

ST. PATRICK'S



Bishop Wilkinson
Catholic Education Trust
Through Christ in Partnership

St. Patrick's Catholic Primary School

Newsletter - Issue 24 – 27th March 2026

Executive Headteacher: Mr D Miller

Headteacher: Mr P Rogers

Chair of Governors: Mrs H Riddles

Telephone: 0191 378 0552

E-mail: stpl@stpl.bwcet.com

Website: www.stpatrickslangley Moor.org.uk

Dear Parents, Carers & Parishioners,

It's been another busy week in school. The weather has been lovely and it's been great to see the children enjoying the wonderful grounds that St Patrick's has. On Thursday, we had Tom Gray speaking to the children about playing the keyboard and offering the opportunity to have tuition. A letter will be coming out with information for anyone interested. Also on Thursday, we bid farewell to Mrs Newman. It was really sad to say goodbye and she will be greatly missed but it is really exciting that she is starting a new chapter in her life.

Have a lovely weekend and enjoy the Bank Holiday.

Best Wishes,

Paul Rogers

Statement to Live By

Each week in school we come together and look at a 'Statement to Live By' to help us think about who we are, what we believe and what we hope to become. Together, we nurture a sense of what it is like to be human and alive and share in a loving and caring community.

This week, our Statement to Live By is **'I understand what Trust means'**.

Please spend a little time talking to the children about how they can 'live out' the statement in their own lives to support a positive and caring ethos in school, at home and in the community.

Summer Term Dates

Hopefully, you have had an opportunity to have a look at the dates for this term. It already looks like it is going to be a busy one. Please keep checking as occasionally dates will need to be changed. Just to alert you to a change already. Sports Day has been moved from Wednesday 24th June to Tuesday 23rd June. This is to accommodate a school trip for Reception and Year 3/4 to Hall Hill Farm on Wednesday 24th June. Also, school will be closed for a Training Day on Friday 26th June. I will keep you updated of any future date changes and endeavour to do so with plenty of notice. Thank you for your cooperation.



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Reception Donations

Thank you for the amazing response to supporting our EYFS. You have been amazingly generous. We are very grateful. If anyone has anything that will support Mrs Nowell and the children, it will be received with gratitude and will be well looked after and treated with love.

SATs Breakfasts

SATs are almost upon us. They will take place during the Monday to Thursday of the week beginning the 11th May. Each morning during SATs, Year 6 pupils are welcome to come to their classroom from 8.15am for breakfast. Throughout the week we will have a variety of things on offer each day to keep the children calm and happy. Any questions, please get in touch.



Summer Fair

Over the coming weeks, arrangements will be starting for our Summer Fair. If you, or anyone you know is able to donate a prize for the raffle, it would be greatly appreciated. Throughout the term, we will also hold non-uniform days to collect various things for the fair. The money raised through the School Fair is a huge part of raising funds to purchase extra resources and run trips and events. We are always amazed at your generosity. We will keep you updated with future events linked to the Summer Fair.



SEND Info

SEND Reviews were sent out this week. Please can a copy be signed and returned to school. **Summer Support Plans will be sent out next week. St Patrick's is very proud of how we provide for children with additional needs. We believe that every child should have the opportunity to reach their full potential and flourish. If any parent / carer would like to speak to myself or Miss Hughes regarding the SEND provision their child is receiving please get in touch. Thank you for your continued support.**

Sun Cream, Sun Hats and Water Bottles



The warmer weather, has finally arrived so just a polite reminder that when appropriate you apply sun cream to your child each morning. It might also be useful to send your child into school with a hat that they can wear during time outside. All please could you ensure that the children come in with a water bottle so they have water available throughout the day.

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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.**

Late arrivals

We understand that mornings can be hectic and that, on occasion events beyond parents' control can cause delays on the journey to school. However, we have noticed that the number of children arriving at school after the gates have closed at 8:55am has increased in recent weeks.

Class registers are taken at 9:00am prompt as we don't want to miss any learning opportunities. **All children should be in class and sat down by 9:00am.**





Year	Attendance this week:
R	97.53%
1 / 2	96.91%
3 / 4	92.78%
5 / 6	98.83%
Weekly Overall Attendance: 96.3%	
Yearly Attendance to date: 94.6%	

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
25th May				
20th March				
17th November				
31st August				
Weekly total				
Running total	9843	10124	9994	10063

You will see your child's house points add up throughout the week via Class Dojo. Totals will begin next week. Keep looking to see how well the children are doing!

Stars of the week

Vinnie	Year R	For fantastic reading.
George	Year 1 / 2	For working independently.
Ruby	Year 3 / 4	For a determined attitude to learning.
Aria	Year 5 / 6	For amazing work in maths.

