

1<sup>st</sup> May 2026

# Newsletter



Dear parents,

This newsletter brings news of upcoming events, student achievements, and important reminders as we approach the upcoming first May bank holiday weekend.

We hope you all have a relaxing and enjoyable long weekend, filled with time for family, friends, and perhaps some well-deserved rest!

God bless

Mr Gallagher

# DATES FOR THE DIARY

## May

- 4th**      **Bank Holiday - School Closed**
- 7<sup>th</sup>      Year 3 Sports Festival at St Pauls
- 8<sup>th</sup>      Pokemon Cup - Girls Football
- 11th to 14<sup>th</sup> - Year 6 SAT's - Free Breakfast Club available to all Year 6 students during SAT's
- 12th      Reception Class Trip - Twycross Zoo - more information to follow
- 14<sup>th</sup>      Year 4 Trip - King Richard III
- 15<sup>th</sup>      Non-school uniform organised by the PTFA - more information to follow
- 16th      PTFA Spring Fayre - all Welcome!
- 18th      Walk to School Week - more information to follow.
- 19<sup>th</sup>      May Assembly - 9a.m - Led by Year 1- All Welcome  
Year 4 Sports Festival at St Pauls  
New Entrants Evening (Reception 26-27) 6p.m.
- 20<sup>th</sup>      Lesson 10 of Branch 5 - 9a.m. - Led by Year 3 - Parents Welcome
- 21<sup>st</sup>      School Census - Menu Change to follow.
- 22<sup>nd</sup>      Interhouse Sports - KS2  
**23<sup>rd</sup> to 31<sup>st</sup> - Half Term**

## June

- 1st      Back to School  
Year 3 - The Jewry Wall Museum
- 3<sup>rd</sup>      Lesson 10 of Branch 5 -9a.m - Led by Year 5  
Year 1 & 2 Lunch Time Football/Sports Club start - 6 sessions
- 4<sup>th</sup>      Lesson 10 of Branch 5 - 9a.m - Led by Year 2
- 5<sup>th</sup>      Year 3 Swimming Starts
- 9<sup>th</sup>      Year 5 Sports Festival at St Pauls
- 10th      Year 5 Trip - Space Centre
- 11<sup>th</sup>      Year 1 Trip - Beaumanor Hall
- 15<sup>th</sup>      Year 6 CRICH Trip - 15<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup>
- 16th      Armadramarama Club Performance - 4p.m.
- 22<sup>nd</sup>      Year 5 Bikeability Starts
- 23rd      Year 6 Sports Festival at St Pauls  
Year 2- The Conkers Trip

## July

- 3<sup>rd</sup>      Sports Day - KS1 - a.m & KS2 - p.m. Specific times to follow.
- 10<sup>th</sup>      End of Academic Year - School finishes at 2p.m. After school club is available until 4.15p.m**

