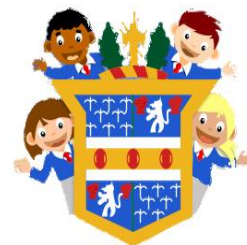


Saint Patrick's Catholic Primary School

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Saint Patrick's Newsletter

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

Week ending Wednesday 22nd July

Dear Parents, Carers, Governors and Parishioners,

I cannot quite believe that we are in the final few days of the school Year. Last week saw us unexpectedly close due to a burst water pipe, but our spirits lifted by the wonderful Key Stage 2 production of Shakespeare Rocks! Many thanks to our Key Stage 2 Team and our talented children for such a great end to the term. This week we have not said goodbye but see you soon, to our lovely Year 6 class, who leave us to start new adventures at their various secondary schools. We know they take with them their skills, their talents and most importantly their kindness to share with others along the way. We hope they, and their families remember, that they will always be part of our Saint Patrick's family and we cannot wait to hear of their many accomplishments and achievements!

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 87%. **Our attendance for this year has been 94%.** If you need advice or support on how to improve your child's attendance, please contact the school office 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 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 HUGE THANK YOU FOR ANOTHER WONDERFUL YEAR...

TO OUR FANTASTIC STAFF: I would like to say a huge thank you to our amazing staff at Saint Patrick's. Every year in education comes with its challenges, but also great achievements and at St. Patrick's, much to celebrate. I feel incredibly lucky to work with such a dedicated group of Teachers, TAs, Mr Cross our Sports Coach, Mrs White our School Business Manager, Mrs Fudge our Office Manager and Mr Harding our Site Manager who work tirelessly to provide the very best school experience for our children. Our staff always go above and beyond to make our children feel safe and welcome at school, as well as working to inspire our children through their learning and enrichment experiences, and most of all making our school a safe and fun place to learn! A huge thank you to Mrs Minty, for her support to me throughout the year, in her role as Deputy Headteacher.

We take this opportunity to say a final thank you, goodbye and good luck to Mr Turnbull, Mrs Slade, Mrs Couchman, Mrs Smith and Mrs Garrett-Cervantes who will be greatly missed by us all.

THANK YOU TO OUR GOVERNORS – Thank you to our Governing Body, led by our Chair of Governors Mrs. Charlotte Gilbert, who has been, as always, a huge support to me this year. Our Governors dedicate many hours of their free time to volunteer to guide and support our school. They ensure our school has a clear vision, is true to our catholic ethos and help to plan the strategic direction for our school's future. Many thanks to Mrs. Charlotte Gilbert, Mr. David Moore, Mrs. Jane Wragg, Mrs. Laura Cadman, Mr. Toby Kirkby, Miss. Rosie Wilkinson and Mrs. Charlotte Minty for all of their support and guidance this year. Many thanks and a fond farewell to Mrs Sharon Gilbert who has been our clerk to governors for many years, but will be enjoying retiring from the role. We thank her for her many years of dedication to our school.

THANK YOU TO FATHER MICHAEL, OUR PARISH AND OUR FRIENDS FROM ALL FAITHS – Many thanks to Father Michael for leading us in Class Mass at Saint Patrick's Church, visiting our Key Stage 1 and Reception children, and his support throughout the year. Thank you to Father Bill for leading us in Father Michael's absence and to Father Craig for his school visits. Father Craig will be retiring this year, but has promised to visit us lots on the future. Thank you to our parishioners, catechists, and those who have celebrated their own faiths with us such as Iris Segall (Bristol and West Progressive Synagogue) and Sukhi Singh for sharing his Sikh faith with us all. This is such an important part of our school and we will look forward to inviting families to join us for Mass again in the Autumn.

