

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER



NEWSLETTER DATED FRIDAY 14TH MARCH 2025

Dear Families,

Wow! What a busy but simply brilliant couple of weeks we have had at St John's Catholic Primary School! I want to take a moment today to celebrate something truly special—the children's hard work! Every single child has shown incredible dedication, determination, and enthusiasm in their learning and living out their faith.

I see it in the classrooms, where the children focus and push themselves to do their very best. I see it in their books, filled with ideas, creativity, and progress. I see it in the way they support one another, helping friends when they need encouragement. Living out our Catholic Social Teaching values in their play and learning.

Hard work is not just about results—it's about effort, resilience, and never giving up. And that is exactly what the children are showing. Whether they are mastering new skills in maths, crafting brilliant stories, developing their faith and knowledge of scripture, exploring science experiments, or expressing themselves through art and music— they are proving that with effort, anything is possible.

Thank you to all the families and wider community who support our school and allow the children to thrive.

Wishing you all a peaceful and joyful weekend.

Mrs O'Rourke

Dates For Your Diary 2025

Tuesday 11th March—Parents Evening (1) 3.30-6pm

Wednesday 12th March—KS1 Trip to Trowbridge Library

Thursday 20th March—Parents Evening (2) - 3.30-6pm

Wednesday 4th June—OPAL Afternoon For Parents 1.40 –3.15pm

Friday 13th June—Sports Day

Friday 4th July—Sports Day if 13th June is Cancelled

OPAL At St. Johns



We are thrilled to be able to invite all parents, grandparents and younger siblings to our STAY AND PLAY ALL THINGS OPAL on Wednesday 4th June. The session will commence in the school hall with the opportunity to read about and celebrate the progress the children have made at St John's Catholic School in their play. We will then provide the following:

1.45pm - Welcome, refreshments and observations of the children's play journey with OPAL

2.00pm - OPAL Consultant Helen Easton will deliver a key note speech about the power of play

2.30pm - All families and children invited onto the school site to play together and explore the opportunities

3.30pm - End of session

We look forward to welcoming families to play alongside us.



Mass and Liturgy

As a school family we gathered together for our Ash Wednesday Service in the school hall led by Fr Richard. It was a powerful start to our Lenten journey.

On Friday 7th March we celebrated our Feast Day Mass in the Parish Church alongside parents and parishioners. The children sang and responded so reverently to the celebration and during the day enjoyed an extra long morning break.

Thank you Fr Richard for your continued support and guidance in the prayer life of our school.

Online Safety

This week we are highlighting what you need to know as parents/carers about Roblox.

Please see the leaflets attached to this newsletter.

Determined Admissions Policy

The new Determined Admissions Policy for 2026-27 is available to read on the school website.

KS1 Trip to Trowbridge Library

KS1 visited Trowbridge Library on Wednesday 12th March. All children listened to some stories and got time to explore the library. If you are not a member of Trowbridge library, please visit them to get a FREE membership card. They offer a free story time session on Saturday mornings.

Thank you to all the parents that volunteered to help the visit take place.



House Saint Launch Afternoon

Last week, our whole school embraced learning about our new House Saints in their house groups. Children from EYFS to Year 6 supported each other in an afternoon of prayer, singing, learning about the life of their House Saint and fun team challenges. It was lovely to share the special moment with family and friends at the end of the school day. Below is our new whole school prayer and we would welcome your support in helping your child to learn their part.

Loving God,

Thank You for our school,
A place of faith, learning and friendship.

Guided by the example of St. Francis,
May we be instruments of peace, caring for all creation.

Inspired by St. Mother Teresa,
Teach us to serve with love,
Seeing You in everyone we meet.

Following St. Don Bosco,
Help us to live with joy and kindness,
Always encouraging and supporting one another.

Like Blessed Carlo Acutis,
May we seek You in all we do,
Using our gifts to share Your light with the world.

Bless our school community,
That we may grow in faith, wisdom, and love,
Becoming Pilgrims of Hope, people You call us to be.

Amen.



