19th November 2026

Newsletter

ST JOHN FISHER



Dear Parents and Carers,

As we move through November, school life continues to be filled with opportunities for learning, reflection and community spirit. This week, children and staff took part in Anti-Bullying Week, focusing on this year's theme, "Break the Silence." It was wonderful to see so many children wearing odd socks and engaging thoughtfully in activities designed to promote kindness, inclusion and respect for others.

November is also a special month in our Catholic calendar, as we remember the Holy Souls and pray for loved ones who have died. As a school community, we will continue to keep these intentions in our prayers throughout the month.

Looking ahead, we are excited to be hosting the St John Bosco and St Mary's Parish Christmas Fayre on 21st November, and we hope many of our families will be able to join us in supporting this important community event.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support.

God bless, Mr Gallagher

Headteacher

Staff Update

We would like to thank Miss Church, our Year 5 teacher, whose last day at St John Fisher will be 4th December. Miss Church has made a valuable contribution to our school community, and we are grateful for her commitment and hard work. We wish her every success and happiness in the next stage of her career.



Winter Uniform



As the weather becomes colder and more changeable, please ensure that your child comes to school dressed appropriately for winter conditions. Even days that begin bright and sunny can quickly become colder, and we aim to get children outside for breaktimes and lunchtimes whenever possible.

We would also like to remind parents to ensure that all items of clothing, particularly coats, jumpers and cardigans, are clearly labelled with their child's name.

Mike Sewell

It was with great sadness that we learned of the recent death of Mike Sewell. Mike was a former parent at St John Fisher Catholic Voluntary Academy several years ago and was a valued member of our wider community. He was heavily involved with Wigston United Youth Football Club and regularly used the school grounds as a base for matches and training. Mike generously gave his time to help maintain our football pitch, often marking it out and carrying out repairs when needed.

We keep Mike's family and friends in our thoughts and prayers at this difficult time. May he rest in eternal peace.

PRIMARY SCHOOL ADMISSIONS 2027

Applications for Primary School places in Leicestershire for September 2027open on 1 September 2026 and close on 15 January 2027.

Important: Our School Has a Two-Step Application Process

1	Apply through the Local Authority (Leicestershire County Council Admissions Portal)
2	Complete and return the School Supplementary Information Form (SIF)

Both steps must be completed. Submitting only one part of the process is not sufficient for your application to be fully considered.

Key Dates

Applications Open	1 September 2026
Applications Close	15 January 2027
National Offer Day	16 April 2027

Who Can Apply?

Children born between **1 September 2022** and **31 August 2023** are eligible to start primary school in Autumn 2027.

Parents Checklist

- Apply through Leicestershire County Council
- Complete the School Supplementary Information Form (SIF)
- Submit both by 15 January 2027



DATES FOR DIARY

NOVEMBER

- 20th -INSET DAY- SCHOOL CLOSED
- 21st - St Mary's Christmas Fayre at St John Fisher

DECEMBER

- 1st - Year 5 Ukulele Performance at 2.30p.m.
- 3rd Advent Mass & Confessions
- 4th - Year 6 Menphys
- 8th - Reception Nativity Play - 1.30p.m & 5.30p.m.
- 9th - Year 1 & 2 Nativity Play - 1.30p.m. & 6p.m.
- 11th - PTFA Christmas Disco - Tickets on Arbor
- 16th - Pantomime a.m.- whole school
- 17th - Christmas Dinner Menu
- 18th - 2 p.m. finish- LAST DAY OF TERM (END OF TERM 19th to 4th January 2027)

JANUARY

- 4th - BACK TO SCHOOL
- 19th Year 6 School Musical at St Pauls

FEBRUARY

- 12th - In support of the Rugby Six Nations, come to school wearing your favourite sports team shirt or sports top (£2.00 donation for School Council)

CATHOLIC LIFE

We are delighted to invite parents and families to join us for our upcoming Celebration of the Word and school liturgies throughout the year:

