

# Saint Patrick's Catholic Primary School

Telephone no 01249 713125

[www.stpatricks-wilts.co.uk](http://www.stpatricks-wilts.co.uk)

Email: [admin@st-patricks.wilts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@st-patricks.wilts.sch.uk).



## Saint Patrick's Newsletter

(for parents, pupils, governors, staff and parishioners)

### Week ending Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March

#### Dear Parents, Carers, Governors and Parishioners,

We have just returned from another wonderful residential, this time with our Year 6 children. We are always exceptionally proud of the respectful and polite way that our children behave on trips such as these and our Year 6 did not let us down. They were complimented on their manners, the way they worked as a team and celebrated each other, and also their bravery at challenging themselves at times. A huge thank you to Mrs Minty and Mrs Wood for attending this trip. We were all super proud of our fabulous Year 6!

#### KEEPING OUR CHILDREN SAFE

**ATTENDANCE** - As a school we continue to aim for our school attendance to be 96% and **this week our whole school attendance has been 95%**. If you need advice or support on how to improve your child's attendance, please contact the School Office Team and we will be happy to discuss this matter further with you. From children having difficulty sleeping to medical concerns, please contact us and we can support your family or signpost you to the best people. **Please remember to inform the School Office if your child is not attending school and give a specific reason for their absence, (please do not say 'unwell' or 'sick') this will need to be done for each day your child/ren is absent for our records. Our School Office is open daily from 8.45am – 3.15pm**

The Department for Education published revised guidance, which came into effect from August 2024. We have attached the guidance to this newsletter and the letter previously sent out to families from Wiltshire LA, which advises of all of the changes and penalties which you could incur. We would ask you to be fully aware of these changes when requesting time away from school or holidays



**A GENTLE REMINDER ABOUT DOGS AT DROP OFF AND COLLECTION** – As a school, we are proud to be dog friendly and feel very lucky to have our own school dog Teddy, as a special part of our community. We know that many families enjoy walking their dogs to school for drop-off and collection times. To help ensure that all children and families feel safe, comfortable and welcomed, we kindly ask that **dogs are kept securely on a lead and tied carefully on the outside of the main school gate, away from the path**. This is especially important for children who may feel a little nervous or unsure around dogs. Small puppies may be carried if needed. Thank you for your support and understanding in helping us create a caring and considerate environment for all.

**WHATSAPP NOW ALLOW UNDER 13'S** – WhatsApp has been a significant concern for many schools and parents, particularly chat groups where predominantly low level issues suddenly escalate. Last week, in a completely unexpected move, WhatsApp announced that children under 13 can now use WhatsApp via 'Parent-Managed Accounts'. Essentially these are accounts set up by the parent on the child's device, but are managed from the parents device. As well as no access to AI within WhatsApp and no advertisements, there are parent management features which include:

**Contact management** - parents can choose who can contact their child and which chat groups they can join. Children cannot join groups without their parents approval. Messages from unknown contacts are sent to the parent first for approval.

**Activity notifications** - parents can view their child's activity such as when a child adds a new contact or if disappearing messages are turned on. Parents will also be notified if their child blocks or reports a contact.

We strongly advise that all parents read the following information on **Introducing parent-managed accounts on WhatsApp**. You can find it on the following link <https://blog.whatsapp.com/introducing-parent-managed-accounts-on-whatsapp?scrylbrkr=f7027e7d> and **How to set up a parent-managed account** [https://faq.whatsapp.com/875902238256170/?cms\\_platform=android](https://faq.whatsapp.com/875902238256170/?cms_platform=android)

#### CURRICULUM

**TAPESTRY AND GOOGLE CLASSROOMS** – Google Classroom is fully accessible to all families with children in Years 1 to Year 6 and Tapestry is available for our Reception families. If you encounter any difficulties, please speak to our Office Team, for further guidance. Here you will find all of our curriculum updates for your child/ren's class. This information includes:

- A curriculum update for the term
- Termly curriculum newsletter
- Weekly Home Learning
- \* PE days for your child/ren
- \* Termly key vocabulary
- \* Notices e.g. school trip details, changes to normal timetable

**YEAR 2 CLASS ASSEMBLY** – It was a joy to watch Year 2's Class Assembly at the end of week 3, all themed on their learning about Denmark. Their faces were lit up throughout the assembly, where they taught us about the comparison with Corsham, famous stories from

Denmark, about the invention of Lego and serenaded us with wonderful music and a catchy dance! Thank you Year 2, or should I say 'Mange tak'. It was a wonderful way to end our Friday and we learnt lots.

**RECEPTION CLASS ASSEMBLY** – Last week we were entertained and taught lots again...but this time by our youngest children in Reception. This was their first Class Assembly and with some of the class still only 4 years old, it was amazing to see how their confidence has grown and their pride in their learning. We were taught all about the joys of Spring, through song and art work, and I know families and our whole school were exceptionally proud of them all. Well done Reception!

