Learning and loving with Christ as our teacher

SACRED HEART CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL & NURSERY

NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 2026

Dear God Our Father,
I hope everyone has a lovely year.
We are excited to learn new things and to meet new friends.
Help us to set a good example to others and to help those who need our help.
Amen
Written by Kitty



October Dates

Date	Event
1st Half Term	Year 5 Swimming
Thursday 1st October	St Therese's Class (Yr 2) wear their own clothes to celebrate feast day. We ask for a £1 donation towards the class charity via the School Gateway.
Friday 2nd October	St Francis' class (Reception) wear own clothes to celebrate feast day – feast day is on Sunday 4th October. We ask for a £1 donation towards the class charity via the School Gateway.
Wednesday 7th October	Harvest Liturgy in Church – Year 5 to lead – 10:30am
Thursday 15th October	Year 6 to St Michael's School One World Festival
Thursday 15th October	Parent Book look – 3:30pm – 4pm
Wk beginning Monday 19th October	Parent Consultations over the week - Days TBC
Monday 26th October – Friday 30th October	Half Term

Headteacher's Message

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to a new school year. It has been a wonderful start to the term, and I have been incredibly proud of how positively the children have embraced their new classes and routines. The enthusiasm, confidence and eagerness to learn that I have seen around the school over the past few weeks have been a delight and I look forward to all that we will achieve together this year.

Thank you to all the families who joined us for Mass during the first week of term. It was a wonderful opportunity to come together in prayer as a school community and to place the new academic year in God's hands. We look forward to welcoming you once again on Wednesday 7th October for our Harvest Festival celebration in church. This is always a special occasion, and we hope many of you will be able to join us as we give thanks for the gifts of the harvest and support those in need.

May God bless all our children, families, and staff as we journey through the year ahead.

Warm regards,
Mrs. Smith

ST ALPHONSA'S FEAST DAY

As St Alphonsa's feast day fell during the summer holidays on 28th July, Year 4 marked the occasion together on Thursday 10th September. The children enjoyed a non-uniform day, learnt more about the life and example of St Alphonsa and took part in a special act of collective worship to celebrate our school's patron saint.

St Alphonsa was the first woman of Indian origin to be canonised as a saint. From a young age, she felt called to dedicate her life to God and joined the Franciscan Clarist Congregation as a religious sister. She was known for her deep faith, humility, and commitment to prayer. Despite experiencing ill health and many difficulties throughout her life, she trusted completely in God and offered her hardships with courage and love. Today, St Alphonsa continues to inspire Christians around the world through her example of perseverance, faith, and service to others.

Dear God,
Thank you St Alphonsa who set an amazing example of bravery. Please help us when we need it. Please help us to keep chasing our dreams like St Alphonsa.
St Alphonsa, pray for us.
Amen
Written by Blossom



Dear God,
Thank you for St Alphonsa. She set an excellent example to us. She helped people when they were feeling down. Please help us to follow in her footsetps.
Amen
Written by Finn



Dear God,
Thank you for St Alphonsa. Please help us when life is hard. Please help uys to be loving and caring to others. Thank you for everything you do for us..
Help us
Amen
Written by Frank



Dear God,
Bless everyone in heaven and make sure everyone is ok. Please help us to follow St Alphonsa's example by being loving and caring.
Thank you for helping us.
Amen
Written by Siofra



Dear God,
Thank you for St Alphonsa.
Help us to follow her example by showing courage and faith even when it seems difficult. Thank you for showing us how to act when life seems hard and for helping us to understand how much You care for us.
Amen
Written by Elsbeth



Dear God,
Thank you for St Alphonsa. She showed us how to trust in You and how to be truthful even when life is hard. Please help us to love one another and to show respect to everyone.
Amen
Written by Marley

YEAR 4 AND YEAR 5 TRIP TO BHAKTIVEDANTA MANOR

On Tuesday 22nd September, Year 4 and Year 5 enjoyed a fascinating trip to Bhaktivedanta Manor in Aldenham as part of their learning about Hinduism. During the visit, the children learnt about Hindu beliefs and traditions, explored the beautiful temple, and observed an act of worship. They were particularly interested in discovering how Hindus pray and express their faith in daily life.

One of the highlights of the day was meeting and feeding the cows, which are considered sacred in Hinduism. The children thoroughly enjoyed this hands-on experience and asked many thoughtful questions throughout the visit. It was a memorable day that brought their classroom learning to life and helped deepen their understanding of another faith and culture.





