NEWSLETTER

SACRED HEART CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL & NURSERY

22nd September 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you have all had a lovely couple of weeks.

On Tuesday, I held a Parents Head Forum and on Wednesday, Mrs Hiscock and myself led an RE Presentation. Thank you to the parents who attended. It was lovely to hear all of the things you feel the school is doing well, in particular how the children are going home talking about what they are learning.

Next Wednesday, 27th September, at 5pm, Mrs Stapleton will be leading a Phonics and Reading Presentation in the school hall. All parents and carers are welcome.

Next Friday 29th September, our Year 5 pupils are helping with the MacMillan Coffee Morning at the parish centre from 9 – 11am. You are welcome to join us.

We will next be in church on Thursday 12th October for our Harvest Festival. You are welcome to join us at 11am.

Have a lovely weekend.
Mrs Smith

Lourdes Assembly

Mrs Tizzard and some of our pupils and parents went to Lourdes over the summer. They took prayers that the children in school had written with them. People who are unwell or elderly to go on the trip. Mrs Tizzard led an assembly about this school. All of the children carried a tea light into assembly where they found out about this special pilgrimage to Lourdes. Thank you Mrs Tizzard for leading this assembly.

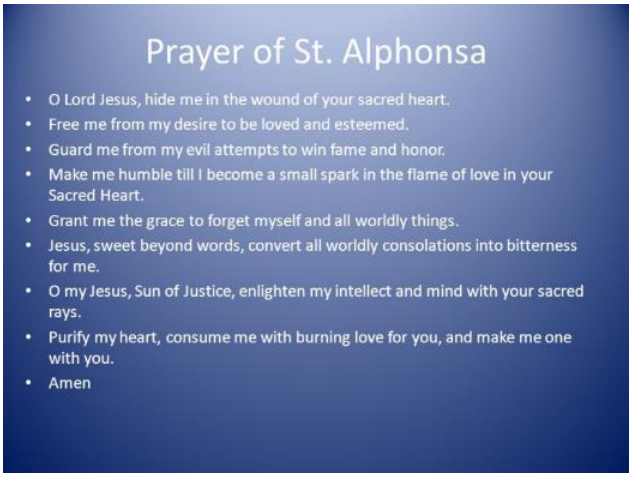





Saint Alphonsa

On Friday 15th September Year 4 celebrated St Alphonsa's feast day. They wore their own clothes, had a special collective worship and created some liturgical art.





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House Captains & Class Apostles

The House Captains and Class Apostles have been selected. The Class Apostles have been leading worship in class and they led their first Friday assembly last week. The House Captains led their first assembly on Monday this week.

The Class Apostles have received their special cross badge.



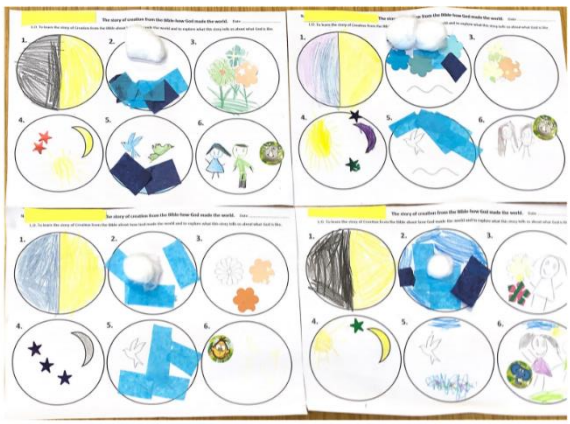
The House Captains have received their special badges and ties.



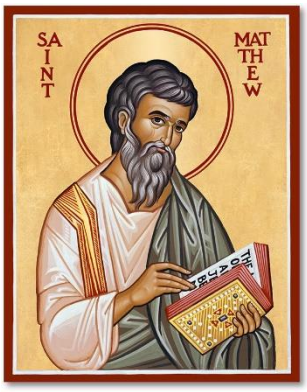


Watford Trust

On Wednesday 20th September Watford Trust led worshops with the following classes on Creation: St Anthony, St Cecilia and St Therese. The children learnt about the story of Creation from the Bible and they completed an activity on this.



