

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,

Over the last few weeks, the classrooms and corridors have been filled with the voices of angels, a few barn animals, some shepherds, inn keepers and wise men as we have prepared for the nativities. It was lovely to welcome parents and wider family members to the EY and KS1 nativities where the story of Christmas was retold and shared so beautifully by the children. There was a lovely contrast with the KS2 Advent Liturgy where the children reflected on the messages of Advent and led us through a service of prayer. Thank you to the children and staff for preparing so well.

Thank you for all your kind cards, gifts and messages that staff have received. I'm sure parents will wish to join with me and thank all our staff for the wonderful job they do every day; they all go above and beyond and I know they make a difference to the children lives each day. We are sad to be saying goodbye to Mr Harms, Mrs Townsend, Mrs Walker and Mrs Day and wish them every success as they move on to pastures new.

I would also like to thank our Governors for all they do and how generously they offer their time to our community. They are a great team of volunteers who are always wanting the best for the school and children in particular.

We have a team of loyal parents, led by the PTA, who are always willing to lend a hand and have been in school a lot recently! Thank you for your time and dedication to make the various PTA Christmas events a success and for your work in preparing the raffles for the Christmas performances.

My final thank you is to all our children; what a joy they are and we are so proud of you all.

Wishing you all the peace and joy of Christmas and a very prosperous and happy 2025,

Mrs Tong



Safeguarding Corner



New Technology

With Christmas nearly here and with some children receiving new technology or related games, here is a quick reminder of the importance of setting up appropriate parental controls.

Games/Consoles

- Check age ratings: look at the PEGI rating of any new games.
- Remember, PEGI rates the gameplay so whilst it is important to review age ratings, you must also check to see if it has any communication elements.
- If a game does allow your child to communicate with others, then adjust or disable the settings as appropriate to your child.
- On the device itself, set up applicable controls such as restricting spending limits and managing who they can communicate with. Follow the links below to find out how to set up Parental Controls for some devices here:

Xbox: <https://www.xbox.com/en-GB/family-hub>

PS5: <https://www.playstation.com/en-gb/support/account/ps5-parentalcontrols-spending-limits/>

Nintendo Switch: <https://www.nintendo.co.uk/Hardware/NintendoSwitch-Parental-Controls/Nintendo-Switch-Parental-Controls-1183145.html>

Set up parental controls on the device to prevent purchases, restrict content viewed and adjust privacy settings. Furthermore, remember to check any apps your child requests to check that they are suitable for their age. Follow the links below to find out more:

iPhones/iPad: <https://support.apple.com/en-gb/105121>

Android Device: <https://support.google.com/googleplay/answer/1075738>

Why is it important?

Parental controls are important to help provide a safer experience for your child by reducing/preventing access to inappropriate content, cyberbullying, communication with strangers and restricting purchases.

You can find out more about parental controls here: <https://www.childnet.com/help-and-advice/parental-controls/>

The NSPCC have published six tips to help you improve your family's online wellbeing. They also provide you with a guide on how to talk to your child about what they are doing online as well as a quiz that you can play together. **You can find out more here:** <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keepingchildren-safe/online-safety/onlinewellbeing/positively-online>



During this last week, Hampshire Police came to Year 6 to visit the class and teach the children about how to keep themselves safe whilst on the internet and also how to ensure that the children are using the internet responsibly. The children were very engaged and asked lots of questions.

After this, the police let the Year 6 students have a look inside their police car and even demonstrated the sirens for them. They then answered even more questions, including 'how many people have you arrested'!



Wow! St Patrick's PTA would just like to extend our gratitude for all of you during this lovely festive period. We've had Wreath Making Workshop, Advent Performances, Liturgy Performances and our Children's Christmas Workshop plus the Christmas Dinner and Christmas Jumper day. It has been incredible.

A big thank you to JC from Young Engineers, for his sponsorship contribution towards our Children's Christmas Workshop this year, boosting profits and putting so much into our community, both financially but also through Christmas Cheer.

We hope you all have the most wonderful Christmas, and a fabulous New Year, and we look forward to seeing you in 2025

St Patrick's PTA



The School Council visited Knellwood Care Home to deliver Christmas Stockings, this week.

Thank you so much for your generous donations and to Mrs Kendall for organising this. We were able to make up 51 stockings in total!

We really enjoy having a close partnership with Knellwood and look forward to seeing the residents again during the Spring Term when we will host them at school.



Attendance Corner

| Year Group | Attendance % | Days missed in the class |
|------------|--------------|--------------------------|
| Year R | 92.47% | 151 days |
| Year 1 | 96.6% | 73.5 days |
| Year 2 | 97.11% | 57 days |
| Year 3 | 96.4% | 85.5 days |
| Year 4 | 94.49% | 129 days |
| Year 5 | 96.9% | 71.5 days |
| Year 6 | 96.9% | 65 days |



Back to School reminders

Uniform – When we return in January, we will have to be firm about uniform. Please may you make sure there are no shorts, Y3 and up should be in a shirt (not polo shirt), no leggings or boots and school shoes should be black without white soles.

Epiphany Mass – Mass will be held in school this year on the 7th of January and parents are more than welcome to join us.

Book Looks – KS1 on the 13th of January, KS2 on the 14th

Mass Times – Our Lady Help of Christians

Tuesday 24th December | CHRISTMAS EVE

- Children's Vigil Family Mass of Christmas 4pm
- Carols from 11.45pm
- Mass of the Nativity of the Lord 12 midnight

Wednesday 25th December | CHRISTMAS DAY

- Mass 9am, Mass 10.30am (Family)





ST PATRICK'S PTA

ONE BIG THANK YOU

CHILDREN'S
WORKSHOP
£664.16

ADVENT
PERFORMANCE
RAFFLES
£548.01

A huge THANK YOU to all the teachers, parents and St Patrick's community for all the fundraising support in 2024. All the PTA festive activities raised a grand total of...

TOTAL RAISED

£1,541.37

This all helps us fund the pantomime, Christmas dinner and Christmas tree.

WREATH
SALES
£50

WREATH
WORKSHOP
£279.20

MERRY CHRISTMAS & A HAPPY NEW YEAR

The Christmas Holidays are upon us, and on Farnham Rocks we're packed with ideas of things to do with the family over the break. Head to our website collections to get inspired!

➡ [Christmas Holiday Events](#)

➡ [Holiday Clubs](#)

➡ [Fresh air](#)

www.farnhamrocks.co.uk



Check out some of these quick links to family festive fun to add some extra cheer to your diary!

➡ [Elf Hunt](#)

➡ [Snow White Panto](#)

➡ [Steam Illuminations](#)

www.farnhamrocks.co.uk

When you have your Christmas dinner why not say this prayer together as a family:

Bless the food before us
The family beside us
And the love between us
Amen.

