



St Patrick's Catholic Primary School

NEWSLETTER – ISSUE 15 16th January 2026

Dear Parents, Carers and Parishioners,

We have enjoyed another busy week. On Tuesday we looked at the Baptism of Jesus and how the Holy Spirit, in the form of a dove, appeared to proclaim Jesus as his beloved son. The children have continued to show a positive attitude in all aspects of school. Well done to each and every one of them.

Next week, on Monday we will celebrate World Faith Day and on Friday, Alison Dunne, the Assistant Director for the Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle, will be visiting St Patrick's. We look forward to showing her around our wonderful school.

Thank you for your continued support and have a lovely weekend.

Paul Rogers



Census Day Meal

Thank you to everyone who took advantage of a school meal on Census Day. If any children wish to change to school dinners in the future, please get in touch with the school office. Thank you.

Year 6 SATS

Thank you to those who attended the SATs meeting on Wednesday. I will forward the Powerpoint to parents via emails. Any questions please get in touch.

After School Clubs - reminder

Our after-school clubs began last week and are still available to book on Arbor. Craig's Coaches will now run the Football skills club on a Wednesday. Other clubs are listed below.

Clubs for next half term will be:

Monday – Multi-Sports

Tuesday – Mindfulness

Wednesday – Football Skills

Thursday – Choir

Clubs will run to the February half term break.



Statements to Live By

Each week we look at a 'Statement to Live By' in school. The statement helps us to think about who we are, what we believe and what we hope to become. The statement for next week is:

I know we are happiest when we are united.

Please try to speak to the children about our weekly statement.

St Patrick's Catholic Primary School

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Telephone: 0191 378 0552

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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.**

Year	Attendance this week:
R	82.22%
1 / 2	87.78%
3 / 4	92.5%
5 / 6	100%
Weekly Overall Attendance: 91.97%	
Yearly Attendance to date: 93.7%	

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

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	289	361	301	320
Running total	6917	6766	6696	6722

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

Max	Year R	For amazing writing.
Anya	Year 1 / 2	For always trying her best.
Louisa	Year 3 / 4	For beautiful presentation.
Dylan	Year 5 / 6	For an increasing enthusiasm when reading independently and in class.

Rainbow Rewards

Red	Is for the blood he gave (Be Kind)	Ezra, Lyla, Abraham
Green	Is for the world he made (Be a steward)	Emily Mc, Lily S-R, Georgie, Jedidah, Anya, Mackenzie, Jacob
Yellow	Is for the light so bright (Be humble)	
Orange	Is strong and full of might (Be courageous)	Benediktas
Purple	Is for his hour of sorrow (Be compassionate and say sorry)	
Pink	Is for a new tomorrow (Be just and fair)	
Blue	Is for the sky he made so we can aim high (Never give up or take the easy option)	Peaches, Oscar, Magnus

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



Dear Parents and Carers,

In this Sunday's Gospel, we return to the beginning of Jesus' mission. The humble witness of John the Baptist gave people a sense that something exciting was about to happen.

John the Baptist is one of the best known saints. He never pushed himself forward. He encouraged his own followers to leave him and become followers of Jesus. His life (and death) witnessed to the truth about Jesus and, because of him, many people came to know and follow Jesus.

Wednesday 14th January 2026

Our schools and parishes are founded in the name of Jesus and they continue to share Jesus' message, giving witness to God's love for all people.

Today, we too can be great witnesses. Enjoy spending a special time together exploring this Sunday's Gospel and this Wednesday's word, which is **WITNESS**.

Dom Henry Wansbrough



**A Word from
the Saints**

**"Example makes a much greater impression on the
mind and heart than just words." St John Baptist de la Salle**

THE GOSPEL IN CHURCH **Sunday 18th January 2026**



Seeing Jesus coming towards him, John said, "Look, there is the lamb of God that takes away the sin of the world. This is the one I spoke of when I said, 'A man is coming after me who ranks before me because he existed before me.' I did not know him myself, and yet it was to reveal him to Israel that I came baptising with water." John also declared, "I saw the Spirit coming down on him from heaven like a dove and resting on him. I did not know him myself, but he who sent me to baptise with water had said to me, 'The man on whom you see the Spirit come down and rest is the one who is going to baptise with the Holy Spirit.' Yes, I have seen and I am the witness that he is the Chosen One of God."

Adapted from John 1:29-34

The 2nd Sunday of Ordinary Time, Year A

**Getting to know Jesus makes life joyful.
Learn more about this Sunday's Gospel in your
local Parish Church: all are very warmly invited.**

Family Time Prayer & Share Overleaf ▶

**Good News
for Everyone**

John the Baptist gave witness to what Jesus did and who Jesus really was. Now we too are called to be God's witnesses through living our lives the way Jesus shows us. Everywhere we go we can give witness to God's love – spreading joy and peace.

Date	Event	Time	Parents Invited
Tuesday 6.1.26	Return to school for Spring Term	8.50am	
Wednesday 14.1.26	Year 6 Parent SATs Meeting	5.00pm	Yes
Thursday 29.1.26	Year 4 Parent Tables Check Meeting	3.30pm	Yes
w/b Monday 2.2.26	Children's Mental Health Week	All week	No
Tuesday 10.2.26	Safer Internet Day	All Day	No
Tuesday 10.2.26	Year 1 Parent Phonics Meeting	3.30pm	Yes
Friday 20.2.25	Break up for half-term holiday		
Monday 2.3.26	Return to school for Spring 2 nd Half Term		
Thursday 5.3.26	World Book Day: Book Character and 'Breakfast with a book' / Assembly	All Day	Yes 8.30am/ 9am
w/c Monday 9.3.26	Science Week	All Week	
Monday 9.3.26	Reception Stay and Discover (Parent and Pupil sessions)	2.00pm – 3.25pm	Yes
Tuesday 10.3.26	Class 4 Learn with me (Parent and Pupil sessions)	2.00pm – 3.25pm	Yes
Wednesday 11.3.26	Class 3 Learn with me (Parent and Pupil sessions)	2.00pm – 3.25pm	Yes
Thursday 12.3.26	Class 2 Learn with me (Parent and Pupil sessions)	2.00pm – 3.25pm	Yes
Friday 13.3.26	Someone Special Celebration	2.45pm	Yes
Tuesday 17.3.26	St Patrick's Day Celebrations: Non – uniform – wear something green	All Day	No
Tuesday 24.3.26	Parents Evening	3.30pm – 6.00pm	Yes
Wednesday 25.3.26	Parents Evening	3.30pm – 6.00pm	Yes
Monday 30.3.26	Stations of the Cross – Led by Year 3/4	3pm	Yes
Thursday 2.4.26	Easter Service	2pm	Yes
Thursday 2.4.26	Break up for Easter Holidays		
Monday 20.4.26	Return to school for Summer Term		

Future events will be added when confirmed.

Use well the gifts that God has given you