Saint Matthew's Feast Day



Yesterday was St Matthew's Feast Day. In RE we are reading from St Matthew's Gospel. During collective worship, the children prayed to St Matthew.

God of mercy,
you chose a tax collector, Saint Matthew,
to share the dignity of the apostles.
By his example and prayers
help us to follow Christ
and remain faithful in your service.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.
Amen.

RE Newsletter

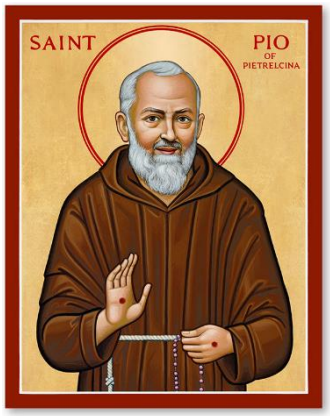
Please click on the link below to read the September RE Newsletter:
www.tentenresources.co.uk/prayers-for-home/parent-newsletter/

NEWSLETTER

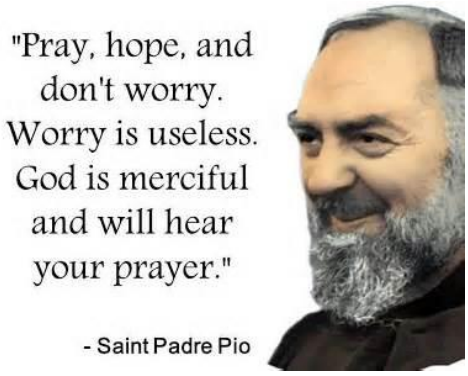
SACRED HEART CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL & NURSERY

22nd September 2023

Saint Padre Pio



Sunday 23rd September is Saint Padre Pio's feast day. Today Year 5/6 wore their own clothes to celebrate their class feast day. They also had a special collective worship and created liturgical art linked to Saint Padre Pio.



Saint Padre Pio was blessed by God with many miracles. When he was a young boy he could see guardian angels. Then, one day while he was hearing confessions, another miracle happened. The wounds of Jesus appeared on his hands and feet. Through his life, he brought many people closer to God. He would tell them, "Pray, hope and don't worry."

MacMillan Coffee Morning



On Friday 29th September the Year 5 pupils are helping with the MacMillan Coffee Morning at the parish centre. There will be lots of lovely cakes, tea and coffee. Please do join us.

FOSH

FOSH are holding their annual AGM on Wednesday 18th October at 6pm in the school hall. The money that FOSH raises for the school makes such a difference to the children's education and experience at Sacred Heart School. The money raised last year has funded our new prayer garden, bibles for the Year 3 pupils and hoodies for the Year 6 pupils. Please do join us at the AGM as your help and support is greatly appreciated. The new Prayer Garden will be open from next week. We will be holding a special blessing ceremony in a couple of weeks. More information will be sent about this nearer the time. This is our beautiful altar inside the prayer garden.



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22nd September 2023

Chapel

We are continuing to develop our Chapel. Pupils are holding prayer meetings during break and lunch time. Thank you to Mrs Sudjak who donated a beautiful crucifix, rosary beads and cloths for our Chapel.



Catholic Social Teaching:

Catholic Social Teaching (CST) is rooted in Scripture, formed by the wisdom of Church leaders, and influenced by grassroots movements. It is our moral compass, guiding us on how to live out our faith in the world.

Our faith calls us to love God and to love our neighbours in every situation, especially our sisters and brothers living in poverty. Following in the footsteps of Christ, we hope to make present in our unjust and broken world, the justice, love and peace of God.



This half term we are focusing on Care of Creation. As Christians, we are called to be good stewards of creation. That means we are meant to look after the world that God created for us. We must all work to leave our world in a better condition for the people who come after us. To support your children at home with this you could research together World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation (1st September) or COP27 (begins 7th November).

'Creation is a gift, it is a wonderful gift that God has given us, so that we care for it and we use it for the benefit of all.'
Pope Francis Laudato Si.

Care of Creation

Loving God
We come together to thank you for our world. You created the Earth for us to live and prosper in. You taught us how to care for the world you created but we have not followed those laws. Let us give thanks for the joy our world brings us and pray that we become good stewards of creation.
Amen

Mission Statement, Aims & Values

Our mission statement is 'Loving and learning with Christ as our teacher.' We live this out in everything we do at school and it is underpinned by our core aims which are for the pupils to be:

Disciples of Christ
Ready to learn
Secondary Ready

To help these three core aims we focus on Catholic Social Teaching, our LEARNER acroymn and British Values.

