

2nd May 2025

Newsletter



Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you had a wonderful Easter celebration. It was with great sadness we learnt about the passing of our Holy Father during the holidays. How blessed we have been to live under a papacy of a true disciple of Christ.

May he rest in God's eternal peace.

This term is another busy one. There is a plethora of activities taking place for all of our children and families. From preparing for the arrival of our new intake to ensuring that our oldest children, fantastic year 6 have a great last term, it is busy, busy, busy!

Please take notes of dates and times in your diaries and check your emails and class dojo regularly for whole school and class news and updates. For trips and sporting events out, ensuring that you give consent for your child to go is vital and the earlier the better. Many thanks for your understanding and co-operation.

God bless,

Mr Gallagher

Please click on the images and follow us on social media.



DATES FOR THE DIARY

MAY

- **2nd** - Year 4 & 5 Swimming Starts
- **5th** Bank Holiday - SCHOOL CLOSED
- **6th** Year 3 St Paul's Festival
- **8th** VE Day anniversary - Non School Uniform - Theme: Red, White and Blue
NO CLUBS due to staff Training.
- Year 1 Brocks Hill
- **12th - 16th** - SATs week Year 6
- **15th** CENSUS - Change in Menu -to be advised shortly
- **19th** - Walk to School Week
- **20th** - Year 1 Class Liturgy - 9.a.m.
- **21st** - New Reception Intake - Parents Evening - 6p.m.
- **22nd** - Year 4 Sports Festival at St Paul's

26th to 1st June - HALF TERM

JUNE

- **2nd** - Year 4 Trip to King Richard III
- Year 5 Trip to Outdoor Pursuit Centre
- **3rd** - Sportshall Athletics - Finals
- **10th** - Year 3 Bosworth Battlefield
Year 5 - St Paul's Sports Festival
- **12th** - Year 1 Trip - Beaumanor Hall [cancelled]
- **17th**- Year 6 St Paul's Festival
- **18th - 20th** - Year 6 CRICH
- **24th** - Holy Communion Celebration Mass - 9a.m. All welcome. Nativity of St John The Baptist

JULY

- **4th** - Sports Day (All children) KS1 - A.M. & KS2 - P.M.
- **9th** - Year 6 Leavers Party - 6p.m.
- **11th** - Last Day of Term - 2p.m Finish. After school club finishes at 4.15p.m.
Seaside Special Menu.

START OF THE SCHOOL DAY

It is important that children arrive at school on time. The gates open at 8.30am, all children should be in school by 8.35am. Reception parents may walk their children to class from 8.30 to 8.40am. School gates will be locked by 8.45am.

ATTENDANCE AND PUNCTUALITY

Excellent attendance and punctuality to school are very important to ensure children achieve their very best. Please ensure that children are in school every day and on time unless they are ill. I am aware that the vast majority of parents ensure that their children attend school regularly but, as it is the beginning of a new term, I would like to remind everyone of the importance of good attendance and punctuality. Holidays in term time will not be authorised, (unless in exceptional circumstances), and parents may receive a fixed term penalty notice for unauthorised absences.

CLUBS

Extracurricular after school clubs have resumed this term as well as some invitational, subscribed and PTFA clubs. Thank you to all our teachers, staff, volunteers and coaches for giving our children these extra opportunities. Please let us know of any absences in advance so we may update our club registers.



SUN PROTECTION

As we enter the season of summer, please remember to apply sun cream to your child before they come to school, as well as providing them with a sun hat and a water bottle each day. The sunscreen in school should only be used when there are prolonged outside activities and the sunscreen from home may need 'topping up.'

SUMMER UNIFORM

As the weather is getting warmer, the children can now wear their summer uniform. This includes grey shorts for boys and a blue checked summer dress for girls. The children have been taking great pride in their appearance and dressing to impress! We expect the very best from our children with regards to school uniform and appearance and strongly believe that high standards promote positive behaviour. Thank you for your support.

PARENT PLANNERS

Keep an eye on your child's Class Dojo page this week! We'll be sharing our Parent Planners there.

Think of these planners as a sneak peek into all the exciting things your child will be learning this term. You'll find a simple overview of what we'll be covering in each subject and the topics we'll explore together. Plus, there's some information just for your child's year group. We hope you find it helpful in understanding what's coming up!