# 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/>

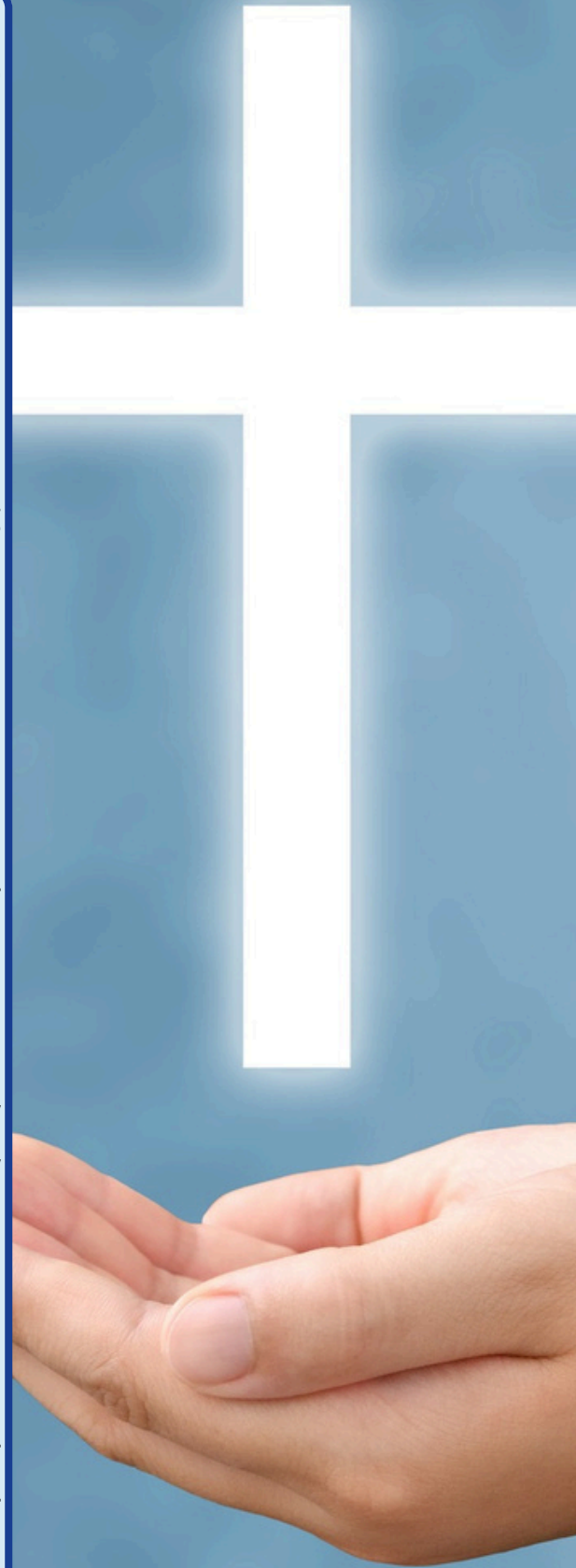
## May

The month of May is especially dedicated to Mary, Our Blessed Mother, and it is the occasion when Catholics from every part of the world pay a moving tribute of love for Mary. The Blessed Virgin Mary is the Mother of the Church and therefore our guide and inspiration for devotion to Jesus. The children will have the opportunity to pray the Rosary and learn the prayers of the Rosary, including the Hail Holy Queen. We will share some resources on Arbor so that you can pray the Rosary with your children at home too.

Mrs Johnson and other staff will be running a Rosary Prayer time every Wednesday and Friday morning during May starting Wednesday 6th May at 8.30am in the chapel. All are welcome, children too.

## Year 1 - Assembly

On Tuesday 19th May, Year 1 will be leading our annual May assembly as we honour Mary, our Blessed Mother. We would be delighted to receive donations of flowers to beautifully adorn the statue of Mary during the celebration. We hope that you will be able to join us for this special occasion.



## **CAFOD**

We ended our Lenten term with the Big Lent Walk and the CAFOD Club book and toy sale. Through your very generous donations, we were delighted to raise an amazing £208 for the Big Lent Walk. CAFOD Club's sale raised a fantastic £130. Thank you very much to all of the children and their families who contributed to our CAFOD fundraising activities during Lent. This money will help support the vital work of CAFOD, making a real difference to support our brothers and sisters across the world.

## **Sacraments of Reconciliation and First Holy Communion**

Many of our Year 4 children have recently received the sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time. They are also coming to the final stages of their preparation for receiving their First Holy Communion in June. Please keep these children in your prayers as they prepare for this special sacrament.

## **IMPORTANT DATES THIS TERM**

(The month of May is dedicated to Our Lady)

### **THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD**

**(14 May)**

After his Resurrection, Jesus appeared to his disciples over a period of forty days. Ascension Day is when we celebrate Jesus' return to his Father in Heaven.

### **PENTECOST SUNDAY**

**(24 May)**

This is the day we celebrate the coming of the Holy Spirit and the birthday of the Church.