Learner Acroymn:

L – Love
E – Engage
A – Articulate & Aspire
N – Nurture
E – Effort
R – Resilience

For the next two weeks, we are focusing on E for engage.The more engaged pupils are in lessons the deeper their learning will be. We use a range of strategies in class to support the pupils to be fully engaged in their learning. This includes pupils explaining their ideas to their talk partner, all pupils showing the answer using whiteboards or resources and having clear routines and structures in lessons so that the pupils know how to complete their learning. Please discuss with your children how engaged they feel they have been with their learning this week.

British Values:

Alongside this we also actively promote British values to ensure our pupils are prepared for life in modern Britian. Pupils are encouraged to regard people of all faiths, races and cultures with respect and tolerance and understand that while different people may hold different views about what is 'right' and 'wrong' all people living in England are subject to it's law. The key values are:

Democracy
Rule of law
Individual liberty
Mutual respect
Tolerance of those of different faiths, races and cultures.

This half term we are focusing on Democracy. We do this by:

Our House Captains and Class Apostles are our school council.
Pupils vote for Class Apostles.
The children take part in debates.
All pupils are listened to by adults.
We invite MPs and other speakers to the school.
We hold mock elections.
We participate in the UK Youth Parliament.

Class Prayers

The children from Reception to Year 6 will all be receiving their own copy of their Phases Prayer Book. In these are the prayers they should know and are learning. There is also space for them to write their own prayers and reflections. The pupils will keep these in school and will be able to show you them during the classroom 'drop ins' next half term.

To help support your child's prayer development at home there is a link to the prayer books for each phase below. You can print a copy out so that you child has a copy at home. You can also encourage your child to say these prayers at home.

Nursery	Learn to sing/say morning, end of day prayer & grace. Bless themselves making the sign of the cross
Reception	Continuing building on F1 & introducing above to new children. Learning to focus their prayer in a spontaneous way- giving thanks and praise - praying for friends & family. Learn traditional Prayer -Our Father Responses at mass – And with your Spirit. Greet the Gospel- Alleluia Reception Prayer Book
Phase 1 / 2	Learning to make up their own prayers. Learn traditional prayer - Hail Mary. Responses at mass- Lord have mercy- Christ have mercy Learn traditional prayer - Glory Be. Introduce simple scripture verses to help the children use them as a way of praying. Prayers at mass- Prayers of intercession [Lord in your mercy- Hear our prayer]. Phase 1 / 2 Prayer Book
Phase 3/4	Learning how to understand the examination of conscience as a positive way of showing our love for God and each other. Learn traditional prayer- Act of Contrition. Prayers at mass- I confess. Learning to use traditional methods of prayer and to adapt them to their needs e.g. Rosary and litanies. Learn traditional prayer Magnificat. Prayers at mass –Lamb of God & Rite of dismal [Thanks be to God] Phase 3 / 4 Prayer Book
Phase 5 / 6	Introduce images and symbols as a way into prayer using art, music, poetry and prose. Learn the traditional prayers Angelus. Prayers at mass – Holy Holy & Glory to God Introduce the concept of making our lives a prayer. Learning that

	everything that we do can be given to God. Learn traditional prayers –Eternal rest & Stations of the Cross. Prayers at mass- Creed & Offertory prayers Phase 5 / 6 Prayer Book

CareTaker

We are currently recruiting for a new Caretaker.

Some of the tasks this involves are:

Carrying out day-to-day maintenance and minor repairs.

Booking outside contractors for major repair work.

Making sure heating, lighting and alarm systems are working properly.

Checking doors and windows are locked when the building is not in use.

Opening up buildings in the morning and lock them at the end of the day. If you would be interested in this role, please contact the school office.

School Crossing Patrol

Hertfordshire County Council are recruiting for a School Crossing Patrol for our school. Please see the flyer below.



