

28th February 2025

Newsletter



WELCOME BACK

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back to school after a restful half-term break. I hope you all had the opportunity to spend quality time with family and friends. We are delighted to see the children returning with renewed energy and enthusiasm for learning.

As we begin this new half-term, we carry with us both joy and sorrow. Last week, we were deeply saddened to learn of the passing of Mrs. McGlynn, our former Deputy Head. Many of you will remember her dedication, kindness, and unwavering commitment to our school community. She touched the lives of countless children and families, and her memory will live on in our hearts.

We also hold Pope Francis in our prayers as he recovers from his recent illness. We pray for his continued strength and good health, and for his guidance as he leads our Church.

As always, we are committed to providing a nurturing and supportive environment for all our children. We look forward to a productive and fulfilling half-term, filled with learning, growth, and faith.

God bless,

Mr Gallagher



MARCH

- **3rd** Careers Week
- Lent II Clubs Start – All clubs are now full.
- Reception class – Balance Bikes week
- **4th** Pancake Day – The menu is the same but with pancakes.
- **5th** Ash Wednesday Mass – with distributions of the ashes – 9a.m all welcome.
- **6th** World Book Day – Book Characters (see further info below)
- **17th** Year 5 Bikeability Starts
- **21st** Red Nose Day & CAFOD Mile Walk – see below.
- **31st** Group Photos

APRIL

14th to 27th – END OF TERM

MAY

- 2nd – Year 4 & 5 Swimming Starts

JUNE

- 12th – Year 1 Trip – Beaumanor Hall
- 18th – 20th – Year 6 CRICH

JULY

- 4th – Sports Day (All children)

NEW SCHOOL RULES

We're excited to share that our St John Fisher community, through collaborative discussions and thoughtful consideration led by Mrs Barrow, has developed five new school rules! These rules are designed to foster a positive, respectful, and safe learning environment for everyone.

We encourage you to have a conversation with your children about these new rules. Ask them what they've learned about them in school and see if they can explain them to you. This will not only reinforce their understanding but also provide a wonderful opportunity for you to engage with their learning.

The new school rules are listed at the end of this newsletter for your reference.

ST JOHN FISHER



ST JOHN FISHER SCHOOL RULES

1

We use kind hands, kind feet
and kind words.



2

We have an attitude of
gratitude.



3

We show respect.



4

We are good listeners.



5

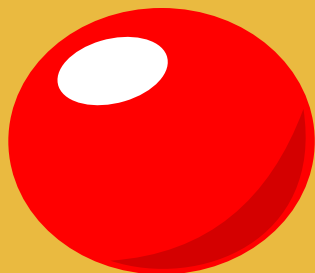
We always try our best!





CAFOD MILE WALK & RED NOSE DAY

(MESSAGE FROM SCHOOL COUNCIL)



On 21st of March, we will have CAFOD Mile Walk. On that same day, we will have Red Nose Day! You can wear your own crazy clothes on this day. Plus, we are doing something that we have not done before: A CRAZY HAIR DAY! The school council are encouraging you to come in your wackiest hair and clothes for comic relief on Red Nose Day. We are going to organise a competition for the coolest, wackiest hair and prizes will be handed out later on that day.

We would like to ask for a £2.00 voluntary donation which can be paid on Arbor under School Shop or cash can be brought in on the day.



PRE LOVED UNIFORM

We are still collecting pre-loved uniform.

If you have any cardigans or jumpers that you would like to pass onto the school, please kindly bring to the office.

Any items sold will go to the PTFA.



PARENTS EVENING REPORTS

Please login on your Arbor account under Report Cards (2024-2025) and you will be able to see your child's parents evening reports.



The Easter Bunny Needs our help!

We need donations of the 95-100g eggs for our Easter activities.

Each class will be set a goal, KS1 children will receive 5 Dojo points per egg and KS2 children will receive 5 house points per egg. Mr.

Gallagher is also arranging some special bonuses for the classes when the 50% & 100% goals are met. Any egg donations over our required amount will be donated to the local food bank.

Eggs can be brought in from Monday 3rd March. Arbor will also have a sponsor an egg option. The children will still receive their points for any eggs sponsored under their name.

Without your support the PFTA would not be able to host these events and activities for the children, so thank you in advance.



Volunteers Urgently Needed!

As our children grow and move on to their next adventure their parents go with them. We are currently seeing a huge drop in Volunteers for the PFTA. It fits around you accepting as little or as much time as you can give. Please email sjf.ptfa@gmail.com if you have some time to make sure your child's experience with us is the best it can be.

Without the PFTA....

Pantomime trips would be at the cost of the parents.

Events like discos and fayres wouldn't be a part of school life.

School trip costs would no longer be subsidised.

Santa & The Easter Bunny wouldn't visit our school.

The Easter Bunny Needs Our Help!

