



# St Patrick's Catholic Primary School

## NEWSLETTER – ISSUE 17 30<sup>th</sup> January 2026

Dear Parents, Carers and Parishioners,

Another busy week in school. This week our Statement to Live By was 'I listen to what you say. I show that I am listening to you.' In class and around school the children have been looking at ways that using good listening skills help with communication and showing others that you are listening and ready to respond. Please ask your child how they have improved their listening this week.

Have a wonderful weekend.

*Paul Rogers*

### SATs Booster Sessions (Reminder)

Booster sessions for Year 6 children will start from the week beginning Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> February. The sessions are open to all Year 6 children and are free of charge. Booster sessions will run on a Monday from 3.30pm – 4.25pm and on a Thursday from 8.10am – 8.40am. Monday sessions will focus on Maths and Thursday sessions will focus on Reading. We look forward to seeing you there.

**Y6 SATs**

### Children's Mental Health Week

Children's Mental Health Week will be here soon. The theme this year is 'This is My Place,' Mental health challenges can have a significant impact on children and members of their families. The children will explore the theme and look at a variety of resources. Please keep an eye on activities that the children bring home.



### School Parking

St Patrick's like all schools has challenges around parking at drop off and collection times. We appreciate that at times finding a space close to school can be difficult. We put cones out ten minutes before drop off and collection to ensure that children are safe. Please can this be adhered too. Also, parking is available a short walk from school. Please contact the school if you have any concerns. Thank you for your support.

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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	100%
1 / 2	95.39%
3 / 4	91.11%
5 / 6	95.32%
<b>Weekly Overall Attendance: 94.61%</b>	
<b>Yearly Attendance to date: 95.19%</b>	

## 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	483	539	442	490
Running total	6628	6944	6837	6892

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

**Evie**      **Year R**      For fantastic ideas and sharing them with others.

**Jed**      **Year 1 / 2**      For excellent answers and thoughtful work in RE.

**Emily Mc**      **Year 3 / 4**      For a great prequel to The Iron Man.

**Bridget**      **Year 5 / 6**      For excellent work in Maths.

### Rainbow Rewards

<b>Red</b>	Is for the blood he gave (Be Kind)	Ella T
<b>Green</b>	Is for the world he made (Be a steward)	Julia
<b>Yellow</b>	Is for the light so bright (Be humble)	
<b>Orange</b>	Is strong and full of might (Be courageous)	
<b>Purple</b>	Is for his hour of sorrow (Be compassionate and say sorry)	
<b>Pink</b>	Is for a new tomorrow (Be just and fair)	
<b>Blue</b>	Is for the sky he made so we can aim high (Never give up or take the easy option)	Emily G, George

**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,

Out of his great love for us, God created us to be happy with him forever. The blessings in this Sunday's Gospel, which promise true, lasting happiness, are taken from Jesus' Sermon on the Mount and are known as the Beatitudes.

To be gentle and to mourn means to share the sorrows of others and help them. To hunger and thirst for what is right, and to be prepared to be persecuted for it, needs courage and good judgement. 'Meek' really means un-pompous, genuine.

Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> January 2026

The merciful don't insist on their rights, but have strength to see the point of view of others and to think of the needs of others as well as their own needs.

Jesus' words would have turned upside down the thoughts that most of his listeners had about true happiness, and maybe they challenge our own ideas too.

Enjoy hearing your child's thoughts about this Sunday's Gospel and this Wednesday's word, which is **HAPPINESS**.

*Dom Henry Wansbrough*



A Word from the Saints

**"Whoever possesses God is happy!"** St. Augustine

**"The Beatitudes are Jesus' way of life and they are the way of true happiness."**

### THE GOSPEL IN CHURCH Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> February 2026



Seeing the crowds, Jesus went up the hill. There he sat down and was joined by his disciples. Then he began to speak. This is what he taught them: "How happy are the poor in spirit; theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Happy the gentle: they shall have the earth for their heritage. Happy those who mourn: they shall be comforted. Happy those who hunger and thirst for what is right: they shall be satisfied. Happy the merciful: they shall have mercy shown them. Happy the pure in heart: they shall see God. Happy the peacemakers: they shall be called sons of God. Happy those who are persecuted in the cause of right: theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Happy are you when people mistreat you and persecute you and speak all kinds of slander against you on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven."

*Adapted from Matthew 5:1-12*

The 4<sup>th</sup> 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**

We all want to be happy, to have a sense of well-being and inner joy. Jesus' Sermon on the Mount teaches us how to discover the true happiness for which we were created. Living in the way that Jesus taught us, knowing that we are loved forever by God our Father and responding to that love by loving others, is the path to everlasting happiness – to live forever with God.

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 9.2.26	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 13.2.26	Year 3/ 4 Class Mass	9.30am	Yes
Friday 20.2.25	Break up for half-term holiday		
Monday 2.3.26	Return to school for Spring 2 <sup>nd</sup> 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.**

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