Rainbow Rewards

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

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.

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Summer Diary Dates

Date	Event	Time	Parents
Monday 4.5.26	Bank Holiday Monday	All Day	
Friday 8.5.26	VE Day	All Day	No
w/c Monday 11.5.26	KS2 SATs Week	All Week	
Friday 15.5.26	Non-uniform Day (Toys and Books)	All Day	No
Thursday 21.5.26	World Day for Cultural Diversity	All Day	No
Friday 22.5.26	Whole School Mass	9.30am	Yes
Friday 22.5.26	Break up for half-term holiday	3.25pm	
Monday 1.6.26	Return to school for Summer Term 2	8.55am	
w/c Monday 1.6.26	Year 4 Multiplication Tables Check		
Friday 5.6.26	Non-uniform Day (Chocolates)	All Day	No
Saturday 6.6.26	First Holy Communion (Church)	5.30pm	Yes
w/c Monday 8.6.26	Phonics Screening Check delivery	All Week	No
Thursday 11.6.26	New Intake Meeting (Reception)	4.30pm	Yes
Wednesday 17.6.26	Y6 Cluster Event (St Thomas More)	10am – 2.30pm	No
Friday 19.6.26	Non-uniform Day (Bottles)	All Day	No
Friday 19.6.26	Whole School Mass (First Holy Communion celebration)	9.30am	Yes
Friday 19.6.26	Someone Special Assembly	3.00pm	Yes
w/c 22.6.26	Health Week: Sports clothes	All Week	
Tuesday 23.6.26	Sports Day	AM	Yes
Wednesday 24.6.26	Hall Hill Form Trip – Reception/ Year 3/4		
Thursday 25.6.26	Year 6 YMT Festival	All Day	No
Friday 26.6.26	INSET DAY – School closed	All Day	
Wednesday 1.7.26	Year 6 Ford Castle Residential	Wed – Fri	
Monday 6.7.26	Durham Johnson Year 6 Intake	11.30am – 2.45pm	
Tuesday 7.7.26	Reception 'Graduation' Celebration	2.45pm	Yes
Thursday 9.7.26	Transition Day in School	All Day	No
Friday 10.7.26	St Leonards Year 5 and 6 Taster session	All Day	
Monday 13.7.26	Annual Reports sent out to parents	3.25pm	
Tuesday 14.7.26	Summer Fair	1.30pm	Yes
Thursday 16.7.26	Eny of Year mass	9.30am	Yes
Friday 17.7.26	Year 6 'Leavers' Celebration'	9.10am	Yes
Friday 17.7.26	End of Term	3.25pm	



Dear Parents and Carers,

In this Sunday's Gospel, Jesus begins to prepare his disciples for his departure from the world. Jesus is returning to his Father and will make a place ready for each of them in heaven.

Jesus tells the disciples to trust in him. No amount of worrying will increase their safety or comfort; it's through trusting in Jesus that they will find security and hope. We too are called to trust in Jesus. Through the Holy Spirit we carry on his work and are empowered to do even greater works.

Wednesday 29th April 2026

This does not mean performing a series of great, flashy miracles. It means being Christ in the world around us, generously sharing the love he brings into our own lives with those we meet. This isn't easy - it never was - but trust in Jesus and see what happens!

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

Dom Henry Wansbrough



A Word from the Saints

"Those who trust in God can do all things." St Alphonsus Liguori

THE GOSPEL IN CHURCH Sunday 3rd May 2026



On the night before he died, Jesus spoke to his friends, the disciples. "Do not let your hearts be troubled," he said. "Trust in God and trust in me. There are many rooms in my Father's house, and I am going now to prepare a place for you. I will come again and take you with me so that where I am, you may be too. You know the way to the place where I am going." Then Thomas, a disciple, said, "Lord, we do not know where you are going: how can we know the way?" Jesus said, "I am the Way, the Truth and the Life. No one can come to the Father except through me. If you know me, you know my Father too. You must believe me when I say that I am in the Father and the Father is in me. I tell you most solemnly, whoever believes in me will perform the same works as I do myself; they will perform even greater works, because I am going to the Father."

Adapted from John 14:1-12
The 5th Sunday of Easter, Year A

Come and learn more about this Sunday's Gospel in your local Parish Church and say a prayer for your family & friends: all are very warmly invited.

Family Time Prayer & Share Overleaf ▶

Good News for Everyone

In this Sunday's Gospel, Jesus tells his followers not to be troubled, but to trust in him. Jesus also wants us to place all our trust in him. There can be many things that trouble our hearts, but following and trusting in Jesus frees us from worrying in this life, and is the way to the joys of everlasting life too.