ST PADRE PIO'S FEAST DAY

Year 5/6 enjoyed a wonderful celebration of their class feast day as they came together to learn more about their patron saint, Padre Pio. The children arrived in their own clothes, helping to create a joyful atmosphere for this special occasion. Throughout the day, they reflected on Padre Pio's life and took part in a prayerful act of collective worship.

As part of their celebrations, the children discovered how Padre Pio dedicated his life to serving God and others. He was renowned for his compassion, humility, and commitment to helping those in need. Many people travelled great distances to seek his guidance, finding comfort through his wisdom and prayers. His life showed the importance of putting faith into action through kindness, forgiveness, and service.

The children reflected on how they can follow Padre Pio's example in their own lives by caring for others, showing perseverance when faced with challenges, and making time for prayer. His famous words, "Pray, hope and don't worry," encouraged the children to place their trust in God and approach each day with confidence and faith.

The feast day was a meaningful opportunity for Year 5/6 to celebrate together, deepen their understanding of their class saint, and consider how they can live out his values within our school community.

YEAR 3 AND YEAR 5 CROSS COUNTRY

Well done to our Year 3 and Year 5 pupils who recently took part in a cross-country event. The children represented the school with great enthusiasm, determination and sportsmanship throughout the day. Their behaviour was exemplary, and they were a credit to both themselves and our school.

We are incredibly proud to share that our pupils won every category in which they competed, demonstrating not only their athletic ability but also their resilience and commitment. It was wonderful to see the children encouraging one another and showing such positive attitudes throughout the event.

Congratulations to all of the runners for their fantastic achievements and for representing the school so brilliantly. We look forward to celebrating more sporting success in the future. 🏃‍♀️🏃‍♂️🏅





Summer Work

We have been busy over the summer holidays continuing to invest in our school environment to ensure that it remains a safe, welcoming, and inspiring place for our children to learn and thrive. As part of our ongoing refurbishment programme, the Year 5 classroom has been completely renovated, creating a bright and engaging learning space for the children. We have also completed a number of important site improvements, including the installation of new fire doors and significant drainage works around the school to enhance both safety and the school environment.

We would like to extend our sincere thanks to FOSH for their continued support and for organising a range of successful fundraising events throughout last year. The generosity of our families has enabled valuable funds to be raised, which will now be used to continue the refurbishment of our Infant climbing frame, ensuring that it remains a safe and enjoyable resource for our youngest pupils.

We are incredibly grateful for the support of our school community. Your contributions help us to maintain and improve our facilities, providing the very best environment for all our children.







Spotlight on Learning

Learner Acronym

This half term we are focusing on L.

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

In assembly the pupils thought about how we can show love to each other:

💖 How We Can Show Love to Each Other at School 💖

1. Use Kind Words 🗣️
   - Say “thank you,” “well done,” or “you’re great!”
   - Encourage friends when they are finding something tricky.
2. Help & Share 🤝
   - Offer to help a friend with their work or a task.
   - Share toys, pencils, or books.
3. Listen & Care 👂💛
   - Pay attention when someone is talking.
   - Say “I understand how you feel” when a friend is upset.
4. Include Everyone 🌈
   - Invite others to join your games and activities.
   - Make sure nobody feels left out.
5. Respect Differences 🌍
   - Be kind to friends who are different from you.
   - Celebrate each other’s talents and ideas.
6. Say Sorry & Forgive 🙏
   - Say sorry if you hurt someone by accident.
   - Forgive friends so you can be happy together again.
7. Play Fairly ⚽
   - Take turns and follow the rules.
   - Give high-fives or thumbs up when friends do well.
8. Be There for Friends 🤗
   - Comfort someone who is sad.
   - Smile or say something kind when someone is lonely.

SPOTLIGHT ON RE

RE Curriculum

This year, all classes are continuing to follow the new Religious Education Directory (RED). Through Religious Education, children not only deepen their knowledge and understanding of the Catholic faith but also develop a wide range of important foundational skills that support learning across the curriculum.

Through discussion, debate, and reflection, pupils learn to express their ideas clearly using full sentences, listen respectfully to the views of others and build their vocabulary through the introduction of key religious language. Children are encouraged to read, write, reason, and think critically as they explore scripture, respond to questions of meaning and purpose, and make connections between faith and everyday life.

Each topic is explored through the four lenses of Hear, Believe, Celebrate and Live. These lenses help children develop their knowledge, understanding, communication, and reflection skills while growing in faith. By revisiting and applying these skills throughout their Religious Education lessons, pupils strengthen the foundations that support success across all areas of learning.