### **THE MOST HOLY TRINITY**

**(31 May)**

Today we celebrate our belief in the Trinity, the three persons of God: The Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.

### **Corpus Christi - THE MOST HOLY BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST**

**(4 June)**

On this feast we give thanks to God for the gift of Jesus in the form of bread and wine.

### **THE MOST SACRED HEART OF JESUS**

**(12 June)**

On this day we remember how much Jesus loves us all.

### **SS. PETER AND PAUL, APOSTLES**

**(29 June)**

We celebrate the lives of these important saints who helped establish the Christian Church.

\*This feast day will be celebrated at Mass on Sunday 28 June.

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

### PENTECOST TERM 2026

Dear Parent(s)/Carer(s),

This term, we continue to implement the new RED (Religious Education Directory), 'To know You more dearly, through the delivery of Branches Five and Six.

**Branch Five: To the Ends of the Earth** focuses on Pentecost, the mission of the Church, and the early Christian community.

**Branch 6: Dialogue and Encounter** explores other religions (notably Judaism), worldviews, and Catholic Social Teaching.

Within each of the branches, pupils will be using the 'Ways of Knowing' – To understand, to discern and to respond. They will learn through the lenses of Hear, Believe, Celebrate and Live, and have many opportunities to reflect, share and encounter the faith.

#### Branch Five: To the ends of the Earth

*"Go, therefore and make disciples of all nations..."*

*(Matthew 28:19)*

**Pentecost term 1- To the ends of the Earth** - In this branch, pupils will study the events that flowed from the Resurrection and Ascension in the coming of the Holy Spirit and the work of the apostles and early Church. They will also learn about the Catholic Church today as the apostolic Church and how its liturgy and structures flow from the early Church.

#### At home you could...

A focus on sharing stories, strengthening bonds, and looking forward.

Create a "Memory Tree" or collage using old photos. Share stories about the memories represented, particularly times you felt supported or loved.

Explore and discover how Pentecost is celebrated in another part of the world.

#### Catholic Social Teaching

The Church has given us ways in which we can follow his commandment in the modern world, and this is known as Catholic Social Teaching.

Within RE, pupils will be exploring the core principles of Catholic Social Teaching.

#### Branch Six: Dialogue and Encounter

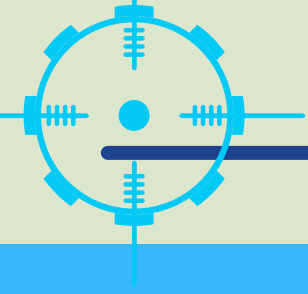
*'For in him we live and move and have our being'*  
*(Acts 17:28).*

**Pentecost term 2- Dialogue and Encounter:** In this branch, pupils will learn how Christians work together with people of different religious convictions and all people of goodwill towards the common good, respecting the dignity of all humanity. They will also encounter other pathways of belief.

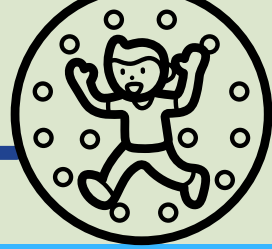
#### At home you could...

As a family talk about and research how local churches or community groups are working together with people of other faiths or no faith to help others (e.g., food banks, refugee support), reflecting the "solidarity" and "common good" principles.

Design a poster for your community that encourages celebrating differences rather than judging them.



# SPORT NEWS



## SPORTS ENRICHMENT DAY

Children had a great day last Friday partaking in Lasertag and Zorbing. Our instructor, Hassan, really enjoyed his visit and gave high praise to our pupils and our staff.



# SPORT NEWS CONTINUED....

## YEAR 1 & 2 LUNCHTIME CLUB- FOOTBALL



Our Year 1 and Year 2 children have been thoroughly enjoying our new lunchtime football club. The field has been buzzing with excitement each day as the children take part in friendly games, practise new skills, and simply enjoy being active with their friends.