📖 Branch 2 - Year 3
10 December 2026 at 9:00am

📖 Branch 3 - Year 5
11 February 2027 at 9:00am

🌷 Mothering Sunday Liturgy - Reception
2 March 2027 at 2:30pm

✝️ Stations of the Cross - Year 6
16 March 2027 at 9:00am

🌸 May Assembly - Year 1
18 May 2027 at 9:00am

📖 Meet In My Name - Branch 5 - Year 2
10 June 2027 at 9:00am

We look forward to welcoming parents, carers, family members and friends to celebrate these special occasions with us.



OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE
(22 November)

ADVENT
(Begins 29 November)
Advent means 'coming'. We think of the coming of Jesus when he was born but we also think of his promise that he would come again at the end of time. It is a time of waiting and preparing. It is only in the last week of Advent that we focus upon the events to be celebrated at Christmas.

THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY
(8 December)
This feast marks the first stage of the existence of Mary, the mother of Jesus. She was 'full of grace' from the very beginning and co-operated with God throughout her life.
When December 8 falls on a Sunday, the Immaculate Conception is transferred to Monday

CHRISTMAS DAY, THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD
(25 December)
On this day we begin our celebration of the birth of Christ.

THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY, AND JOSEPH
(27 December)

SPORT NEWS

SPORTSHALL ATHLETICS- YEAR 5 & 6





On Wednesday 4th November, 20 boys and girls from Year 5 and Year 6 represented St. John Fisher in the East Leicester Sportshall Athletics at Crown Hills Community College. Each child was able to take part in a maximum of 2 relay races and 2 field events. The girls were very strong in their races, winning all of their heats, and in their field events (javelin, chest push, triple and long jumps and vertical jump), while the boys found the competition a little more difficult and had some very close races, although they had some good results in the field. All of their races are timed and then added to the points from the field events to give a combined team score. On the day, the team came second, although other schools had yet to compete so we await the final position. Well done to all of the team.

SCHOOL MEALS PRE-ORDER

School Meal Bookings - Important Information for Parents

Dear Parents/Carers,

To help improve the efficiency of our morning routines and ensure accurate meal numbers are provided to our kitchen team, we are introducing a new process for ordering school meals.

From now on, all parents/carers must book their child's meal choices in advance through Arbor.

What you need to do:

1. Log in to Arbor.
2. Go to Meals.
3. Select your child's meal choice for the following week.

You can choose to:

- Book meals one week at a time.
- Book meals for a whole month.
- Book meals for an entire term.

Please note: We require all parents to complete this, even if their child has a packed lunch.

Each Monday, we will provide the kitchen with meal numbers and choices for the week ahead, so it is essential that bookings are made in advance.

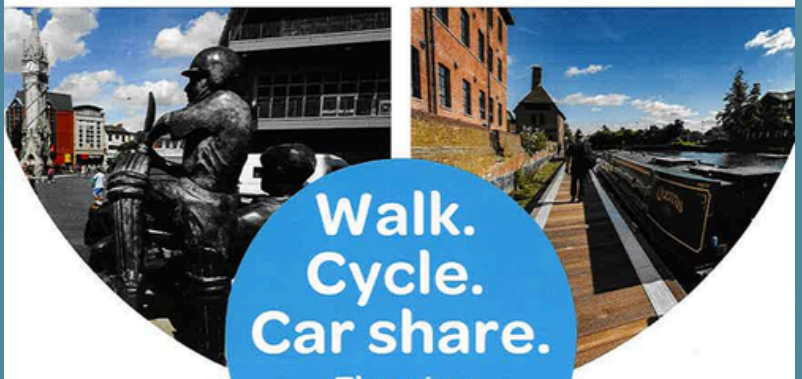
This system is already being introduced in many schools and offers several benefits:

- Reduces valuable classroom time spent by teachers recording meal choices each morning.
- Helps the kitchen plan meals more accurately and reduce waste.
- Gives parents and children the opportunity to discuss meal options together before school.