Phase	Autumn 1 - Branch 1 Creation & Covenant	Autumn 2 - Branch 2 Prophecy and Promise
Phase EYFS	**Hear:** The children will learn the words and actions of the sign of the cross. They will hear the Creation story. **Believe:** The children will learn that God made the world and all of us. They will learn we need to look after God's creation. **Celebrate:** The children will use the words and actions of the sign of the cross. They will celebrate God's beautiful world. **Live:** The children will learn to care and love for themselves, their family, others and God's world.	**Hear:** The children will hear the Christmas story from Luke. **Believe:** The children learn that Mary had a baby called Jesus. They will learn that Mary was chosen by God to give birth to His Son. They will learn that Jesus was born in a stable and that shepherds were told to visit Him by angels. **Celebrate:** The children will learn how an Advent Wreath is use during Advent, the tradition of the crib and hold a Nativity celebration. **Live:** The children will celebrate Advent as a time to get ready for Christmas. They will learn that during Advent we make a special effot to help others and ourselves and to show our love to God.







Phase	Autumn 1 - Branch 1 Creation & Covenant	Autumn 2 - Branch 2 Prophecy and Promise
Phase 1/2	**Hear:** The children will learn the story of Noah, focusing on God's covenant (promise) with Noah and all living beings in the sign of the rainbow. **Believe:** The children will learn that the Bible is split into the Old Testament and the New Testament. They will learn that God made a covenant (promise) with Noah to save all living things. **Celebrate:** The children will say psalms and learn that they are prayers to praise God. They will learn that Baptism is the first sacrament which welcomes people into the Christian family. **Live:** The children will learn to show care for God's world by caring for one another.	**Hear:** The children will learn about The Annunciation of John the Baptist, The Annunciation of Jesus, The Visitation, The birth of John the Baptist and the birth of Jesus from Luke's Gospel. **Believe:** The children learn that John the Baptist was born to be a prophet. They will learn that Advent is the season when Christians prepare for the coming of Jesus Christ at Christmas. They will learn that Mary is the Mother of God and our mother who is trusted with all our prayers. **Celebrate:** The children will learn how an Advent Wreath is use during Advent, the tradition of the crib and hold a Nativity celebration. **Live:** The children will use words of Mary's prayer, the Magnificat and sing carols to give thanks to God. They will learn that Advent is a time Christians prepare for Jesus' coming and that the Advent wreath is a symbol of the coming of the light.
Phase 3/4	**Hear:** The children will learn the story of Abraham. They will learn some facts about the historical, cultural and religious context out of which Abraham was called. **Believe:** The children learn that God's covenant with Abraham is the foundation of the faith of the people of the Old and New Testaments: Judaism and Christianity. They will learn that through living out virtues of faith, hope, and love (sometimes referred to as charity), Christians are drawn into a closer relationship with the Holy Trinity. **Celebrate:** The children will learn and use age appropriate prayers in their collective worship e.g. the St Therese prayer. **Live:** The children will learn the virtues of faith, hope, and love. They will learn the life and work of a person who was an example of faith made active in love, e.g., the intervention of Cardinal Manning in the London dockworker's strike.	**Hear:** The children will learn the following key texts: The miracle of the flour and the oil, Elijah's encounter with God, The preaching of John the Baptist, Isaiah 403. **Believe:** The children will learn that John the Baptist is sent to prepare the way for Jesus. In the Advent liturgies, Christians pray for the second coming of Jesus alongside preparing for Christmas. **Celebrate:** The children will celebrate 'The Feast of Christ the King'. They will learn about the Jesse Tree and use the words from the Nicene Creed, 'He will come again in glory,' in their collective worship. **Live:** The children will learn how Christians prepare for the coming of Christ during Advent. How Christians use the Jesse tree during Advent, identifying its meaning and representation in art around the world, connecting to God's plan for salvation. How some artists have depicted Jesus Christ as King.