Babies & Tots

Babies & Tots takes place every Wednesday in the school hall. 8.50am to 10.30am. Check out the Babies & Tots Facebook page for more information.

FOUNDATION GOVERNORS

We are looking for practising Catholics who want to support Catholic education by becoming Foundation Governors at St John Fisher. This does not have to be a parent at the school – someone who has links with the school, a grandparent, a retiree or someone you think may be interested. Let them know! There is a shortage of foundation governors across the trust and it is important for Catholic education in Leicester and Leicestershire that there are vibrant governing bodies.

If you or someone you know is interested in becoming a Foundation Governor, please complete the 'Self-Nomination' form link (<http://www.dioceseofnottingham.uk/education/directors-governors/appointment-foundation-governors>)

CATHOLIC LIFE

Parish Links:

Our school serves: St Mary's and St John Bosco parish. Please see the website below for more information.

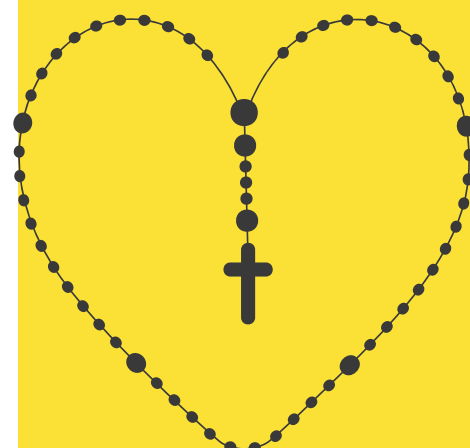
<https://cathparishmje.co.uk/>

First Holy Communion

This year's programme is coming up to the important final stages for Year 4 children in St John Fisher School. Please keep all the children in your prayers as they prepare for this special sacrament.

May

May is the Month of the Holy Rosary. At school, we will have rosary sessions throughout the month of May.



Online Safety – Messaging online

Here's what to consider:

- **Age restrictions:** WhatsApp has a minimum age requirement of 16. Younger children may not have the maturity to navigate online interactions safely.
- **Cyberbullying:** Group chats can become breeding grounds for unkind messages or rumors that spread quickly.
- **Inappropriate content:** Children may be exposed to inappropriate language, unsuitable images or videos, even if unintentionally shared.
- **Screen Time:** Constant messaging can interfere with sleep, social interaction, and schoolwork.
- **Keeping Our Children Safe Online: A Note on WhatsApp & Messenger:** WhatsApp is a popular messaging app that allows friends to connect. While it can be a great way to stay in touch, it's important to be aware of the potential downsides, especially for primary school children.

Working Together:

We understand the importance of staying connected with friends. By working together, we can ensure our children use technology safely and responsibly.

Thank you for your partnership in keeping our children safe online!



How We Can Help:

- **Open Communication:** Talk to your child about online safety and responsible communication.
- **Set Ground Rules:** Discuss age-appropriate apps and screen time limits.
- **Monitor Activity:** Consider parental controls and open conversations about what they see online.
- **Be a Safe Space:** Encourage them to come to you if they encounter anything upsetting or confusing.



Year 6 SATs



Our Year 6 children are doing their end of Key Stage 2 SATs in the week beginning 13th May and our Year 2 children will be completing their assessments in the last couple of weeks of the term.

Other year groups will be taking part in annual assessments after half term. Thank you to all our parents for your support with homework, as it does make a difference!



Free Breakfast Club

To give your child a really good start for SATs week, we are inviting all year 6 children to join us for FREE breakfast from Monday 12th May to Thursday 16th May.



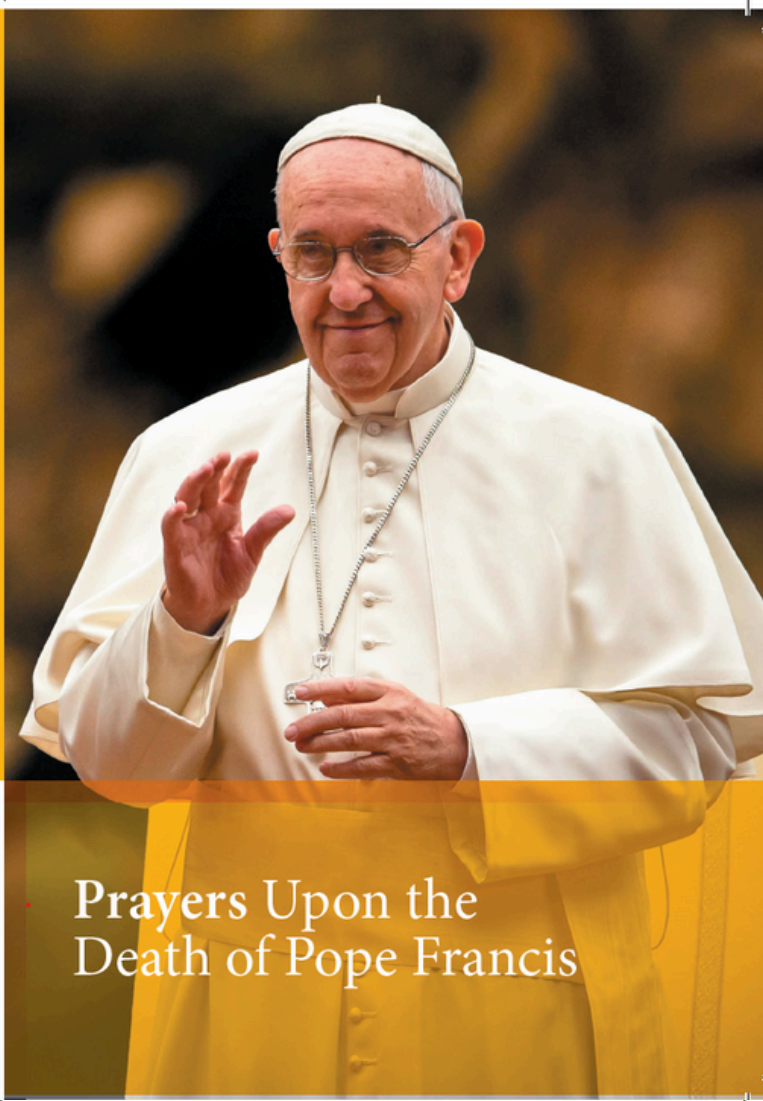
Prayers for the successor of Pope Francis

O God, who chose your servant,
in succession to the Apostle Peter
as shepherd of the whole flock,
look favourably on the supplications of your people
and grant that, as Vicar of Christ on earth,
he may confirm his brethren
and that the whole Church may be in communion with him
in the bond of unity, love and peace,
so that in you, the shepherd of souls,
all may know the truth and attain life eternal.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever.
Amen.



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Psalm 120 and Canticle of Simeon (*Nunc Dimittis*) © 1963
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Prayers Upon the Death of Pope Francis

Prayer for Francis

O God, faithful rewarder of souls,
grant that your departed servant Pope Francis,
whom you made successor of Peter
and shepherd of your Church,
may happily enjoy for ever in your presence in heaven
the mysteries of your grace and compassion,
which he faithfully ministered on earth.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever.
Amen.

Eternal rest, grant unto him O Lord,
and let perpetual light shine upon him.

May he rest in peace.
Amen.

May his soul and the souls of all the faithful departed,
through the mercy of God rest in peace.
Amen.

Psalm 120

I lift up my eyes to the mountains:
from where shall come my help?
My help shall come from the Lord
who made heaven and earth.

May he never allow you to stumble!
Let him sleep not your guard.
No, he sleeps not nor slumbers,
Israel's guard.

The Lord is your guard and your shade;
at your right side he stands.
By day the sun shall not smite you
nor the moon in the night.

The Lord will guard you from evil,
he will guard your soul.
The Lord will guard your going and coming
both now and for ever.

Canticle of Simeon (*Nunc Dimittis*)

(Luke 2:29-32)

At last, all-powerful Master,
you give leave to your servant
to go in peace, according to your promise.

For my eyes have seen your salvation
which you have prepared for all nations,
the light to enlighten the Gentiles
and give glory to Israel, your people.



We cordially invite you to our 60th Anniversary Open Day



Scan to join our
Alumni Society



Scan to donate
to the School



Scan to order our
Anniversary book

JOIN US IN OUR CELEBRATIONS

Blessing and opening of Prayer Garden

Tour the school & visit departments

Photo exhibition

Catch up with former staff and students

English Martyrs' merchandise on sale

Market stalls and refreshments

Music, dance and drama

Old school games on the field



**English Martyrs' Catholic School,
Anstey Lane, Leicester, LE4 0FJ**

Saturday 3rd May

10am - 1pm