We would appreciate your support in ensuring meal choices are booked in Arbor ahead of time.

Thank you for your cooperation.





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BetterPoints is a reward programme with a difference. Earn BetterPoints by logging your active and sustainable travel on our app then redeem your points for high street rewards or donate to charities or your local community groups.

STEP 1
Download the BetterPoints app

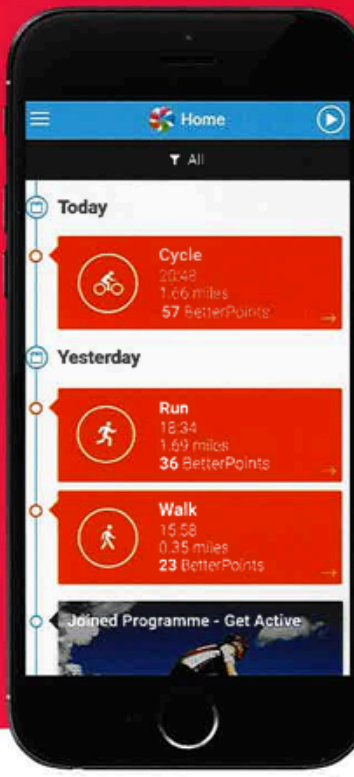
STEP 2
Record your activity and earn BetterPoints

STEP 3
Donate or exchange your BetterPoints for rewards

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ANDROID APP ON Google play

Available on the App Store



ies and local causes supported include:

age UK

CANCER RESEARCH UK

Or redeem for high street reward

ASDA Argos LOVE2SHOP and more

BetterPoints
REWARD YOURSELF - REWARD YOUR WORLD

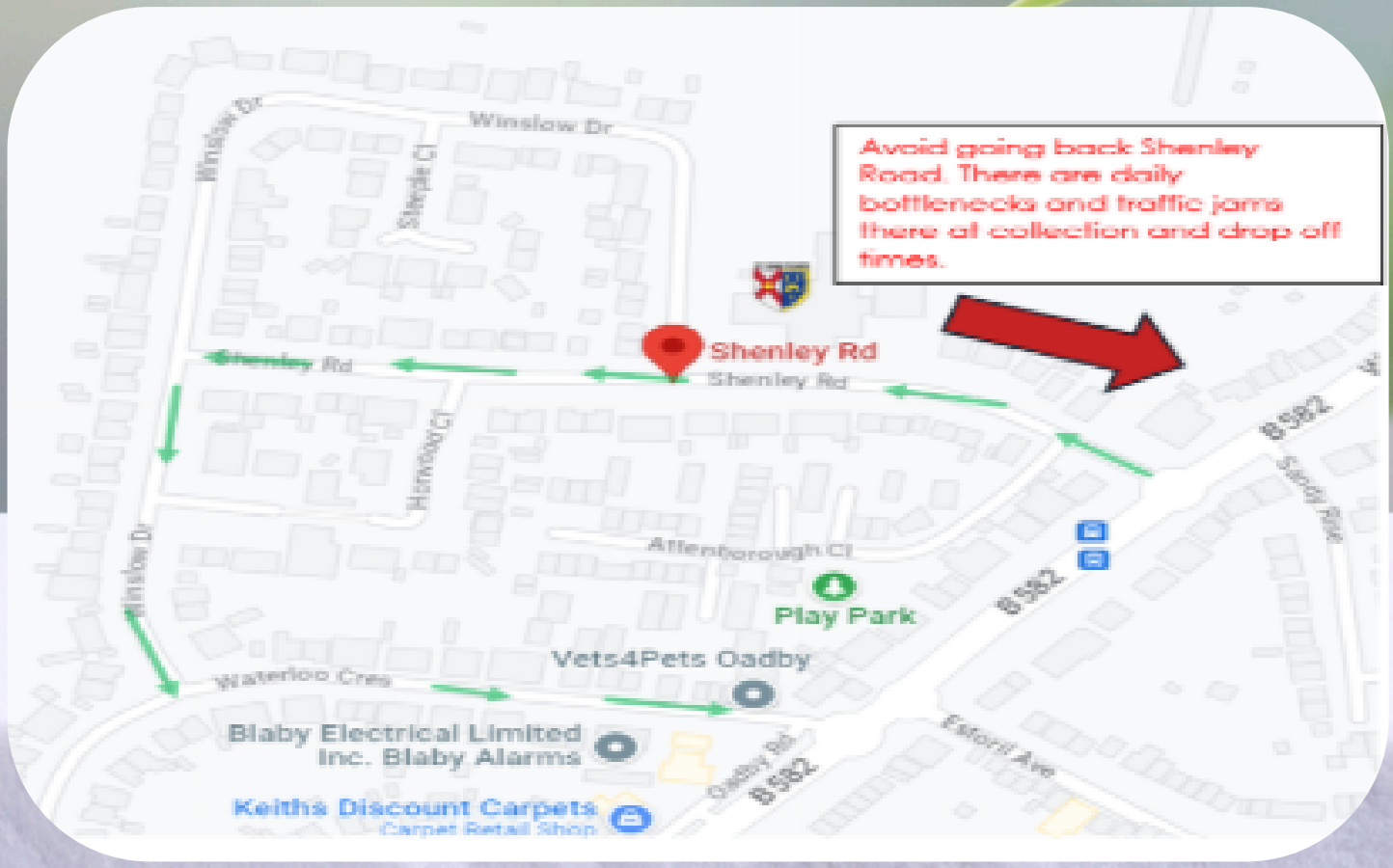
Let's Keep Our School Drop-Off and Pick-Up Safe and Smooth!