Attendance

Our attendance has dropped slightly over the last two weeks to 97.4%. This is a slight drop from two weeks ago. To support your child's education, please ensure that they attend school every day unless they are unwell and that they arrive on time for class. The children start Maths or English learning as soon as they enter school. Effective learning is often repetitive, regular learning of key skills to help pupils to develop their long-term memory. If they are late by even a few minutes every day then they are missing valuable learning time. Please do not take children out of school early. Every minute in school counts.

Wellbeing

Click on the link below to find a guide that helps parents and carers to focus on five ways to support the wellbeing of the whole family and promote mental health. This guide also contains suggested family activities for each of the five steps.
https://mentallyhealthyschools.org.uk/resources/5-ways-to-better-wellbeing-for-your-family/

Secondary School Transfer Information

Secondary School admissions opened at the beginning of September and the closing date for all applications is 31st October 2023. We recommend that this is completed by Friday 20th October, so that

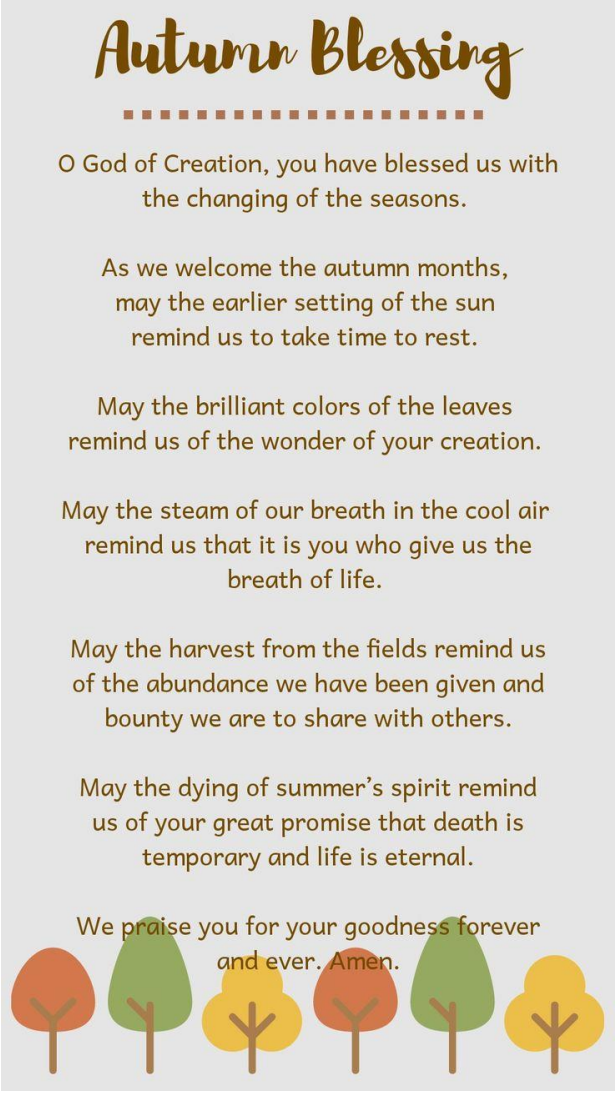
if there are any queries, they can be dealt with ahead of the deadline.
Year 6 parents must complete the online form at www.hertsdirect.org/admissions and complete the school's Supplementary Information Form, which you can obtain from the school's website or during the school's Open Evenings.
Please note that all Catholic secondary schools require a Certificate of Catholic Practice, which can be obtained from your parish priest.

Pupil Premium Funding

In certain circumstances, schools are able to claim approximately £1,600 of extra funding per child for pupils whose parents are in receipt of various benefits. This funding is available to all eligible children in school, from Nursery to Year 6. The criteria are the same as they would be for applying for 'free school meals' in KS2. The money can be used to support anything that improves a child's enjoyment, wellbeing, achievement or attainment at school. The funding could be used to pay for individual music tuition, 1:1 maths/literacy support, Breakfast Club and After School Club places, etc.
If you think that you or your partner may be eligible to claim this extra money for your child please apply directly using the following website:
www.hertsdirect.org/freeschoolmeals

Once successfully applied for, this funding will remain in place each year that your child is with us. However, you will need to reapply for the funding when your child moves from Infant to Juniors (when they leave Year 2 to move into Year 3).

If you have any queries, please speak to the School Office in confidence.