5 House/Dojo points per egg.

Bonus rewards for 50% & 100% Goal achievement

Individual class trackers based on class size.



95-100g eggs only.



Eggs will be distributed by the Easter Bunny in school, any additional eggs will be donated to the local food bank.

SPORTS NEWS

SWIMMING COMPETITION



On Thursday, February 27th, a team of eight Year 5 and 6 students travelled to Wigston Swimming Pool to compete in a swimming gala.

They performed exceptionally well, demonstrating great teamwork by cheering on both their teammates and other competitors.

The event featured both individual and relay races, with the Year 5 and Year 6 teams securing first place in their freestyle relays - a fantastic achievement!

Overall, out of 12 participating schools, St John Fisher secured an impressive third place with 239 points. This was our first time competing in this particular event, and we certainly made our mark with this outstanding result.

A huge well done to the team - Eireanna, Jensen, Emily, Seth, Sithara, Thea, Jenson, and Charlie!

BOYS FOOTBALL

A story of mixed fortunes as the boys team faced some tough opposition. Kicking off in bright sunshine, first up were St John the Baptist who started really well and didn't let us get started. Although the whole team worked tirelessly and didn't let their heads drop they were eventually beaten with a convincing 4-0 score line.

The second game was against St Thomas Moore. This was a much more even contest so it felt like a massive blow to concede after around 5 minutes. Again the boys gave it all they got and were rewarded with a well taken equaliser set up by Huey and finished by Zane. The game finished 1-1.

The next 2 games were against Caldecott and Overdale and both games finished in goalless draw but with chances at both ends.

It really did feel as though it took a while to get going but the team got visibly more confident as they played each game.

Although everyone played their part, a special mention to George who made some great saves in goal and came of his line on more than one occasion and thwart the opposing team.

From your roving reporters Mr Smith & Mrs Astill.



CROSS COUNTRY



SJF Runners Excel at County Championships & Athletics Ahead!

We were immensely proud of our SJF runners who competed in the Leicestershire and Rutland County Championships last weekend! They faced fiercely competitive races, each with over 100 of the best runners in their age groups from across the region.

Ava, Quinn, Niamh, Clara, Theo, Emilio, Eoin, William, Eireanna, and Jack all demonstrated exceptional determination and skill, performing incredibly well. Congratulations to each of you for representing SJF with such pride!

With the cross country season now concluded, we want to extend a huge thank you to Mr. Gallagher, Mrs. Jones, and Mrs. Astill for their dedication and support throughout the year.

Looking ahead, we're excited for athletics to take centre stage in PE lessons this term and next. Sports Day will be on Friday July 4th. Reception & Key Stage 1 in the morning, and Key Stage 2 in the afternoon. More details closer to the time.

WORLD BOOK DAY

6th March 2025



Your Dear Parents,

6th March is World Book Day!

We invite all children to come to school dressed as their favourite book character and bring the book with them (or another favourite book). Please ensure the book is clearly labelled with your child's name. This will be a fun-filled day celebrating the joy of reading, with activities such as story sharing, quizzes, and special reading time with teachers and parents.

There will be no P.E. lessons on this day, and your child's teacher will inform you of the rescheduled date.

Parents of children in Reception, Year 1, and Year 2 are warmly invited to join us from 2:40pm until home time to read with their child in class. Please enter through the gates as usual for pick-up, wait outside the classroom, and we will invite you in to join your child for reading.

We also ask that children wear sensible shoes as part of their costume, which can be changed into plimsles as usual.

We look forward to celebrating the joy of reading together!

Thank you,
Mr Hill



Other News

Hello parents/guardians,

My name is Jordan, age grade rugby coach for Vipers RFC. Today, I am helping support Oadby Wyggs player recruitment to support a fantastic club.

[Oadby Wyggestonians RFC](#)

Rugby is an amazing sport with many benefits that come with it.

Rugby in England is underpinned by the TREDs Values

1. Teamwork
2. Respect
3. Enjoyment
4. Discipline
5. Sportsmanship

[Core Values of Rugby | Rugby Football Union](#)

These 5 core values are at the core of rugby from Micros/Mini's to Senior Men's and Women's international rugby players. All clubs, club reps, coaches, refs, players, managers, first aiders, parents and guardians are all expected to follow, encourage and embody all 5 core values.