### LITURGY AND CELEBRATION

**THANK YOU FOR JOINING US FOR OUR SAINT PATRICK'S DAY CELEBRATIONS** – We had a glorious Feast day on 17<sup>th</sup> March, even the sun shone! Thank you to all of you who joined us to see the beautiful prayer spaces created by our classes. From spaces which celebrated God's world and nature using sticks, slate, rocks and flowers, to those who created their spaces with their creative talents to highlight their love of art, books or Lego, each was unique and beautiful. Our day started with music and our school being filled with an array of green, before each class took place in a leprechaun treasure hunt, rewarded with a sweet treat and new class book. We were so glad that the leprechaun knew it is the Year of Reading!



### ENRICHMENT

**ROCK STEADY TREAT US TO ANOTHER FAB PERFORMANCE** – Last week saw another wonderful Rock Steady performance, from our talented children. These children meet every week to learn not only their instrument, but how to work together, to play as part of a successful band. Whether they play keyboards, drums, guitar or lead vocals, their dedication is amazing and their courage to perform to a large audience is one which should be commended. For some, last week was their very first performance! Well done to them all and thank you to the friends and family who came to support. We hope you enjoyed the afternoon.

### PARENTS AS PARTNERS

**CRAZY HAIR DAY** – You did not let us down with your Crazy Hair Day designs today, it really brought a smile to so many faces! You were creative, imaginative and it was the perfect way to end Term 4!

### Dates for your Diary...

<b>Mon. 13<sup>th</sup> April</b>	Celebration of the Word – school only – Dilxi Te
<b>Thurs. 16<sup>th</sup> April</b>	Outdoor Lunchtime Writing Club begins for Year 4 and 5
<b>Fri. 17<sup>th</sup> April</b>	<i>Celebration Assembly – invited families welcome</i>
<b>Future Dates....</b>	
<i>Saturday 18 April - Corsham Town Council Eco Fair – 10am-2pm</i>	
<i>Monday 20<sup>th</sup> April - Gardening Clubs begins for KS2</i>	
<i>Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> April - Multi Sports Club – Athletics begins for KS2</i>	
<i>Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> April – Multi Sports Club – Athletics begins for Years 1 &amp; 2</i>	
<i>Friday 1<sup>st</sup> May – Whole Class Photos &amp; Year 6 Leavers Photos</i>	
<i>Monday 4<sup>th</sup> May – Bank Holiday Monday – School closed</i>	
<i>Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> May – Rosary begins, led by Chaplaincy Team, month of Mary</i>	
<i>Monday 11<sup>th</sup> May – Start of SATs Week for Year 6</i>	
<i>Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> May – Year 6 celebrate end of SATs Week</i>	
<i>Friday 15<sup>th</sup> May – PTFA Disco – more information to follow</i>	
<i>Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> May – Father Craig to visit KS2</i>	
<i>Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> May – Year 5 and 6 Stratford Upon Avon Trip</i>	
<i>Last Day of Term 5</i>	
<i>Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> June – Term 6 begins!</i>	
<i>Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> July – Sports Day</i>	
<i>Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> July - Reserve Date for Sports Day</i>	

<b>INSET DAYS FOR 2025-26</b>
<b>Mon. 1st September 2025</b>
<b>Mon. 5th January 2025</b>
<b>Mon. 1st June 2026</b>
<b>Tues. 2nd June 2026</b>
<b>Wed. 3rd June 2026</b>



*We hope the sun shines for us all this Easter.*

*Have a wonderful break with your family and loved ones and we will see you back at school on*  
**Monday 13<sup>th</sup> April.**

*Happy Easter everyone!*

*Jennie Courtney*  
**Headteacher**

# CORSHAM ECO FAIR

**SATURDAY  
18 APRIL**

**10AM - 2PM**

**CORSHAM TOWN CENTRE,  
DIGITAL MANSION &  
THE POUND ARTS CENTRE**

**STALLS, ACTIVITIES,  
INFORMATION & MORE!**



[www.corsham.gov.uk](http://www.corsham.gov.uk)



**FREE!**

## KIDS' EASTER HOLIDAY TRAIL

 Corsham Town Centre

27 March – 20 April



Some cheeky birds have flown the nest and made their homes in the windows of Corsham's shops and businesses! Pick up a trail from the Town Hall, and help us find our feathered friends.

Return your completed trail by Monday 20 April to be in with a chance to win the grand prize, as well as receive a sweet treat for taking part.

Town Hall, High Street, Corsham, Wiltshire SN13 0EZ  
01249 702130 | [towncouncil@corsham.gov.uk](mailto:towncouncil@corsham.gov.uk) | [corsham.gov.uk](http://corsham.gov.uk)