What's been especially lovely to see is just how much fun they're having. From big smiles to bursts of laughter, the sessions have created a real sense of joy and togetherness. The brilliant weather has certainly helped too, giving us the perfect opportunity to make full use of the field and create a safe, open space for the children to run, play, and explore their abilities.

Alongside the fun, the children are developing confidence, teamwork, coordination, and resilience – all through play. It's been a wonderful addition to their school day, and we're delighted to see how much they look forward to it.



# SPORT NEWS CONTINUED....

## YEAR 3 & 4 DEVELOPMENT EVENT - SIR JONATHAN NORTH

On Wednesday, 10 children, 6 from Year 3 and 4 from Year 4, went to Sir Jonathan North for a tennis Day.

The children took part in many activities that were designed to improve their tennis skills, for example throwing and catching, throwing and returning the ball using a racquet, playing dodgeball and some fitness based games.

The theme of the day was passion and sports leaders chose St John Fisher as winners of the spirit of the games for showing a lot of passion throughout the day.



# SPORT NEWS CONTINUED....

## NETBALL - YEAR 5 & 6

The Netball Team travelled to Soar Valley Community College to take part in a Netball competition. They started the day nervously as this was their first competition but grew in confidence during the course of their matches.

The children learned so much from taking part in matches which allowed them to improve on the skills they have been learning in the after school Netball Club and will lead them to go from strength to strength.

Congratulations to all those who took part and to Mrs Gibson for training them and leading them on the day.



# SPORT NEWS CONTINUED....

## KS2 PARALLEL ATHLETICS - SAFFRON LANE

The children had a great day joining in with running long and short distances, sprint, throwing and long jump. It was lovely to see so many children enjoying sport and meeting children from different schools. We came away with 3 medal winners - Layla (Gold), Kade, (Gold) and Aliona (Bronze).



# SATS

## GOOD LUCK!

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!

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 11th May to Thursday 15th May.



## 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.

### 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.

Child online  
safety

### 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.

### 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!

### Clubs

Extracurricular after school clubs have resumed this term as well as some invitational and subscribed. 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.

### 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.

### Uniform: Summer

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.

### 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.

### Sun protections

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'.





## TUESDAYS

**Explorers**

5.30pm-6.30pm

Reception-Year 3

**Pioneers**

6.15pm-7.30pm

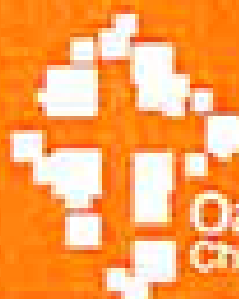
Years 4-6

[www.oadbybaptist.church/adventurers](http://www.oadbybaptist.church/adventurers)

Oadby Baptist Church  
Leicester Road  
LE2 5BD



@adventurersobc  
0116 271 0811



Oadby Baptist  
Church

# ACE THE BASICS

**KNIGHTON PARK**

**LE2 3RE**

**STARTING TUES 5TH MAY**



**£19.99 4 WEEK ACE THE BASICS COURSE**

## JUNIOR TENNIS AGES 4-12

4-5pm ages 4-8  
5-6pm ages 9-12

Racket option included

**BOOK OR CONTACT US:**

01952 984 894  
[enquiries@wedotennis.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@wedotennis.co.uk)

 **DUNLOP**

**SCAN  
ME**

SCROLL DOWN TO  
SHORT COURSES



**WE DO  
TENNIS**

 Leicester  
City Council



LEICESTER  
GRAMMAR  
SCHOOL

# Open Evening

Visit us on Tuesday 19 May, 5.45-7.15pm



BOOK YOUR PLACE



# GET YOUR KIDS STARTED IN TENNIS

Take advantage of our starter offer with everything you need to get your kids involved and discover their love for the game.



Scan to buy your racket and ball set



For just  
**£4.99**  
you'll get:

- A junior tennis racket
- A set of tennis balls
- Access to free taster tennis sessions
- An LTA Advantage membership