Mental Health & Wellbeing Benefits

[New research from Edinburgh University praises health benefits of playing rugby.](#)

"Studies suggest that playing rugby union can significantly improve health and well-being, potentially reducing the risk of type-2 diabetes, some cancers, stroke, heart disease, and depression, while also developing social and mental skills"

Here's a more detailed breakdown of the potential benefits:

- Physical Health:
 - Reduced Risk of Chronic Diseases: Research indicates that rugby union participation may lower the risk of developing type-2 diabetes, certain cancers, stroke, and heart disease.
 - Improved Cardiovascular Health: The strenuous physical activity involved in rugby can enhance cardiovascular fitness.
 - Enhanced Strength, Speed, and Endurance: Rugby requires a high level of strength, speed, and endurance, promoting the development of these physical qualities.
 - Improved Coordination, Balance, and Agility: Playing rugby can also enhance coordination, balance, and agility.
- Mental and Social Skills:
 - Development of Teamwork and Leadership: Rugby is a team sport that fosters teamwork, leadership, and the ability to work collaboratively.
 - Improved Concentration and Discipline: The game requires focus and discipline, which can translate into other areas of life.
 - Enhanced Self-Control and Decision-Making: Rugby can help develop self-control and decision-making skills.
 - Social Skills: Rugby can open up social circles and provide opportunities for building relationships.
 - Cathartic Experience: For some, rugby can be a way to release stress and tension.

If this is something that interests you (EYFS to Year 6) and you want to find out more and try rugby with the #wyggsfamily, then please email jennya_carter@hotmail.com for more information.



Join a youth music group today!

If you play an instrument at a minimum of grade 2 standard, we have a group for you! Email admin@music-for-everyone.org to find out more and to arrange a free taster session.

Music
for everyone



More information about each group can be found on our website: music-for-everyone.org/whats-on/youth-music

Parish Newsletter



St. Mary's, St. John Bosco, and St. Edward's
Eighth Week of Ordinary Time 2025, Lectionary Year C
Website: cathparishmje.co.uk Phone: 07354 832195
Email: cathparishmje@dioceseofnottingham.uk

Liturgies in our Churches

Saturday 1st March – St. David's Day

1pm St Mary's Convalidation Mass Martin and Lucy Baptism Hester
6pm St. John Bosco, **Holy Mass** All Parishioners

Sunday 2nd March – Eighth Sunday of the Year

9am St. Edward's, **Holy Mass** Michelle Brennan (Well-Being)
11am St. Mary's, **Holy Mass** Damien Sweeney RIP

Tuesday 4th March – Feria

10am St. John Bosco **Holy Mass** Mr. Joseph RIP
7:10pm St. Mary's **Eucharistic Adoration and Benediction**
After Benediction St. Mary's Hall, **Adult Faith Formation**

Wednesday 5th March – Ash Wednesday - Day of Fasting and abstinence

No meat, 1 full meal and 2 smaller meals that do not add up to the full meal.

9am St. John Fisher School **Holy Mass** Rosemary Fallows RIP
11am St. Edward's, **Holy Mass** Private Intention
7pm St. Mary's **Holy Mass** Mr Hilary Gomes RIP

Thursday 6th March – Lenten Feria

10am St. Mary's **Holy Mass**, Jenny and Teresa Allen
6:30pm St. Mary's, **Encountering Christ in His Church/RCIA**

Friday 7th March – Lenten Feria – No Meat Today

7pm St. Mary's Stations of the Cross
7pm St. Edward's Stations of the Cross

Saturday 8th March – Anticipation of the First Sunday of Lent

6pm St. John Bosco, **Holy Mass** All Parishioners

Sunday 9th March – First Sunday of Lent

9am St. Edwards, **Holy Mass** Kevin Brennan (Well-Being)
11am St. Mary's, **Holy Mass** Muriel Shryane RIP (Anniversary)
6pm St. Mary's, **Holy Mass** David Tucker RIP
Confessions 5:30pm on Saturdays at St. John Bosco & after all Masses

Other Events in the Life of our Parish

Monday 3rd 6:15pm St. Mary's, Choir Practice
Tuesday 4th 12pm St John Bosco Hall, Friendship Club
Tuesday 4th 3:20pm Holy Cross School, First Holy Communion Prep.
Thursday 6th 6pm St. John Bosco Hall, First Holy Communion Prep.
Friday 7th 2pm St. Mary's, World Day of Prayer
Friday 7th 1pm-4pm St. Edward's Hall, Chat, Craft & Games
Saturday 8th 9:30am HMP Fosse Way, Holy Mass Prisoners' Intentions

Teaching

Questions 155-157 of the Penny Catechism

155. When we say 'forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us', what do we pray for?

When we say, 'forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us', we pray that God may forgive us our sins, as we forgive others the injuries they do to us.

156. When we say, 'lead us not into temptation', what do we pray for?

When we say, 'lead us not into temptation' we pray that God may give us grace not to yield to temptation.

157. When we say, 'deliver us from evil', what do we pray for?

When we say, 'deliver us from evil', we pray that God may free us from all evil, both of soul and body.

Adult Faith Formation: In our adult faith formation meeting on Tuesday evening after adoration we are going through the General Instruction of the Roman Missal. This document is on our website under Liturgical Documents.

