



St Patrick's Catholic Primary School

School Newsletter - September 2026

Learn from Jesus,
Love like Jesus,
Live like Jesus



"Let all that you do be done in love." – 1 Corinthians 16:14

Dear Parents, Carers, and Families,

A very warm welcome back to all our children, families, and staff as we begin the new school year. I hope you had a restful, joyful summer and enjoyed precious time together as families.

We are delighted to welcome our new Reception children and families joining our school community for the first time, as well as any new pupils throughout the school. We look forward to watching your children grow in faith, friendship, and learning over the months ahead. I would also like to extend a warm welcome to Miss Li, who will be teaching Yr2, Mr Sullivan our caretaker, and Mrs Dorgan, Miss Canarn, Mrs Jordan and Mrs Medland who join our support staff team. We are sadly saying goodbye to Miss Brennand and wish her all the very best in her new career path.

As a Catholic school, we continue to place Christ at the centre of all we do. Our mission remains to celebrate the uniqueness of each individual, whether that's children or adults with Christ as our guide and example. Each day, we strive to fulfil our mission, using our times of prayer and liturgy plus our RE lessons to get to know the person of Jesus so that in all we do and say we to *Learn from Jesus, Love like Jesus and Live like Jesus.*

There is much to look forward to this term, including the Year 6 residential and a couple of chances for you to meet your child's class teacher. Please keep an eye on newsletters, our website, and Arbor for all upcoming dates and updates.

Let us pray for a successful and blessed school year ahead, full of kindness, perseverance and hope.

With every blessing,

Miss U Clark
Acting Headteacher

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY!

Tuesday 8th September

Start of term Mass at 10.30am at school. All parents welcome

Friday 25th September

Macmillian Coffee morning.
Details to be confirmed

Thursday 1st October- 2:00pm

Year R Welcome Liturgy
** Change of date**

Friday 2nd October

CAFOD Family Fast day

Monday 5th-Friday 9th October

Year 6 residential to Isle of Wight

Tuesday 13th October

3.40-7pm Parents Evening (online)

Thursday 15th October

3.40-7pm Parents Evening (online)

Wednesday 21st October

Open morning for prospective
parents at 9.30am

Monday 26th October – Friday 30th October

Half-term (school closed)



Congratulations Mrs Tong

We are delighted to share that Mrs Tong welcomed a baby boy towards the end of the Summer term. Both Mrs Tong and her family are doing well and send their best wishes to all our families.

PERSONAL MESSAGE FROM MISS CLARK

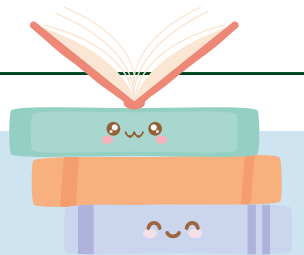
Whilst Mrs Tong concentrates on her growing family, I will be working alongside Mrs Cole and the staff team as the Acting headteacher. Some of you may remember me as St Patricks was the first school I taught at from 1988 to 1994 and I grew up and with my family attended Our Lady, Help of Christians. I know we have children here whose parents and even grandparents I taught. Please do seek me out and say hello!

Since I left St Patricks, I have continued working in Catholic schools in the Diocese, first in Southampton and then as Headteacher of St Swithun Wells in Chandlers Ford and Corpus Christi in Portsmouth. After 40 years of doing the job, I love and knowing it is what God has called me to do, I had decided to retire! However, when I was asked to support St Patricks, I was delighted to accept as it feels like I'm completing the circle.

I will be in school on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays most weeks and look forward to meeting you all. Mrs Cole will continue her role as Headteacher on Mondays and Fridays and we will be working together closely to ensure the smooth and effective running of the school. If you need to speak with either of us, please catch us for a quick word before or after school or ask at the office for an appointment. In most cases we would hope that parents/carers have spoken to teachers before coming to us.

Thank you for the warmth of your welcome and may we all have a wonderful and blessed year.

Miss Clark



CURRICULUM PRESENTATIONS

Meet the Teacher YR-Y6, Wednesday 16th September at 3.30pm and 4.15pm

Each class teacher will present key information about their year group, curriculum and assessments. This is also an opportunity to see your child's classroom. Each teacher will present this information twice so you can choose which meeting to attend. If you need an individual meeting with a class teacher before the October Parent Evenings, please make an appointment via the school office.

START AND END OF THE SCHOOL DAY

The front and back gates open at 8:40am for 10 minutes to allow you to drop off. Please do not leave your child unattended before 8:40am as they are still your responsibility. Children need to be at their classroom door by 8:50am. We would ask for your help in encouraging your child to come into school independently and take responsibility for their own belongings. If you need to enter the school in the morning, please do so via the front entrance only, before or after you have taken your child to the appropriate playground door.

Lateness - Any child arriving after 8:50am needs to come to the school office with their parent/guardian to be signed in. It is extremely important that the children arrive on time, ensuring that they do not miss a vital part of the school day. We are required to monitor attendance and report regular lateness.

Children should be collected at 3.20pm unless they are attending an after-school club. Any children not collected by 3.30pm will be sent to Shamrocks and parents will be charged.



SHAMROCKS BREAKFAST AND AFTER SCHOOL CLUB

Breakfast Club - It runs from 8:00am in the Shamrocks room at the front of the school. This is a drop-in service so there is no need to book. However, booking can be done on Arbor and the amount due will also be on Arbor for you to pay. The cost per session is £3.65.

After School Club - This operates daily from 3:20 to 6:00pm. Spaces are available and booking forms are available on our website or the school office. The costs per session are as follows; Full Session (3:20 to 6:00pm) - £13.50 / Early Session (3:20 to 4:30pm) - £6.25 / Late Session (4:30 to 6:00pm) - £8.00.



MEDICATION

If your child needs medication during the school day, a parent needs to bring it to the school office in the morning and complete a permission form. All medication must be in its original packaging and, if prescribed, have the label clearly visible.

SCHOOL SECURITY

If you need to come into school, please report to the school office via the front door only. This is for the safety of the children and staff.

Walking Home/Collection - If you have arranged for your child at the end of school to meet you in a place other than the playground with their teacher, for example by the back gate, please make sure this arrangement is put in writing and sent via email to enquiries@st-patricks.hants.sch.uk and we will let the class teacher know this arrangement or when it changes. This applies also if your child has your permission to walk or cycle home alone at the end of the day, please make sure this is put in writing.

Car Parking - Children are not allowed in the car park unless accompanied by an adult. Please always use the pedestrian entrance and pathways as there is constant traffic in and out of school and it does present a real hazard. Parents are not allowed to park in or walk across the car park. