

7th November 2025

Newsletter



Dear Parents/Carers,

I'm so pleased to share an update on our activities for Anti-Bullying Week for next week. The national theme is 'Power for Good,' and I know our entire school community—children and staff alike—will embrace it. To kick it off, we had an assembly today and on Monday we will have Odd Socks Day. These activities are vital in helping us foster a safe, kind, and respectful environment for all our pupils.

As we are now in November, the month dedicated to the Holy Souls, we are focusing our prayers on loved ones who have passed away.

We invite you to please send your child into school with the names of any family members or friends you would like us to remember and pray for during our collective worships and quiet times throughout November.

Books and reading also feature heavily this month with the Book Fair in school, details about reading levels in this newsletter from Mr Hill and a library morning for Y1/2 parents on Thursday morning.

God bless,

Mr Gallagher



DATES FOR THE DIARY

November

- 7th OPEN MORNING for 2026 Reception – 9a.m to 11a.m.
Girls & Boys Football Friendly at SJF vs STM
- 8th Book Fair week starts
- 10th Anti-Bullying Week - Odd Socks Day
- 11th Book Fair Parent Morning - 8.15a.m to 9a.m at the Library
- 12th Book Fair Parent Afternoon - 2.30p.m to 3.15p.m at the Library
Christmas Dinner - pre-order deadline - no orders can be added after this date.
- 13th Parent Library Morning (Year 1 & 2) 9a.m to 10a.m. More Information below.
- 14th Children in Need - Non-School Uniform & Cake Sale - please see Dojo message.
- 21st INSET DAY – SCHOOL CLOSED**
- 26th Development Event (SPORTS) at Sir Jonathan North

December

- 4th Cross Country at Victoria Park
- 5th Menphys Rehearsal at De Montfort Hall (Year 6)
Catholic Schools Carol Concert - tickets now available. Please see Dojo message.
- 9th Reception Play - 1.30p.m & 5.30p.m
- 10th Immunisation - NHS contacting parents directly for consent.
- 11th Year 1 & 2 Play - 1.30p.m & 6p.m
- 12th PTFA Christmas Disco - 6p.m. to 8p.m. Tickets will be available to purchase on School Shop- Arbor.
- 16th Pantomime - please see Dojo Message.
- 17th Christmas Dinner, Christmas Jumper Day & Christmas Class Parties (products available on school shop to purchase).

20th to 4th Jan – END OF TERM

January

- 5th Return to School.

School Attendance & Appointments



We would like to remind families of the importance of regular school attendance.

We have noticed a higher number of absences at the start of this half-term, and we appreciate your support in helping every child attend school consistently and on time.

Medical Appointments

For any medical or dental appointments during the school day, parents are required to send written confirmation (such as an appointment letter, text, or email) to the school before the appointment takes place.

Reminders:

- If your child is unwell or unable to attend school, please contact the school before 9:00 a.m. on the day of absence to let us know the reason.
- If your child has been absent for more than three days, we kindly ask that you provide a doctor's note or medical evidence to support the absence.

Our full School Attendance Policy can be found on the school website. We encourage all parents and carers to read this for more information about authorised absences and attendance expectations.

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>

READING TOGETHER



Our Approach to Books and Development

We know that learning to read is one of the most exciting journeys your child takes! As they grow, they move from learning to read (focusing on phonics in Reception and Year 1) to reading to learn across all subjects.

To support this journey, we want to share how we manage your child's reading books and how you can help at home. We are committed to giving every child access to a wide variety of high-quality books across many genres.

We regularly check your child's progress to ensure they are reading books that are the "just right" level—challenging enough to help them improve, but not so hard that they become frustrated.

We use a system of coloured Book Bands for fiction books, which help us guide your child to appropriate texts:



Blue
Year 2 (6+ years)

Yellow
Year 2/3/4 (7+ years)

Red
Year 4/5 (8+ years)

White
Year 5/6 (9+ years)

Important Note on Challenging Themes

Our books are categorised by their reading challenge level and their suggested age level. If your child is assessed as reading at a level higher than their age, they may be moved to a band (e.g., White) that has books typically read by older pupils. These books may sometimes contain more challenging themes or topics appropriate for the older age group. If this happens, we will send home a note to let you know they are reading books above their age level.

Non-Fiction and the School Library

Our school library is filled with a fantastic selection of books!

Your child can choose freely from our large non-fiction section (books about real facts, history, science, etc.) to pursue their own interests.

We also have a huge range of fiction (storybooks) available in the library.

Join Our Library Workshops!

We are excited to invite you to a series of Library Workshops that I will be hosting over the next few months. These will be a great chance to learn more about how to support your child's reading at home and how to use our school library effectively.



TODAY SPORT NEWS

SPORTS HALL ATHLETICS



Winning the Sprint
of the Games Award.



TODAY SPORT NEWS

BOYS & GIRLS FOOTBALL FRIENDLY VS ST THOMAS MOORE



Girls Football

A strong performance from the girls winning a close encounter with St Thomas More. Final score 4-0.



Boys Football

The boys played with great determination to draw 2-2 against a well organised St Thomas More.

YEAR 6 WARNING ZONE TRIP

Year 6 hit the road to Warning Zone, Leicester today — and came back safety experts!

They learned all about personal safety, online awareness, and how to make the right choices (like not pressing every button they see).

A massive thank you to the Warning Zone team for an unforgettable day!



Movember

CHARITY

Supporting Movember: Helping Raise Awareness for Men's Health

This November, our staff are taking part in Movember, a special charity campaign that helps to raise awareness about men's health. The Movember Foundation supports projects that focus on important issues such as prostate cancer, testicular cancer and mental health.

You might notice some of our staff growing moustaches this month! It's all part of the fun way people get involved in Movember — to start conversations and remind everyone how important it is for men and boys to look after their health and wellbeing.

We're proud to support this great cause and to help spread the message in our school community. If you'd like to learn more about Movember or get involved, please visit www.movember.com.



LEICESTER WARRIORS
BASKETBALL

WARRIORS

COME AND PLAY

FOR OUR U12S

EVINGTON LEISURE CENTRE

Every Saturday

1ST SESSION FREE

AGES 7 - 11

11AM-12 MIDDAY

St. Mary's, St. John Bosco, and St. Edward's

Parish Website: cathparishmje.co.uk

32, 33 & 34 OT, Theme: The Mass and The Eucharist

Saturday 8th Nov.

11:30am Baptism Poppy and Rosie Ackerman *St. Mary's*

5:30pm **Confession** *St John Bosco*

6pm Mass *St John Bosco Holy Souls*

Sunday 9th Nov. Dedication of the Lateran Basilica

9am Mass *St. Edward's Holy Souls*

11am Mass *St. Mary's Holy Souls*

2pm Blessing of Graves *Wigston Cemetery*

Monday 10th Nov. St. Leo the Great

6:15pm 9 Lessons and Carols practice *St. Mary's All Welcome*

7:15pm Folk Group Workshop (Big Sing) *St. Mary's*

Tuesday 11th Nov. St. Martin of Tours

12pm Friendship Club *St. John Bosco Hall*

3:20pm First Holy Communion Prep. *Holy Cross School*

Wednesday 12th Nov. St. Josaphat

10am Extraordinary Service of the Eucharist *St. Edward's*

Thursday 13th Nov.

6pm First Holy Communion Prep. *St. John Bosco Hall*

Friday 14th Nov.

1-3pm Chat and Craft Group for all *St. Edward's Hall*

Saturday 15th Nov.

6pm Mass *St John Bosco Holy Souls*

Sunday 16th Nov. 33rd Sunday of Ordinary Time

9am Mass *St. Edward's Holy Souls*

11am Mass *St. Mary's Holy Souls*

2pm Blessing of Graves *Blaby Cemetery*

3pm Blessing of Graves *Countesthorpe Cemetery*

4pm LACY - The Big Sing, Franciscan Convent, LE13 0BP

6pm First Holy Communion Prep. *St. John Bosco Hall*

6pm **Confession**

6:30pm Latin Mass *St. Mary's All Parishioners*

7:30pm PPC Members Meeting *St. Mary's Hall*

Friday 28th Nov.

10am Mass *St. Mary's Bernard Shryane RIP*

1-3pm Chat and Craft Group for all *St. Edward's Hall*

7:10pm Adoration and Benediction *St. Mary's*

7:45pm Teaching of the Church Discussion *St. Mary's Hall*

Saturday 29th Nov.

12pm - 3pm Christmas Fayre *St. Edward's Hall*

5:30pm **Confession** *St John Bosco*

6pm Mass *St John Bosco Holy Souls*

Sunday 30th Nov. First Sunday in Advent

9am Mass *St. Edward's Holy Souls*

11am Mass *St. Mary's Johanna Hume RIP*

3pm SPANNED Mass *St. John Bosco*

5:30pm **Confession**

6pm Mass (**incense**) *St. Mary's Linda Mary Toner RIP*

Seafarers Christmas Shoe-boxes are available at all churches.

