

# St Patrick's Catholic Primary School Newsletter

Learn from Jesus, Love like Jesus, Live like Jesus



## A message from the Headteacher

Dear Parents and Carers,

It is important to remind ourselves of the spiritual journey we encounter during Lent. The children have been reflecting on the three pillars of this important season: to pray more, to give more and to fast from things in their life that come between them and God. It is a time when Jesus asks us to strengthen our relationship with God rather than focusing on earthly possessions. As Easter comes right at the end of our holiday this year, we are challenging the children to keep up their Lenten promises, although they may need a reminder or two from you!

This half term has been very busy in school and there is much to celebrate – please enjoy reading about all that the children have been doing in this newsletter! Whilst we are still some days away, we wish you a restful break and look forward to welcoming you back on Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> April.

Yours sincerely,  
Mrs Tong

# Safeguarding Corner

## What is AI?

AI is when a computer/machine can learn and perform tasks like a human. Its popularity continues to increase, and examples include:

- Virtual assistants like Alexa and Siri.
- Chatbots such as ChatGPT and My AI from Snapchat

## Potential Risks of AI?

- Chat apps - A simple search of “AI Chat” within the App store highlights the number of apps already available and just scrolling through, you can see that they are not suitable for children with many rated as 17+.
- Image manipulation – there are AI tools that can be used to digitally remove clothes from photos, which clearly raises serious safeguarding and privacy concerns.
- Deepfakes – there are also AI tools that create realistic, fake videos which can be used to spread misinformation or cause harm. Child Rescue Coalition discuss the dangers in more detail here: <https://childrescuecoalition.org/educations/the-dark-side-of-ai-risks-tochildren/>

## How can I protect my child?

As always, to keep your child safe online, it is important to:

- Develop your child’s digital literacy by highlighting the risks of AI and showing them how important it is to verify what they see online.
- Set up appropriate parental controls on their devices/ broadband.
- Chat to your child regularly and ensure your child knows that they should talk to you or another trusted adult if anything concerns them.

## Further information

For further information, the NSPCC and Internet Matters provide useful guides on their websites:

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/about-us/news-opinion/2025/artificialintelligence-safety-tips-for-parents> · <https://www.internetmatters.org/resources/parent-guide-toartificial-intelligence-ai-tools/>

# Dates For Your Diary

**April 4<sup>th</sup>** – End of school, normal finish time

**April 22<sup>nd</sup>** – Back to School

**April 28<sup>th</sup>** – KS2 Book Looks

**April 29<sup>th</sup>** – KS1 Book Looks

**May 2<sup>nd</sup>** – Crowning of Mary Mass

**May 6<sup>th</sup>/7<sup>th</sup>** – Y4 Residential Trip

**May 12<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup>** – KS2 SATS Week

**May 19<sup>th</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup>** – Community Week

**May 23<sup>rd</sup>** – PTA Summer Fete

**May 23<sup>rd</sup>** – Break up from school

For more diary dates please check the calendar on our website

## Attendance Corner

Year Group	Attendance %	Days missed in the class
Year R	93.64%	240 days
Year 1	96.29%	141.5 days
Year 2	96.19%	137 days
Year 3	97.06%	122 days
Year 4	94.46%	223 days
Year 5	96.09%	165 days
Year 6	96.31%	135 days

### Attendance Ladder





The children have had a wonderful trip to our friends at Knellwood care home.

The children shared their talents and showed how great they are at tidying, sharing and lending a helping hand to others in our community. During this time in lent we learn about the three pillars that are important during this time. We pray, fast and give. This was Oak class's opportunity to give back to others in our community.

Well done Oak Class you were wonderful and the care home complemented you on your manners and behaviour. A huge thank you to our parent helpers too!



On Wednesday 12th March, Miss Parry took 15 members of her dance club to Gremlin Dance Challenge 2025.

The theme of the dance was based on travel whereby Miss Parry created a dance about the chaos of London commuting.

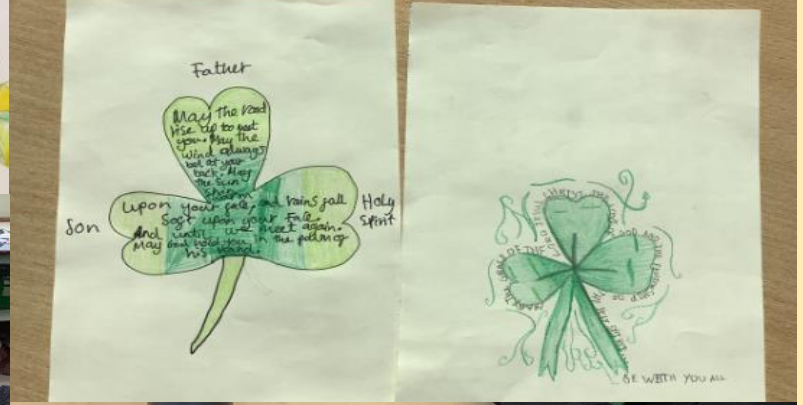
At the end there is an awards ceremony where 14 schools are awaiting who are the winners. This year St Patrick's won!

They came 1st place with their incredible dance. Miss Parry is so proud of their hard work and dedication they put into this. Well done girls!



We celebrated St Patrick's Day in school: this is an important time for us to think about the example that he gives us in our daily lives. In the morning, Fr Michael came and celebrated Mass with the school and we reflected on how we too can be like St Patrick and share our gifts with others.