Please Remember in Your Prayers:

Our Holy Father Pope Francis

Mick Greasley RIP, Thursday 6th March, 2pm, Funeral Service at Countesthorpe Crematorium.

Laurence Toner RIP, Friday 21st March, 1pm, St. Mary's Requiem Mass
Geraldine McGlynn RIP. Joan Pratt RIP, John Murphy RIP

Stations of the Cross: Leaflets are available with details of times and places or see our website under Welcome / Church Year / Lent tab.

Sick and Housebound Parishioners: If you know of any sick or housebound parishioners who would desire a visit from someone from the Church, please do let us know so that they do not feel left out of parish life.

Notices

PPC: Nominations must be received by the 2nd March.

Help Required: We are seeking some strong persons (2-3) to join us on Monday morning (3rd March) to help with moving a very heavy fireproof cabinet, from St John Bosco to St Edwards. If you are able to help or need further information, please contact Ian Wesley on 07849 296873, or via Fr John or Genny Hickey. Many thanks. Ian Wesley & Trevor Curry.

1st Holy Communion: The First Holy Communion preparation group will recommence their meetings next week, with the Tuesday meeting in Holy Cross School on the 4th March, starting at 3.20pm, and the Thursday meeting in St John Bosco hall on the 6th March, starting at 6pm. We look forward to seeing you all again then.

Sunday Evening Non-Incensed Masses at St. Mary's: These will take place during Lent at 6pm. If this Mass is well attended, it will continue after Lent as a regular Mass of the parish. If not, it will end on Palm Sunday.

Lenten Resources: The Message of Pope Francis, We Dare to Hope Booklet, 24 Hours for the Lord Handbook and an Ash Wednesday Colouring Sheet can be found on our website under the Welcome / Church Year / Lent tab.

Rite of Election: We have three people who are preparing to be received into the Church at Easter. They will be attending the Rite of Election at the cathedral next Sunday, 9th March. This is a big step for them as they will meet the Bishop and sign the Book of the Elect with all those across the Diocese who will be received at the same time. Please keep them in your prayers on Sunday and over the next few weeks.

Enabling Our Mission Campaign, and The Story So Far - Background to an Emerging Pastoral Plan: There are copies in each Porch. Both of these informative documents are on our website under the Parish and Diocesan Information tab.

The Diocesan Education Service is hosting a Network Day for families who home-educate their children, on Monday 17th March, from 10am, in Our Lady of Lincoln parish centre, Lincoln, LN2 2HE. Bring a packed lunch, and something to share with others.

Schools' Word of the Week: Prayer

Curry Night A brilliant evening was had by all who attended the Curry Night last Saturday. The food was amazing - the best onion bhajis ever - excellent music and fun games for everyone to participate in - and really good company. We would all like to express a huge thank you to Peter and Anacia Fernandes and Maria Elvina for hosting the evening and paying for all the food, as well as cooking and serving it so attractively, and to Peter's friend and colleague, Boudet Gomes who is also a chef and provided the drinks, and their children who were the DJs and the MCs for the evening. It was amazing. The evening raised just over £1000 towards the bills being faced by the Parish. Thank you to everyone who came and supported the event.

The Lenten 40 Days for Life Pro-Life Prayer Vigil: 8am - 8pm Monday to Saturday. To learn more, get involved and sign up for prayer times contact: leicester40daysforlife@gmail.com or www.40daysforlife.com/en/leicester

Table-Top Sale: Saturday 17th May at St. John Bosco hall 10am - 2pm. This event is to raise money towards the costs of preparing St John Bosco presbytery for being rented out. It is like a car-boot sale, only indoors - and without the cars! You rent a table and sell whatever you want. You then keep any profits you make. If you wish to give the profits to the parish, the hire fee is waived. There will be a big raffle, as at the Christmas Fayre, a cafe and a cake stall. Do consider how you could support this event - especially consider running a table for us - and let any of us know how you could help. Thank you.

Donations via Bank Transfer

Acc. Name: St Mary and St J B S Wigston RCP
Sort Code: 30-15-97, **Account Number:** 00346385

Acc. Name: St Edward Conf Leicester RCP
Sort Code: 30-15-97, **Account Number:** 00554352

With prayers and blessings, Fr. John

Priest: Fr. John Owens john.owens@dioceseofnottingham.uk
Parish Admin: Genny Hickey: 07354 832195
Catechesis and Safeguarding: Hilari Chetwood: 07734 690611
Newsletter: newslettermie@gmail.com
Facebook: [facebook.com/SMandSJB](https://www.facebook.com/SMandSJB)

Easy Fundraising: Shop online as normal but with a donation coming to the parish at no cost to you. https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/st-marys-and-st-john-bosco-rpc/utm_campaign=raise-more&utm_medium=email&utm_content=rm-en-nl
Nottingham RC Diocese Trustee Company No: 7151646 Registered Charity No: 1134449