9 Lessons and Carols, St. Mary's, Saturday 13th December, 4pm
Practice for all budding singers and musicians, Monday 10th of November at 6:15pm-7pm in St. Mary's. All welcome and encouraged to come.

Christmas Favres: Saturday 22nd November at St. John Fisher School.
10am-2pm and Saturday 29th at St. Edward's Hall 12pm - 3pm. These are our biggest fund-raisers of the year to support the work of the parishes, so we are very grateful to everyone who gets involved in whatever capacity. For the 22nd, face-painters would be welcome, materials can be provided. Do enter the Colouring competition. A lolly will be given to those children who hand in their entries at the Fayre. Get festive in the **dressing up competition** at 12:30pm. The theme is: Christmas Tree Decorations. There will be two classes: 10 and under, and 11+ (no upper age limit!) Please hand fliers out and encourage as many as possible to join the fun.

Monday 17th Nov. St. Hugh of Lincoln

6:15pm Choir Practice *St. Mary's*

Tuesday 18th Nov.

3:20pm First Holy Communion Prep. *Holy Cross School*

Wednesday 19th Nov.

10am Extraordinary Service of the Eucharist *St. Edward's*

7pm: SVP Meeting *St. Mary's Hall All Welcome*

Thursday 20th Nov.

6pm First Holy Communion Prep. *St. John Bosco Hall*

Friday 21st Nov. The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary

1-3pm Chat and Craft Group for all *St. Edward's Hall*

Saturday 22nd Nov. St. Cecilia

10am - 2pm Christmas Fayre *St. John Fisher School*

6pm Mass *St John Bosco Holy Souls*

Sunday 23rd Nov. Christ the King

9am Mass *St. Edward's Holy Souls*

11am Mass *St. Mary's Marion Peutrill RIP*

2pm Blessing of Graves *Gilrose Cemetery*

5:30pm **Confession**

6pm Mass (**incense**) *St. Mary's Holy Souls*

Monday 24th Nov. St. Andrew Dung-Lac

6:15pm Choir Practice *St. Mary's*

7:30pm Folk Group Workshop *St. Mary's All Welcome*

Tuesday 25th Nov.

12pm Friendship Club *St. John Bosco Hall*

3:20pm First Holy Communion Prep. *Holy Cross School*

Wednesday 26th Nov.

10am Mass and Benediction *St. Edward's Holy Souls*

7:30pm Confirmation Preparation *St. Mary's Hall*

Thursday 27th Nov.

10am Mass of the Dead *St. John Bosco Holy Souls*

St Edward's Children Carol Service is being held on **Saturday 6th December at 3pm**. With a shared tea for the children with all contributions of food gratefully received. If any children would like to read in the service, please speak to Fran or Marysia. Thank you in advance for your support.

St John Fisher School are inviting **admission applications** for Reception 2026-27. There are places in the current Reception and Year 1 classes.

Why Choose St John Fisher?

- **Outstanding Catholic Life:** Both our recent Ofsted report and our Catholic Schools Inspection report praised us for our exemplary standards. Our **Catholic Life and Collective Worship** were specifically rated as **Outstanding**—a testament to our vibrant faith community.
- **High Standards & Excellent Behaviour:** We maintain **high academic standards** in a learning environment supported by **excellent behaviour** from our pupils. We believe in nurturing both the minds and souls of our students.
- **Fantastic Community:** Join a warm, welcoming, and supportive community of staff, parents, and children who work together to make St John Fisher a truly special place to learn and grow.

Come and See For Yourself! We warmly encourage all prospective families to visit our school, meet our staff, and see our wonderful pupils in action. To book a visit, please contact us: **Call:** 0116 2882203 or **Email:** office@stjohnfisher-wigston.leics.sch.uk We look forward to welcoming you!

Holy Souls Envelopes are now available in all churches.

Parish Website: cathparishmje.co.uk Parish Phone: **07354 832195**

Parish Email mjeoffice@proton.me

Parish Priest: Fr. John Owens frowens@pm.me

Safeguarding Representative: Hilari Chetwood: **07734 690611**

Newsletter: newslettermje@gmail.com

Easy Fundraising: Shop **online** and help the parish, with no cost to you.
https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/st-marys-and-st-john-bosco-rec/?utm_campaign=raise-more&utm_medium=email&utm_content=mn-en-nl

Donations to your Parish via Bank Transfer

Acc: St Mary and St J B S Wigston RCP, SC: 30-15-97, AN: 00346385

Acc: St Edward Conf Leicester RCP, SC: 30-15-97, AN: 00554352