Phase	Autumn 1 - Branch 1 Creation & Covenant	Autumn 2 - Branch 2 Prophecy and Promise
Phase 5/6	**Hear:** The children will learn the following key texts: The second account of Creation, The Nicene Creed and Laudato Si' 66 - 67. **Believe:** The children will learn that the world is in disarray because humans choose to do evil again and again. This is called original sin; the story of Adam and Eve explains why the world is no longer as good as it was in the beginning. They will learn that in Jesus, God restored humanity's relationship with him. They will learn that Baptism is the first sacrament of the forgiveness of sins. It unites Christians with Jesus Christ, who dies and rises, and strengthens the gifts of the Holy Spirit. **Celebrate:** The children will learn the symbols in the Sacrament of Baptism that point to a Christian's new life in Christ. They will learn that the Church teaches that the Nicene Creed allows all believers to make a common statement of their faith. **Live:** The children will learn that many scientists are Christians and they do not see any conflict between their faith and science. The work of Catholic scientists in contributing to the scientific account of the beginnings of the universe (e.g., the work of Mendel and Lemaitre).	**Hear:** The children will learn about key Old Testament passages that show the importance of woman in salvation history such as Sarah in Genesis, Miriam in Exodus, and Deborah in Judges. They will learn about the difference between the Lucan and Matthean infancy narratives, emphasising their respective intentions, narrative approach, and Luke's emphasis on the role of women in the story of salvation. **Believe:** The children learn that the women of the Old Testament are true protagonists of salvation history. They will learn that Mary is the fulfilment of the Old Testament promises and became the 'Mother of God' by her 'Yes' to God's plan. **Celebrate:** The children will learn that the Magnificat is the song of the Mother of God and the song of the Church. They will learn that the Church prays the Magnificat each day at Vespers. They will learn some sung settings of the Magnificat. **Live:** The children will learn examples of women today who are responding to God's call in their life. For example, the role of women's religious orders in the Church today, with reference to at least one example of a Catholic women's religious order (e.g., Sisters of Mercy, Ursulines, Sisters of Loreto, Daughters of St Paul, Little Sisters of the Poor).







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 acronym and British Values.

Catholic Social Teaching:

Catholic Social Teaching (CST) helps us to put our faith into action. Inspired by the teachings of Jesus, the Gospel and the mission of the Church, it guides us in making choices that show love, compassion and respect for others. CST reminds us that we are all part of God's family and that we each have a responsibility to help build a fairer and more just world.

This term, our focus is Stewardship of Creation. God entrusted the earth to our care, and we are called to protect and cherish the environment. By making thoughtful choices, reducing waste and caring for the world around us, we can help ensure that God's creation continues to flourish for future generations.

You may like to discuss these themes at home by exploring:

- 🌍 The Season of Creation (September to October)
- 🌍 Ways your family can reduce waste, recycle and care for the environment
- 🌍 Local and global projects that help protect our planet

"The earth is the Lord's and everything in it." (Psalm 24:1)

As a school community, we will be encouraging the children to recognise the many ways they can become responsible stewards of God's creation through their words, actions and daily choices. Together, we can make a positive difference in caring for our common home.





Over the past year, our pupils have continued to show great commitment to caring for others and looking after God's world. Through a range of environmental and charitable initiatives, they have demonstrated that even small actions can make a big difference. From reducing waste and promoting recycling to helping maintain our school environment, the children have embraced their responsibility as stewards of creation.

We are especially grateful to our Eco Ambassadors who have encouraged their peers to make positive choices and consider how their actions affect others and the world around them. Their enthusiasm and dedication have helped to strengthen our school's commitment to caring for our common home.

Through Catholic Social Teaching, children learn that they are called to love their neighbour, care for creation and work for the common good. By supporting local, national and global causes, they are developing an understanding of justice, compassion and service.

As followers of Christ, we encourage all of our pupils to recognise that they have the power to make a positive difference. By showing kindness, helping those in need and caring for the environment, they are becoming active citizens and living witnesses to the Gospel in their daily lives.

Here a few of their jobs they have around school:

Year Group	Catholic Social Teaching
Phase EYFS	Gardening Leaders
Phase 1/2	Playtime Equipment Leaders
Phase 3/4	Library Leaders
Year 5	Caritas Ambassadors
Year 6	Play Leaders & Reception Buddies

There are also a number of other jobs that the children do:

Chaplaincy Team:
House Captains
Class Apostles
Caritas Ambassador Leaders
ECO Ambassadors
Prayer Leaders

Other Leadership roles:
Digital Leaders
Milk Monitors
Book Monitors
Classroom Library Monitors
Tidy Up Monitors
Line Monitors
Sports Leaders

💖 Living Our Faith Through Action 💖

At Sacred Heart, we encourage our children to live out the Gospel each day by showing kindness, serving others and caring for our world. Through Catholic Social Teaching, pupils learn that they can make a difference by using their gifts and talents to support those in need and promote the common good.

Our Caritas Ambassadors play an important role in leading this mission across the school. They help to raise awareness of important causes, encourage acts of service and inspire others to put their faith into action. Through their leadership, they remind us that even the smallest acts of love and generosity can have a lasting impact.

This year, we are inviting all children to reflect on the question:
"How can I be the hands and feet of Christ in my community?"