Thank you to all the families who already show great care when driving and parking around school. Your efforts make a real difference to everyone's safety.

To help keep things running safely and smoothly, please remember:

- Plan ahead: Give yourself a little extra time.
- Park responsibly: Avoid corners, driveways, and anything that blocks visibility.
- Drive safely: Please avoid U-turns near school and try not to reverse onto main roads.

Your support helps create a safe, welcoming environment for all our children. Thank you for your cooperation!



ST THOMAS AQUINAS CATHOLIC MULTI-ACADEMY TRUST

Term dates 2027-2028

AUGUST

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FEBRUARY

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Holidays

Bank Holiday

Please note the training dates on Monday 23rd and Tuesday 24th August.
All other staff training will take place after the school day.

St Mary, St John Bosco & St Edward's

Christmas Fayre

Saturday 21st November
St John Fisher School
10.00am – 2.00pm

Games

Come and meet Santa in his  grotto !!

Food and drinks.

Hamper raffle

Lucky dip

Dress up as a Naughty Elf

Judging 12.30pm

10 years and under
Over 10 years (including adults!)

Gifts

Tombolas

!! FUN !!

Grand Raffle

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION
&
ST THOMAS MORE

Christmas BAZAAR

SANTA'S GROTTO – RAFFLE – CAKES – BOTTLE
TOMBOLA – SILENT AUCTION – CHILDREN'S STALLS

Saturday, 28th November 2026
11am - 2pm

At St Thomas More Primary Academy,
Newstead Road,
Leicester LE2 3TA

See you there!

BE BRIGHT

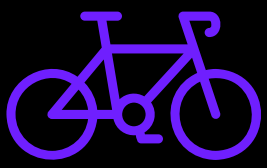
BE SEEN

Help Your Child Stay Safe This Winter

As the days get shorter and darker, it can be harder for drivers and cyclists to see children near roads.

A few simple steps can make a big difference.

Bright by Day, Reflective by Night





Encourage your child to wear:

Brightly coloured coats, hats or bags, reflective strips, stickers or accessories

Leicestershire Road Safety

Leicestershire County Council