In the afternoon, classes engaged in arts and crafts related to St Patrick and his ministry.



Year 5 were lucky enough to be invited to Salesian College to watch the dress rehearsal of their production of Shrek the Musical. We thoroughly enjoyed the performance and even got ice lollies in the interval!

We had the most amazing time and it is safe to say `donkey` was a class favourite!



## C.A.R.E Programme

This half term, Year 5, have had the CARE team run some sessions for us, within these sessions we looked at the different emotions we can feel and how we might act when we have these emotions. We also had the chance to try and create our own sensory toolkit!

On 19<sup>th</sup> March, we completed our pilgrimage walk in aid of CAFOD. We are so lucky to have our Diocesan Shrine so close to school and the children from Year R-6 were amazed to see the beauty of Farnborough Abbey.

While at the Abbey, the Chaplaincy team helped the children to discover more about the abbey, its history and the different saints and icons within it. There was also a chance for a time of prayer in the chapel of St Joseph on his feast day, reflecting on how we, just like St Joseph, need to have courage and say yes to God.

Pandas children took a pilgrimage around our school grounds, stopping at our outdoor stations of the cross to reflect on that important journey that Jesus made.

Thank you for your generosity as we walked together as Pilgrims of Hope. The winning class and their prize will be revealed after the Easter break.



*"By our actions, our words, our patient efforts to sow seeds of beauty and kindness wherever we find ourselves. We want to sing of hope and reawaken in every heart the joy and the courage to embrace life, to the Full."*

**Pope Francis**



We enjoyed a wonderful World Book day here at St. Patrick's! The PTA Book Swap and the Scholastic Book Fair were very successful. It was so lovely to see the children choosing and buying new books to enjoy. Thank you to everyone involved in making the day such a success and supporting the importance of reading.

We would also like to thank Bubbling Tubs and Teepee Snugs for donating the Harry Potter themed teepees for the children to have some cosy space to read and share books with their friends.





During this Lenten period, we have been thinking about all the ways we can put our faith into action and bring hope to others.

Ellen from CAFOD came to talk to the whole school about how the money raised from our Big Lent Walk will help people around the world to fight poverty.



# Diocesan Building Fund News



You may have heard from the children that new hand dryers have been installed in all the children's toilets.

The benefits of this are to reduce waste, cut costs and improve hygiene. 10% of the cost of the hand dryers and their installation was paid for by the Building Fund, so thank you for your contributions which ensure we can access this help towards school building improvements.

## Lent and Holy Week



Easter is the most important event in the Christian calendar and the week leading up to it is particularly special. Perhaps as a family, you can do some special things to mark it?

Here is a [link](#) to some ideas:

It is traditional to make an Easter garden. It would be lovely to share these in school so please bring them in during the first week back so we can celebrate them on Friday 25<sup>th</sup> April. Be as creative as you like!



APRIL 2025

# WHAT'S ON THIS EASTER HOLS

THE ULTIMATE WHAT'S ON GUIDE FOR FAMILIES TO FIND THINGS TO DO IN FARNHAM, CAMBERLEY, FLEET, BORDON, ALTON AND FARNBOROUGH

[www.farnhamrocks.co.uk](http://www.farnhamrocks.co.uk)

**FIND  
EASTER  
HOLIDAY  
FUN**

AT THE TOUCH  
OF A BUTTON



## **FIND EASTER HOLIDAYS FUN**

The [Farnham Rocks website](http://www.farnhamrocks.co.uk) is choc-a-block with Easter family fun. There are Easter hunts, trails, events, and lots of other things to do! We have kept it all under one handy button.

Our faves are:

[Alice's Camberley Adventure](#)

[Easter at The Museum](#)

[Easter at West Green Gardens](#)

## **HOLIDAY CLUBS**

If you are looking for a holiday club this Easter holiday then our handy guides are here to help you:

[Holiday Clubs in Farnham](#)

[Holiday Clubs in Alton & Bordon](#)

[Holiday Clubs in Farnborough,  
Aldershot and Camberley](#)



[www.farnhamrocks.co.uk](http://www.farnhamrocks.co.uk)





Hampshire  
County Council

Library Service

# Free\* Courses for Parents this Summer Term

Course	Location	Date	Time
Positive Parenting	Online	Tuesdays 22 April - 20 May	7:30pm - 9pm
Emergency First Aid	Alton Library	Saturday 26 April	9:45am - 4:45pm
Emergency First Aid	Tadley Library	Saturday 3 May	9:45am - 4:45pm
Emergency First Aid	Basingstoke Discovery Centre	Saturday 10 May	9:45am - 4:45pm
Raising Resilient Children	Online	Mondays 2 - 30 June	7:30pm - 9pm
Emergency First Aid	Andover Library	Wednesday 11 June	9:45am - 4:30pm
Introduction to Paediatric First Aid	Online	Tuesdays 17 June - 8 July	6:30pm - 9:15pm
Emergency Paediatric First Aid	Bridgemary Library	Friday 20 June	9:15am - 4:30pm
Emergency First Aid	Waterlooville Library	Saturday 28 June	9:45am - 4:45pm

\*Free tuition, some courses may have a certification or materials fee



To book a course please visit our online shop: <https://shop.hants.gov.uk/collections/learning-in-libraries> or e-mail [learninginlibraries@hants.gov.uk](mailto:learninginlibraries@hants.gov.uk) to be added to a course waiting list.