During this half term, our Caritas Ambassadors will be:

- 🍂 Organising and promoting our Harvest Collection for local families in need
- 💙 Raising awareness of Mary's Meals and the difference it makes to children around the world
- 🎂 Supporting charitable fundraising events within our parish and school community
- 🤝 Encouraging pupils to take part in acts of kindness and service throughout the school day

Together, we will continue to grow as a community of faith, showing Christ's love through our actions and working towards a more compassionate, just and caring world.









Phase Prayers

Prayer and liturgy are integral components of the religious and spiritual life of our school.

Prayer and liturgy serve to foster a sense of faith, community, and reverence for God. They provide opportunities for our pupils to engage in worship, deepen their understanding of Catholic traditions, and develop a personal relationship with God within the context of their education.

Pupils are taught different prayers in each phase. These prayers are in line with the prayers in The Prayer & Liturgy Directory for Catholic schools.

Nursery	Learn to sing/say morning, end of day prayer & grace before meals. Bless themselves making the sign of the cross
Reception	Continuing building on Nursery & 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
Phase 1 / 2	Continuing building on Reception & introducing above to new children Learning to make up their own prayers. Learn traditional prayer - Hail Mary. Responses at mass- Lord have mercy- Christ have mercy Glory Be. Grace before and after meals. 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 3/4	Continuing building on Phase 1/2 & introducing above to new children Learning how to understand the examination of conscience as a positive way of showing our love for God and each other. The Apostles Creed Act of Contrition. Angel of God Come, Holy Spirit The Prayer of St Richard of Chichester Prayers at Mass- I confess, Lamb of God & Rite of dismal [Thanks be to God] Learning to use traditional methods of prayer and to adapt them to their needs e.g. Rosary and litanies.
Phase 5 / 6	Continuing building on Phase 3/4 & introducing above to new children Introduce images and symbols as a way into prayer using art, music, poetry and prose. Learn the traditional prayers Angelus. Introduce the concept of making our lives a prayer. Learning that everything that we do can be given to God. Morning Offering The Rosary The Magnificat Act of Faith Act of Hope Act of Love Eternal rest Stations of the Cross. Prayers at Mass- Creed & Offertory prayers, Holy Holy & Glory to God

British Values

At Sacred Heart, we are committed to helping our pupils become responsible, respectful and active members of society. Through our curriculum, collective worship and daily interactions, children learn to value and celebrate the diversity of our community while understanding the importance of treating everyone with dignity and respect.

The British Values we promote throughout school are:

- Democracy
- The Rule of Law
- Individual Liberty
- Mutual Respect
- Tolerance of Different Faiths and Beliefs

This half term, our focus is Democracy.

We encourage pupils to understand that everyone has a voice and that their opinions matter. Children are given opportunities to share their ideas, make decisions and contribute to school life in meaningful ways.

Pupils experience democracy through:

- Participating in our School Council and pupil voice activities.
- Sharing their views through class discussions and debates.
- Taking part in surveys and helping to shape aspects of school life.
- Learning about elections and how democracy works in Britain.
- Listening respectfully to different viewpoints and learning how to disagree positively.

Secondary School Transfer Information

Secondary School admissions opened at the beginning of September and the closing date for all applications is 31st October 2026. We recommend that this is completed by Friday 23rd 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.hertfordshire.gov.uk/services/schools-and-education/school-admissions/secondary-and-upper-schools/secondary-and-upper-school-places.aspx 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.

RE Parent Information



RE Newsletter

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

Wednesday Word

The Primary School Wednesday Word is an online resource that allows you to reflect on the weekly Gospel. You can access this on the link below:
Wednesday Word

Mark 10 Mission

The Primary School produces weekly videos on the Sunday Gospel. These help children to experience the Word of God, pray and sing together. You can access these on the link below:
https://www.themark10mission.co.uk/

Sacred Heart Church Services

The weekend Mass times at the church are as follows:
Saturday - 6pm
Sunday - 8:30am, 10:30am, 6pm
There is a children's liturgy during the 10:30am Mass.



Parish Newsletter

You can access the parish newsletter on this link:
https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/bushey/weekly-newsletters/

Dear God,
I hope everyone has a lovely year.
Thank you for all of the teachers.
Thank you for all of our friends.
Thank you for this year.
Amen
Written by Ellie



Dear God,
Thank you for our school year.
Help people who need your love.
Help people to care for each other.
Help people who need friends.
Amen
Written by Penny

Attendance and Punctuality Update 📊🕑

Since the pandemic, pupils' attendance has dramatically decreased across all schools. Starting on August 19th, 2024, the Department for Education (DfE) introduced a new National Framework concerning Unauthorised Absence and Penalty Notices. Unauthorised Absence includes term-time holidays or any absence that has not been approved by the school. Please be aware that this is a nationwide policy that must be followed by all schools in England.