10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators

DEVELOPING HEALTHY SLEEP PATTERNS

Quality sleep is paramount for wellbeing as it impacts our cognitive function, emotional balance and overall health. A World Health Organisation study highlighted that 44% of young people reported difficulty sleeping – potentially affecting their mood, concentration and immune system. Our guide offers expert tips for helping children to sleep more healthily.

1 MINDFUL TECH USE

Encourage a balanced approach to screen time. While phones, laptops, tablets and so on can serve as a helpful means of stress relief, it's advisable to minimise their use right before bed. These devices can keep the mind racing long after they're switched off, impacting how easily and how well a person can sleep.

2 EFFECTIVE SLEEP PRACTICES

Offer practical advice on reinforcing certain habits that have a positive influence on sleeping patterns. Children could start keeping a diary which they add to each evening, for example – or they could use up excess energy by exercising during the day.

3 HYDRATION HABITS

Underline the importance of drinking plenty of water throughout the day, while limiting drinks close to bedtime to prevent disruptions during the night: it's a lot harder to switch off if you keep needing to get out of bed for the toilet. Avoiding caffeinated drinks later in the day also allows the body and brain to slow down naturally, without any chemicals firing them back up.

4 CONSISTENT BEDTIME SCHEDULE

Assist children in developing consistent bedtime routines that tell the body it's time to wind down, promoting a more relaxed state. Establish specific activities for young ones right before going to bed – such as brushing their teeth – to set up an association between that action and falling asleep.

5 OPTIMAL SLEEP ENVIRONMENT

Ensure that the bedroom is comfortable, dark and free from distractions, fostering an ideal space for quality rest. The room's temperature should also be suitable for sleeping – that is, not too hot and not too cold – while rooms should be kept as tidy and free of clutter as possible.

6 RELAXING EVENING ACTIVITIES

Recommend activities that have a calming effect on the mind – such as reading or gentle stretching – in the lead up to bedtime, to prepare the mind for a peaceful night's sleep. Doing something quiet, relaxing and low intensity signals to the brain that it's time to rest and makes falling asleep much easier.

7 PRIORITISING ADEQUATE SLEEP

Emphasise the crucial role of sleep in maintaining physical and emotional wellbeing. It's especially important to sustain a healthy sleep pattern during challenging and intensive periods in our lives: during the exam season for children and young people, for instance.

8 NUTRITIONAL BALANCE

Highlight the significance of a healthy, balanced diet – and its role in establishing a more consistent sleep pattern. Try to lean towards preparing meals with plenty of fruit and vegetables, served in reasonable portion sizes: not only is this a lot healthier, but it also reduces the chances of feeling too full to be comfortable in bed.

9 PARENTAL SUPPORT

Parents and carers, of course, are uniquely situated to support their children in establishing and maintaining healthy sleeping habits. Parents can review their own sleep habits (incorporating anything from this list that they don't do already) to model a balanced bedtime routine and reinforce the importance of self-care.

10 MILITARY SLEEP METHOD

Look up 'the military sleep method': it's a technique for falling asleep quickly, which incorporates deep breathing exercises. You could encourage children to try it or even use it yourself. While it can take a good deal of practice to perfect, eventually it will start to feel natural – and the results are often extremely impressive!

Meet Our Expert

Minds Ahead design and deliver the UK's only specialist postgraduate mental health qualifications. Winner of the Social Enterprise UK: 'One to Watch' award, the charity provides training and support to education organisations and local authorities. This guide has been written by Adam Gillett – a learning and development specialist who is also Associate Vice-Principal for Personal Development at a large secondary school.



The National College



St. Patrick's Catholic Primary School

Holiday and Term Dates: 2025—2026

	August 2025	September 2025	October 2025	November 2025	December 2025	January 2026
Monday	4 11 18 25	1 8 15 22 29	6 13 20 27	3 10 17 24	1 8 15 22 29	5 12 19 26
Tuesday	5 12 19 26	2 9 16 23 30	7 14 21 28	4 11 18 25	2 9 16 23 30	6 13 20 27
Wednesday	6 13 20 27	3 10 17 24	1 8 15 22 29	5 12 19 26	3 10 17 24 31	7 14 21 28
Thursday	7 14 21 28	4 11 18 25	2 9 16 23 30	6 13 20 27	4 11 18 25	1 8 15 22 29
Friday	1 8 15 22 29	5 12 19 26	3 10 17 24 31	7 14 21 28	5 12 19 26	2 9 16 23 30
Saturday	2 9 16 23 30	6 13 20 27	4 11 18 25	1 8 15 22 29	6 13 20 27	3 10 17 24 31
Sunday	3 10 17 24 31	7 14 21 28	5 12 19 26	2 9 16 23 30	7 14 21 28	4 11 18 25

