic?
Class 2	What does waterproof mean?
Class 3	How do stacks, the coastal landform, form?
Class 4	How do you turn a fraction into a percentage?
General	How can you stay safe online?

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

When Jesus and his disciples came down from the mountain, a great crowd came from all over to hear him teach and to be cured. Jesus fixed his eyes on his friends, the disciples, and said, "Blessed are you who are poor now, God's kingdom belongs to you. Blessed are you who are hungry now, because later you will have all the food you need. Blessed are you who are sad now, because later you will laugh. Blessed are you if people hate you and ignore you, and insult and attack you just because you follow me. Be glad and rejoice, because your reward will be great in heaven."



From the Gospel of Sunday 16th February 2025 Cf. Luke 6:17, 20-26 (the 6th Sunday in Ord Time, Year C)

Which words stood out for you in this Gospel, and why? What does the picture make you think about? Now enjoy exploring this Wednesday's word, which is **TRUST**.



Use well the gifts that God has given you

SAFER INTERNET DAY 2025

Too good to be true? Protecting yourself and others from scams online



Safer Internet Day
11th February 2025

Safer Internet Day 2025

Safer Internet Day 2025 will take place on the 11th of February 2025, with celebrations and learning based around the theme 'Too good to be true? Protecting yourself and others from scams online'. Safer Internet Day is the UK's biggest celebration of online safety. Each year we cover an online issue or theme that speaks about the things young people are seeing and experiencing online.

Created in consultation with young people across the UK, Safer Internet Day 2025 will be focusing on the issue of scams online. For young people, we'll be showing them how to protect themselves and others online, as well as what support is available to them.

52%

Safer Internet Day 2024 reached more young people than ever before, with 52% of UK children aged 8-17 hearing about the day, with your help we can make Safer Internet Day 2025 even bigger!



About the theme

This Safer Internet Day we will assess the real scale of scams online and allow young people to share their experiences and ideas on how to tackle the problem. We'll build on the important work being done to raise awareness of issues such as online financial sextortion and we'll also consider the future of scams, answering questions such as:

- How is changing technology like generative AI going to impact the approach of scammers?
- What role can the government and internet industry take to tackle this threat?
- And what changes would young people like to see to help protect themselves moving forward?

[Tips for Parents and Carers - UK Safer Internet Centre](#)

Use well the gifts that God has given you

Date	Event	Time	Parents Invited
Wednesday 19.2.25	Class 2 RE Topic Celebration	9:15am	Yes
Friday 21.2.25	Break up for half-term holiday	3:25pm	-
Monday 3.3.25	INSET DAY	All Day	No
Tuesday 4.3.25	Return to school for Spring 2nd Half	8:55am	-
Thursday 6.3.25	World Book Day: - Non-Uniform and 'Breakfast with a book'	All Day	Yes (8:30—8:55)
w/c Monday 10.3.25	Science Week	All Week	-
Monday 10.3.25	Reception Come and Discover (Parent and Pupil sessions)	2pm—3:25pm	Yes
Tuesday 11.3.25	Class 3—Learn with me (Parent and Pupil sessions)	1:15pm – 3:25pm	Yes
Wednesday 12.3.25	Class 2—Learn with me (Parent and Pupil sessions)	1:15pm – 3:25pm	Yes
Thursday 13.3.25	Class 4—Learn with me (Parent and Pupil sessions)	1:15pm – 3:25pm	Yes
Friday 14.3.25	CAFOD Family Fast Day	TBC	Parishioners
Monday 17.3.25	St. Patrick's Day Celebrations: Non-uniform—wear something green	All Day	No
Friday 21.3.25	Interim Reports go out	3:30pm	-
Friday 21.3.25	Comic Relief: non-uniform day	All Day	No
w/c Monday 24.3.25	Parents Evenings	3:40pm - 6:00pm	Yes
Friday 28.3.25	Someone Special Celebration	2:30pm	Yes
Thursday 3.4.25	Easter Choir Concert TBC	4pm	Yes
Friday 11.4.25	Break up for Easter holiday	3:25pm	Yes
Monday 28.4.25	Return to school for Summer Term	8:55am	Yes