National Threshold

The National threshold for when a penalty notice is given is 10 sessions (5 school days) of unauthorised absence within a rolling 10-school-week period. These sessions do not have to be consecutive and can consist of any type of unauthorised absence. The 10-school-week period can span over different terms or school years.
The following changes will be put into effect:

First Offence

The first time a Penalty Notice is issued for term-time leave of absence or unauthorised absence, the amount will be:
• £160 per parent, per child paid within 28 days;
• reduced to £80 per parent, per child if paid within 21 days.

Second Offence (within 3 years)

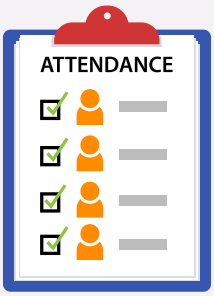
The Second time a Penalty Notice is issued for unauthorised absence, the amount will be:
• £160 per parent, per child within 28 days.

Third Offence and Any Further Offences (within 3 years)

The third time an offence is committed, a Penalty Notice will not be issued and the case will be presented straight to the Magistrate's Court.
• Prosecution can result in criminal records and fines up to £2,500.
• Cases found guilty in Magistrates' Court can show on the parent's future DBS certificate due to 'failure to safeguard a child's education'.

Please note that all of our pupils' attendance is regularly checked by Hertfordshire County Council Attendance Improvement Officers. Therefore, the school does not have any discretion regarding term-time holidays. Moreover, the school has to adhere to this National Framework.







Wellbeing

A Positive Start to the School Year

The start of a new school year is an exciting time, but it can also bring changes and challenges for both children and adults. As families settle back into routines, it is important to remember that children's wellbeing plays a vital role in their happiness, confidence, and success at school. Simple routines such as regular bedtimes, healthy meals, opportunities for physical activity, and time to talk together as a family can make a significant difference. Taking a few moments each day to ask your child about their day, celebrate successes, and listen to any worries can help them feel secure and supported.

We encourage all children to embrace new opportunities, develop resilience when things are challenging, and remember that making mistakes is an important part of learning. By working together, we can help our children build confidence, positive relationships, and a love of learning.





Pupil Premium Funding

The Government has introduced two different Free School Meals schemes, and it is important that families understand the difference:

Targeted Free School Meals (TFSM) are available to children whose parents meet specific benefits-related eligibility criteria. Children who qualify receive a free school meal, and the school receives additional Pupil Premium funding of approximately £1,600 per child per year. This funding helps us provide additional support, interventions, resources, enrichment opportunities, and assistance with educational visits.

Expanded Free School Meals (EFSM) provide free school meals to a wider group of children. However, children who qualify through the expanded scheme do not automatically attract Pupil Premium funding for the school unless they also meet the Targeted Free School Meals eligibility criteria.

For this reason, it is extremely important that all families who may be eligible for Targeted Free School Meals apply, even if their child is already receiving a free school meal through another entitlement. Registering ensures that both your child and the school benefit from the additional support available.

You can check your eligibility and apply online at: https://www.gov.uk/apply-free-school-meals

The application process is quick and confidential. If you are unsure whether you qualify, we encourage you to apply as many families are surprised to discover that they are eligible.

If you have any questions or would like support with the application process, please contact the School Office in confidence. Your application could unlock valuable additional funding that directly benefits your child's education and wellbeing.

Learning and loving with Christ as our teacher

SACRED HEART CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Diary Dates for 2026 - 2027

Please treat this calendar as a guide - changes may occur over the year. Any changes are higlighted in yellow

Date	Event
October	**Dedication to the Most Holy Rosary**
Thursday 1st October	St Therese's Class (Yr 2) wear their own clothes to celebrate feast day
Friday 2nd October	St Francis' class (Reception) wear own clothes to celebrate feast day – feast day is on Sunday 4th October. Please donate £1 via gateway for the class charity.
Week Beginning 5th October	
Wednesday 7th October	Harvest Liturgy in Church – Year 5 to lead – 10:30am
Week Beginning 12th October	
Tuesday 13th October	Individual Photos
Thursday 15th October	St Michaels One World Festival – Yr 6 – morning
Thursday 15th October	Parent Book look – 3:30pm – 4pm
Wk beginning Monday 19th October	Parent Consultations over the week – Days TBC
Monday 26th October – Friday 30th October	Half Term
2nd Half Term	Year 6 Swimming
November	**The Month of the Holy Souls**
Wk Beginning 2nd November	
Monday 2nd November - Friday 6th November	STEAM Week in School - children will be completeing workshops over the week