	February 2026	March 2026	April 2026	May 2026	June 2026	July 2026
Monday	2 9 16 23	2 9 16 23 30	6 13 20 27	4 11 18 25	1 8 15 22 29	6 13 20 27
Tuesday	3 10 17 24	3 10 17 24 31	7 14 21 28	5 12 19 26	2 9 16 23 30	7 14 21 28
Wednesday	4 11 18 25	4 11 18 25	1 8 15 22 29	6 13 20 27	3 10 17 24	1 8 15 22 29
Thursday	5 12 19 26	5 12 19 26	2 9 16 23 30	7 14 21 28	4 11 18 25	2 9 16 23 30
Friday	6 13 20 27	6 13 20 27	3 10 17 24	1 8 15 22 29	5 12 19 26	3 10 17 24 31
Saturday	7 14 21 28	7 14 21 28	4 11 18 25	2 9 16 23 30	6 13 20 27	4 11 18 25
Sunday	1 8 15 22	1 8 15 22 29	5 12 19 26	3 10 17 24 31	7 14 21 28	5 12 19 26

AUTUMN TERM: 74 days

SPRING TERM: 58 days

SUMMER TERM: 59 days

TOTAL: 190 days (5 days for in-service training of teachers). Additional training to be taken as twilight sessions.

The school will be open to pupils for 190 days

TRAINING DAYS: Monday 1st September 2025, Monday 5th January 2026, Monday 20th July 2026, Tuesday 21st July 2026, Final Training Day TBC

School Holidays
Training Days
Bank Holidays
Year 6 SATs

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St. Patrick's Catholic Primary School

Holiday and Term Dates: 2026—2027



	August 2026	September 2026	October 2026	November 2026	December 2026	January 2027
Monday	3 10 17 24 31	7 14 21 28	5 12 19 26	2 9 16 23 30	7 14 21 28	4 11 18 25
Tuesday	4 11 18 25	1 8 15 22 29	6 13 20 27	3 10 17 24	1 8 15 22 29	5 12 19 26
Wednesday	5 12 19 26	2 9 16 23 30	7 14 21 28	4 11 18 25	2 9 16 23 30	6 13 20 27
Thursday	6 13 20 27	3 10 17 24	1 8 15 22 29	5 12 19 26	3 10 17 24 31	7 14 21 28
Friday	7 14 21 28	4 11 18 25	2 9 16 23 30	6 13 20 27	4 11 18 25	1 8 15 22 29
Saturday	1 8 15 22 29	5 12 19 26	3 10 17 24 31	7 14 21 28	5 12 19 26	2 9 16 23 30
Sunday	2 9 16 23 30	6 13 20 27	4 11 18 25	1 8 15 22 29	6 13 20 27	3 10 17 24 31

	February 2027	March 2027	April 2027	May 2027	June 2027	July 2027
Monday	1 8 15 22	1 8 15 22 29	5 12 19 26	3 10 17 24 31	7 14 21 28	5 12 19 26
Tuesday	2 9 16 23 30	2 9 16 23 30	6 13 20 27	4 11 18 25	1 8 15 22 29	6 13 20 27
Wednesday	3 10 17 24	3 10 17 24 31	7 14 21 28	5 12 19 26	2 9 16 23 30	7 14 21 28
Thursday	4 11 18 25	4 11 18 25	1 8 15 22 29	6 13 20 27	3 10 17 24	1 8 15 22 29
Friday	5 12 19 26	5 12 19 26	2 9 16 23 30	7 14 21 28	4 11 18 25	2 9 16 23 30
Saturday	6 13 20 27	6 13 20 27	3 10 17 24	1 8 15 22 29	5 12 19 26	3 10 17 24 31
Sunday	7 14 21 28	7 14 21 28	4 11 18 25	2 9 16 23 30	6 13 20 27	4 11 18 25

AUTUMN TERM: 73 days	SPRING TERM: 53 days	SUMMER TERM: 64 days	School Holidays
TOTAL: 190 days (5 days for in-service training of teachers). Additional training to be taken as twilight sessions.			Training Days
TRAINING DAYS: Tuesday 2 nd September 2026, Monday 4 th January 2027, Monday 19 th July 2027, Tuesday 20 th July 2027, Wednesday 21 st July 2027			Bank Holidays
<i>The school will be open to pupils for 190 days</i>			Year 6 SATs

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