NEWSLETTER

SACRED HEART CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL & NURSERY

22nd September 2023

Dates for Autumn Term 2023

Any changes or additions are highlighted in yellow.

Date	Event
Swimming	Year 6 Swimming every Friday Autumn Term
Friday 22nd September	Saint Padre Pio Feast Day
Monday 25th September – 27th September	Assess, Plan, DO, Review face to face meetings – SENCO, Teacher, Parent, Child
Wednesday 27th September	5pm in school – Phonics and Reading Parents Presentation
Friday 29th September	St Therese class (Year 2) wear their opwn clothes to celebrate feast day.
Wednesday 4th October	St Francis' class (Reception) wear own clothes to celebrate feast day.
Wednesday 4th October	St Bernadette (Yr 3) – Trip to Hudnall Park
Wednesday 4th October	Internet Safety Presentation 5pm. You can attend this in person or log on using your child's google classroom login.
Friday 6th October	St Michaels Football and Netball competition for all Year 6 pupils- not confirmed
Friday 6th October	St Alphonsa (Yr 4) & St Peter (Yr 3/4) – Trip to Hudnall Park
Wednesday 11th October	Portrait Photos
Thursday 12th October	Harvest Liturgy in Church – Year 5 to lead – 11am
Monday 16th October – Thursday 19th October	Science & Creative Week – STEAM Week & Travelling Book Fair
Monday 16th October – Wednesday 18th October	Travelling Book Fair in school
Monday 16th October	Yr 3 and Yr 5 Cross Country Competition at Queens School
Tuesday 17th October	Yr 6 – One World Festival at St Michaels
Wednesday 18th October	9:30am – 11am SENCO Drop Ins – If any parent would like to meet Mrs Travers please contact the office and they will give you a time slot.
Wednesday 18th October	Year 4 Multiplication Times Tables Check Parent Presentation 5pm Virtual
Friday 20th October	Inset Day – Deanery Day

Monday 23rd October – Friday 27th October	Half Term
Monday 30th October	Children return to school
Tuesday 31st October	9:30am – 11am SENCO Drop Ins – If any parent would like to meet Mrs Travers please contact the office and they will give you a time slot.
Wednesday 1st November	All Saints Day – Years 1 – 6 will attend Church at 9:15am.
Thursday 2nd November	Year 4 Year Group Mass in Church – 9:15am
Thursday 2nd November	Year 6 End of Key Stage 2 Sats Parent Presentation 5pm in school
Tuesday 7th November	Head's Parents Forum in school 9:15 am. All parents are welcome to attend.
Thursday 9th November	Phase 5/6 Mass in Church – 9:15am
Tuesday 14th November	3:30pm – Parents and Children can visit Classrooms to look at books
Monday 20th November – Thursday 23rd November	Anti-Bullying Week
Monday 20th November	Parents Consultations – Reception (St Joseph), Year 1/2 (St Cecilia), Year 4 (St Alphonsa)
Tuesday 21st November	Parents Consultations – Reception (St Francis), Year 1 (St Anthony), Year 3 (St Bernadette), Year 6 (St John Bosco)
Wednesday 22nd November	Parents Consultations – Nursery (St Anne), Year 3/4 (St Peter), Year 5 (St Josephine Bakhita)
Wednesday 22nd November	St Cecilia's Class (Yr 1/2) wear own clothes to celebrate feast day
Thursday 23rd November	Parents Consultations – Year 2 (St Therese), Year 5/6 (St Padre Pio)
Friday 24th November	Occasional Day – School is closed
Thursday 30th November	Non-Uniform day. To celebrate St Andrew's Day the children may wear blue, white or tartan clothes. We ask for a £1 donation towards the school funds via the School Gateway.
Wednesday 6th December	Phase 1/2 (Years 1 and 2) Christmas Play – 9:15am in the hall – younger siblings who are not school age are welcome.

Thursday 7th December	Phase 1/2 (Years 1 and 2) Christmas Play – 9:15am in the hall – no younger siblings.
Thursday 7th December	Junior Advent Service – 10:45am in the Church
Friday 8th December	Feast of the Immaculate Conception – Years 1 up to Year 6 go to Church.
Wednesday 13th December	Reception Christmas Play – 9:30am – 10am
Thursday 14th December	Nursery Christmas Play – 11am
Wednesday 20th December	End of term and Christmas Dinner Day. School finishes at 1:15pm. The children may wear their own clothes, a Christmas jumper and a Christmas hat.