THANK YOU TO OUR MEERKATZ TEAM – Thank you to our Meerkatz team of Miss Fudge, Mrs Pike and Mrs Clermont, led by Mrs White, who look after our children so well at our breakfast and after school club. It is always lovely to see children from all of our classes playing together, making the most of the outdoors and thoroughly enjoying the themed activities that the team thoughtfully plan for them, throughout the year.

THANK YOU TO OUR MDSAs, CLEANING AND CATERING TEAMS – I would like to thank our MDSAs Mrs Cowen and Mrs Partridge, who support our children so well during lunchtimes and I know they love hearing all of their news! Thank you to our cleaning team for keeping our school in good order and to the catering team, led by Miss. Smith and ably assisted by Miss Shepphard for ensuring our children are well fed and happy!

THANK YOU TO OUR PTFA – This small but amazing group have worked tirelessly throughout the year to come up with imaginative and fun ideas to bring our community together. From School Discos to our Christmas Bazaar, Crazy Hair day to our recent and wonderful circus. A sincere thank you to Mrs Steph Laver, Miss Lisa Murton, Mrs Emily Pillinger and Ms Anna Kay for their work this year and please keep your eyes open for future events in the Autumn. Your support is crucial and means the world to us as a school.

THANK YOU TO ALL THOSE WHO HAVE ENRICHED THE YEAR – To all those members of the community who have worked with us throughout the year, PC Redmond, Corsham Town Council, Corsham Library, The Pound Arts, club leaders, sports coaches, music teachers, special visitors, parents, artists, musicians, scientists...the list goes on. Thank you for enriching our children's learning through your knowledge, passion, experiences and fun! We love our special days, weeks and events, from the sensible to the slightly crazy and unusual, and look forward to continuing to work with you all on many more in the next academic year.

THANK YOU TO ALL OF OUR FAMILIES – I would like to thank our families for working in partnership with us, to support their child/ren's learning and growth, while at Saint Patrick's. A big thank you to those of our Year 6 families who have their youngest children leaving our school this year. You will always be part of our Saint Patrick's family and we hope to see you at many of our future events and hearing all of your news and updates.

TO OUR WONDERFUL CHILDREN: Thank you for the enthusiasm, energy, creativity and kindness you bring to your learning and our school. From our very youngest children, to our Year 6, we feel very privileged to teach you, and your Teachers and TAs look forward to working with their new classes in September. To our Year 6 children, we wish you lots of love and luck for the new adventures, and we know you will all be brilliant ambassadors for your new schools. Make sure to visit us, as we cannot wait to hear about your growing skills and achievements!

FINALLY...In a recent Homily, Bishop Bosco mentioned the England Football Team. He compared the way the players had felt before each match, to the apprehension that some children might feel, before starting a new class or new school. The Bishop used the readings to explain how deeply the pupils are loved by God and their families. He thanked the teachers and explained that alongside their parents they had been the coaches, teaching the children life skills such as courage and resilience. They had picked them up when they needed it, recognised their gifts and talents and helped them to grow. He reminded them that they are loved by God more than they can possibly imagine and encouraged them not to change when they go to their new classes or secondary school. He suggested that they could be the person who includes everyone, who offers kindness and who has faith in others and themselves. Bishop Bosco reminded them that Jesus is present in our ordinary lives as well as in church and will be walking alongside them as they take their next steps.

Dates for your...

Thurs 3rd Sept	First day back to school for start of new academic year Celebration of the Word – school only
Future Dates for your Diary...	
Tues. 8th Sept – Y5 Trip to SS Great Britain and Y6 Trip to M Shed Y2 Trip to Corsham Court	

I wish you all a safe, relaxing, and enjoyable summer break, making many happy memories with your family and loved ones. Our team looks forward to welcoming you back on Thurs. 3rd September refreshed and ready for another fantastic year!

INSET DAYS FOR 2026-27

Tues. 1st September 2026

Wed. 2nd September 2026

Mon. 4th Jan 2027

Thurs. 22nd July 2027

Fri. 23rd July 2027

Jennie Courtney (Headteacher)