Date	Event
Friday 6th November	Year 4 Year Group Mass – 9:15am in church
Wk Beginning 9th November	
Wednesday 11th November	Remembrance – 2 minute silence 11am
Thursday 12th November	Year 6 School Trip
Friday 13th November	Phase 5/6 Mass in Church – 9:15am
Wk Beginning 16th November	Anti-Bullying Week
Tuesday 17th November	9:30 – 10:30 SENCO Drop Ins – If a parent would like to see the SENCO on this day, please contact the office and they will give you a time slot.
Friday 20th November	St Cecilia's Class (Yr 1/2) wear own clothes to celebrate feast day – feast day is on 22nd November
Wk beginning 23rd November	
Friday 27th November	Occasional Day
Wk Beginning 30th November	
Monday 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 2nd December	Whole School Pantomime Trip
December	**Advent**
Wk beginning 7th December	
Tuesday 8th December	Phase 1/2 (Years 1 and 2) Christmas Play – 9:15am in the hall – no younger siblings.
Wednesday 9th December	Phase 1/2 (Years 1 and 2) Christmas Play – 9:15am in the hall – younger siblings who are not school age are welcome.
Wednesday 9th December	Junior Advent Service – 10:45am in the Church
Thursday 10th December	From 1pm - Year 4 – 6 Reconciliation

Date	Event
Friday 11th December	Reception Nativity - 9:15 in school – parents welcome
Wk Beginning 14th December	
Tuesday 15th December	Nursery Nativity – 9:15am in school – parents welcome
Wednesday 16th December	Christmas Dinner
Friday 18th December	End of Term – school finishes 1:15pm

SPRING TERM 2027

Date	Event
Spring 1st Half	Year 5/6 Swimming
January	**Dedication to the Holy Name of Jesus**
Wk Beginning 4th January	
Monday 4th January	Term Starts for children
Wednesday 6th January	Epiphany – Mass in Church – Year 4 to lead
Wk Beginning 11th January	
Wk Beginning 18th January	
Wk Beginning 25th January	
Friday 29th January	St John Bosco (Yr 6) wear own clothes to celebrate feast day – feast day on 31st January. Please donate £1
February	**Month of the Holy Family**
Wk beginning 1st February	Feeling Good Week & Children's Mental Health Week
Monday 1st February	1:30pm – Electric Umbrella
Friday 5th February	NSPCC Number Day – Pupils come dressed linked to a number.
Wk beginning 8th February	Pupil progress
Monday 8th February	St Josephine Bakhita Class (Year 5) wear their own clothes to celebrate feast day. Please donate £1 via gateway for the class charity.
Tuesday 9th February	Internet Safety Day & Mardi Gras - children come to school dressed in purple, green and gold.
Wednesday 10th February	Ash Wednesday- Years 1-6 to attend service in church

Date	Event
Monday 15th February - Friday 19th February	Half Term
Spring Term	Year 4 Swimming
Wk beginning 22nd February	
Monday 24th February	9:30 – 10:30 SENCO Drop Ins – If a parent would like to see the SENCO on this day, please contact the office and they will give you a time slot.
March	**Lent**
Wk Beginning 1st March	
Monday 1st March	Non-Uniform day. To celebrate St David's Day the children may wear red, white, green and yellow clothes. We ask for a £1 donation towards the school funds via the School Gateway.
Thursday 4th March	World Book Day – Children come to school dressed as a character from a book.
Friday 5th March	Years 1 – 6 Mothers' Day Liturgy in church, Nursery Mothers' Day assembly in class 11:30 and 3pm, Reception Mothers' Day assembly in class 3pm.
Wk Beginning 8th March	
Wednesday 10th March – Friday 12th March	SPEC – Year 5 Residential Trip
Wk Beginning 15th March	
Wednesday 17th 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.
Thursday 18th March	From 1pm Reconciliation – Yrs 4 - 6
Wk Beginning 22nd March	

Date	Event
Monday 22nd March	Lent Fundraising Day
Tuesday 23rd March	Phase 3/4 Lent Play – 9:15am
Wednesday 24th March	Phase 3/4 Lent Play – 2:15pm
Wedneday 24th March	Junior Lent Service – 10:30am in Church led by Years 5 & 6
Thursday 25th March	Last day of term, Whole School Easter Bonnet Parade – school finishes 1:15pm