Spring Term 2024

Date	Event
Swimming	Year 5 swimming every Friday except Friday 1st March over the Spring Term
Thursday 4th January	Start of Term - Children return to school
Thursday 4th January	1:30pm – Assembly – during this Staff meeting – RE Professional Development & Reviewing CSED
Friday 5th January	Epiphany – Mass in Church – Year 4 to lead
Monday 15th January – Wednesday 17th January	Assess, Plan, DO, Review face to face meetings – SENCO, Teacher, Parent, Child
Wednesday 17th January	5pm in school - Religious Education Parent Presentation
Thursday 18th January	Lancaster Model Session with Year 6
Monday 22nd January – Wednesday 24th January	Assess, Plan, DO, Review face to face meetings – SENCO, Teacher, Parent, Child
Wednesday 31st January	St John Bosco (Yr 6) wear own clothes to celebrate feast day.
Thursday 1st February	Head's Parents Forum in school 9:15 am. All parents are welcome to attend.
Friday 2nd February	1:30pm – Candlemas Liturgy in the hall
Monday 5th February – Friday 9th February	Feeling Good Week & Children's Mental Health Week
Tuesday 6th February	Internet Safety Day – Want to talk about it? Make space for conversations about life online.

Thursday 8th February	St Josephine Bakhita Class (Year 5) wear their own clothes to celebrate feast day.
Thursday 8th February	9:15am - Year 6 Year Group Mass in Church – Year 5 Maths with Teacher and TA
Monday 12th February	Electric Umbrellas Co. Production at school
Tuesday 13th February	Computing including Internet Safety Parent Presentation
Wednesday 14th February	Ash Wednesday Service in Church
Monday 19th February – Friday 23rd February	Half Term
Monday 26th February	Children return to school
Monday 26th February – Friday 1st March	Assessment Week
Wednesday 28th February – Friday 1st March	Yr 5 Retreat - SPEC
Tuesday 27th February	5pm Maths Parent Presentation in school
Thursday 29th February	Head's Parents Forum in school 9:15 am. All parents are welcome to attend.
Friday 1st March	Non-Uniform day. To celebrate St David's Day the children may wear red, white and green clothes. We ask for a £1 donation towards the school funds via the School Gateway.
Tuesday 5th March	3:30pm – Parents and children can go and see their work
Thursday 7th March	World Book Day – the children may come to school dressed up as a character from a book or linked to an object from a book.
Friday 8th March	All classes from Nursery up to Year 6 - Mothers' Day class assemblies – these will be live streamed.
Monday 11th March	Parents Consultations – Reception (St Joseph), Year 1/2 (St Cecilia), Year 4 (St Alphonsa)
Tuesday 12th March	Parents Consultations – Reception (St Francis), Year 1 (St Anthony), Year 3 (St Bernadette), Year 6 (St John Bosco)
Wednesday 13th March	Parents Consultations – Nursery (St Anne), Year 3/4 (St Peter), Year 5 (St Josephine Bakhita)
Thursday 14th March	Parents Consultations – Year 2 (St Therese), Year 5/6 (St Padre Pio)
Friday 15th March	Non-Uniform day. To celebrate St Patrick's Day the children may wear green, white and orange clothes. We ask for a £1 donation towards the school funds via the School Gateway.

Monday 18th March – Wednesday 20th March	Maths Drop Ins – EYFS, Phase 1/2, Phase 5/6
Monday 18th March	9:30am – 11am SENCO Drop Ins – If any parent would like to meet Mrs Travers please contact the office and they will give you a time slot.
Monday 18th March or Friday 22nd March	Phase 3/4 to show play either Monday afternoon or Friday morning or afternoon. There will be Maths observations Monday morning.
Tuesday 19th March	Phase 3/4 Lent Play – 9:15am
Tuesday 19th March	Writing Parent Presentation in school – 5pm
Wednesday 20th March	Phase 3/4 Lent Play – 9:15am
Thursday 21st March	Junior Lent Service – 10:30am in Church
Thursday 21st March	1pm – 3pm in Church - Reconciliation – Years 3-6 – Need to check that the Year 3's have made their First Confession
Thursday 28th March	End of term and Whole School Easter Bonnet Parade, school finishes at 1:15pm.