World Book Day—Thursday 6th March 2025

Last Thursday, St John's came alive with the exciting buzz of reading as we celebrated World Book Day and immersed ourselves in the joy of books. We started the day with a whole school assembly before 7 children and Peter Rabbit (Mrs O'Rourke) visited Waterstones to choose a book. During the day, students and staff dressed up as their favourite characters – LKS2 even rocked a 'costume catwalk' and some pupils in UKS2 (Alaska H and Sofia D) came dressed as Shakespearean characters, inspired by their Reading lessons. Classes came together to share stories, with some even making the most of the delightful weather by reading outside! We ended the day with a fun "reading relay," where each teacher moved around the school to read to different classes. EYFS and KS1, in particular, behaved impeccably well, showing great enthusiasm and respect for the stories shared.

A huge "Thank You" to the Friends of St. John's who donated a free book for every child at the end of a wonderful day.



It's a No Money Day

This week in Foundation Stage our focus book has been 'It's a No Money Day' by Kate Milner. This book is a moving insight into how some families struggle to have enough money to buy food and the wonderful work of Foodbanks. The book aims to develop empathy and an awareness of others in younger readers. Foundation Stage decided that they wanted to make a difference and help people who might be hungry. Each week the school collects donations to take to Trowbridge Foodbank so we decided that this Friday we would make a special effort to bring a simple donation to school. The children and staff together managed to donate **56 items** to the Foodbank collection. The children were so excited about the difference they are going to make to others!

Thank you Foundation Stage.



EYFS Pancake Races

Pupils in EYFS took part in Pancake Races on Shrove Tuesday. They all had a lot of fun.



Birthdays This Week

During Celebration Assembly we celebrated all children who have had birthdays and presented them with a St. John's birthday pencil.

Pupils

Aniello L	Hope M
Gabriela SC	Bella L
Ruben V	Melody M
Jacob F	Dawid W
Savannah M	Felicity W
Amelia S	Tawananyasha M
Eloise O	Louis O



Wednesday Word

Please find below the link to last week's copy of the **Wednesday Word** which can be copied and pasted into your browser. Last week's word was LENT.

<https://www.paperturn-view.com/wednesday-word/good-news?pid=MTA101634&v=163.4>

Please find below the link to this week's copy of the **Wednesday Word** which can be copied and pasted into your browser. This week's word is ENCOURAGEMENT.

<https://www.paperturn-view.com/wednesday-word/good-news?pid=MTA101634&v=163.4>

We hope you enjoy sharing the Bible Scripture together with your child.

Leaders in Faith Award.

Congratulations to the following child who has earned this award:

Silver Award: Joseph P

The certificate was presented in Celebration Assembly on Friday.



KS1 Geography Showcase – Tuesday, 1st April

We are excited to invite KS1 parents into the classrooms at 2:45 pm on Tuesday, 1st April for a special Geography showcase! The children will be sharing their learning about animals around the world and exploring the important work of 'The Pangolin Man' in Uganda as part of our CST stewardship project. This is a fantastic opportunity to see their work and celebrate their learning—hope to see you there!

Crossing Patrol Lady Absent

Lala, our Crossing Patrol Lady will be away on holiday from Tuesday 25th March—Wednesday 2nd April.

Therefore, there will be no-one to help your child cross the road at the beginning and end of the day. Please be mindful and take care crossing during this time. Thank you.

Save The Children UK

Aveline-Rose S travelled to London on Tuesday 4th March with her Mum who was talking at the Select Committee, representing Save The Children UK.

She really enjoyed the day trip, and got to watch her Mum in action.

Aveline-Rose is the next generation of leaders and change makers.

She also got to keep her visitors pass!



After School Computing Club For Girls

Are you a Mum, Grandma Older Sibling or Female Carer who feels confident to guide children in Years 3, 4, 5 & 6 during An After School Computing Club? *Then there is a new club starting that needs your support...*

Mr. Somerville is leading this wonderful opportunity but would like to include female role models from our school community to enhance the message to girls and encourage them to develop an excitement and interest in Computing.

The club will run in Term 5 every Wednesday after school from 3.30pm-4.30pm. We would be delighted to receive responses from people who could commit to one session or every week! Please share the message to friends and family and contact the office who will register your interest.

To register, please see the Clubs Letter for Terms 5 & 6 that will be emailed to you next week.