SUMMER TERM 2027

Date	Event
Summer 1st Half Term	Year 3/4 Swimming
April	**Lent/Eastertide**
Wk beginning 12th April	
Thursday 15th April	St Bernadette's Class (Yr 3) wear own clothes to celebrate feast day. We ask for a £1 donation towards the class charity via the School Gateway.
Friday 16th April	Beginning of Term Mass – 9:15 am in church – Year 3 to lead
Wk Beginning 19th April	Assess, Plan, Do, Reviews
Friday 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.
Wk beginning 26th April	
Thursday 29th April	Year 5 Year Group Mass in church – Parents & Carers Welcome
Friday 30th April	St Joseph's Class (Reception) wear their own clothes to celebrate St Joseph's feast day. We ask for a £1 donation towards the class charity via the School Gateway. Feast Day is on 1.5.27
May	Month of Mary
Wk Beginning 3rd May	
Monday 3rd May	May Day Bank Holiday
Thursday 6th May	Ascension Mass - School to attend Church Mass

Wk beginning 10th May	
Monday 10th May	Sats – Grammar & Spelling Tests
Tuesday 11th May	Sats – Reading Test
Wednesday 12th May	Sats – Arithmetic and Reasoning Test
Thursday 13th May	Sats – Reasoning Test
Friday 14th May	Phase 1/2 Mass in church – parents & carers welcome
Wk Beginning 17th May	
Monday 17th May – Thursday 20th May	Year 6 trip to Phasels Wood
Friday 21st May If due to weather this is cancelled it will be postponed to Thursday 17th June.	Phase EYFS Sports Day 9 – 10:30 Phase 1/2 Sports Day 10:45 - 12
Wk Beginning 24th May	
Thursday 27th May If due to weather this is cancelled it will be postponed to Friday 18th June.	Phase 3/4 Sports Day – 9 – 10:30 Phase 5/6 Sports Day – 10:45 – 12:15
Monday 31st May – Friday 4th June	Half Term
Summer 2nd Half Term	Year 3 Swimming

Date	Event
June	**Month of the Sacred Heart of Jesus**
Wk Beginning 7th June	Yr 4 Multiplication Check
Monday 7th June	Inset Day
Tuesday 8th June – Friday 11th June	Yr 6 Bikeability - Queens
Friday 11th 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 1pm on the school field. Feast day is on 4th June
Wk Beginning 14th June	Multiplication Check & Phonics Screening Week
Monday 14th June	9:30 – 10:30 SENCO Drop Ins – If a parent would like to see the SENCO on this day, please contact the office and they will give you a time slot.
Monday 14th June	St Anthony (Yr 1) wear their own clothes to celebrate their feast day – feast day is on 13th June. We ask for a £1 donation towards the class charity via the School Gateway.
Thursday 17th June	If EYFS and Phase 1/2 Sports Day did not take place on 21st May, it will on this date. Phase EYFS Sports Day 9 – 10:30 Phase 1/2 Sports Day 10:45 - 12
Friday 18th June	If Phase 3/4 and Phase 15/6 Sports Day did not take place on 28th May, it will on this date. Phase 3/4 Sports Day – 9 – 10:30 Phase 5/6 Sports Day – 10:45 – 12:15
Wk Beginning 21st June	One World Week
Thursday 25th June	Yr 5 St Michael's Science Day
Wk Beginning 28th June	
Tuesday 29th June	9:15 am St Peter & Paul Mass in Church Yr 1 – 6. Parents & Carers welcome
Tuesday 29th June	St Peter's Class (Yr3/4) wear their own clothes to celebrate feast day. We ask for a £1 donation towards the class charity via the School Gateway.

Date	Event
July	**Month of the Precious Blood of Jesus**
Thursday 1st July	International Day – pupils may wear clothes/colours that represents their heritage
Wk Beginning 5th July	
Tuesday 6th July	Phase 5/6 Production – 6pm
Wednesday 7th July	Phase 3/4 Mass in church at 9:15am
Wednesday 7th July	Phase 5/6 Production – 2pm
Thursday 8th July	Moving Up Day
Wk beginning 12th July	
Wednesday 14th July	St Anne's class (Nursery) wear their own clothes to celebrate the feast day of St Anne which is on 26th July. We ask for a £1 donation towards the class charity via the School Gateway.
Friday 16th July	9:15am – Year 6 Leavers Mass in Church. School finishes 12:20pm for Years N, R, 1, 2. 12:30 Years 3,4,5 Yr 6 finish at 1pm