Summer Term 2024

Date	Event
Swimming	Year 4 swimming every Friday up to Friday 24th May
Monday 15th April	Children return to school
Tuesday 16th April	St Bernadette's Class (Yr 3) wear own clothes to celebrate feast day which is on 16th April.
Thursday 18th April	Beginning of Term Mass - Year 3 to lead
Tuesday 23rd April	Non-Uniform day. To celebrate St George's Day the children may wear red and white clothes. We ask for a £1 donation towards the school funds.
Tuesday 23rd April	5pm - Religious Education Parent Presentation in school
Thursday 25th April	Year 5 Year Group Mass in church
Monday 29th April – 1st May	Assess, Plan, Do, Reviews
Tuesday 30th April	Head's Parents Forum in school 9:15 am. All parents are welcome to attend.

Wednesday 1st May	St Joseph's Class (Reception) wear their own clothes to celebrate St Joseph's feast day
Thursday 2nd May	Phase 1/2 Mass in Church
Monday 6th May	May Day Bank Holiday
Tuesday 7th May – Thurs 9th May	Assess, Plan, Do, Reviews
Wednesday 8th May	5pm – Spanish Parent Presentation in school
Thursday 9th May	Ascension Mass in Church
Monday 13th May to Thursday 16th May	Year 6 Sats
Monday 20th May – Friday 24th May	Year 6 Residential Trip to Longridge
Tuesday 21st May	9 – 10:15 – EYFS Sports Day 10:45 – 12:00 – Phase 1/2 Sports Day 1:15 – 2:30 – Phase 3/4 Sports Day
Monday 27th May – Friday 31st May	Half Term
Swimming	Year 3 swimming every Friday up to Friday 12th July
Monday 3rd June	Inset Day
Tuesday 4th June – 7th June	Multiplication Check
Wednesday 5th June	5pm - Music Parent Presentation in school
Friday 7th June	Sacred Heart Feast Day Mass for Years 1 – 6 in Church at 9:15am. Phase 1/2 to lead. Whole school picnic at 12pm to 1:pm on the school field.
Monday 10th June – Friday 14th June	Multiplication Check and Phonics Screening
Thursday 13th June	St Anthony (Yr 1) wear their own clothes to celebrate their feast day
Monday 17th June – Friday 21st June	Sports Week
Monday 17th June	All classes from Nursery up to Year 6 - Fathers' Day class assemblies – these will be live streamed.
Tuesday 18th June	9:15 – Phase 5/6 Sports Day

Thursday 20th June	Head's Parents Forum in school 9:15 am. All parents are welcome to attend.
Monday 24th June – Friday 28th June	One World Week
Tuesday 25th June	International Day
Tuesday 25th June	9:30am – 11am SENCO Drop Ins – If any parent would like to meet Mrs Travers please contact the office and they will give you a time slot.
Thursday 27th June	Phase 3/4 Mass in Church
Friday 28th June	St Peter and Paul Mass in Church
Monday 1st July	St Peter's Class (Yr3/4) wear their own clothes to celebrate feast day which was on 30th June.
Tuesday 2nd July	St Bernadette's (Yr 3) Trip to Chiltern Open Air Museum
Wednesday 3rd July	St Peter's (Yr 3/4) Trip to Chiltern Open Air Museum
Wednesday 3rd July	6 – 7:30pm – Phase 5/6 Production
Thursday 4th July	St Alfonsa's (Yr 4) Trip to Chiltern Open Air Museum
Thursday 4th July	6 – 7:30pm – Phase 5/6 Production
Thursday 11th July	Transition Day
Friday 12th July	St Anne's class (Nursery) wear their own clothes to celebrate the feast day of St Anne which is on 26th July.
Tuesday 16th July	SLT – Finish Next Year's Dates
Thursday 18th July	End of Term school finishes at 12:30 pm for Years R up to Year 5 (pupils have lunch in school) School ends at 1:30pm for Year 6 pupils. 9:15 – Year 6 Leavers Mass in Church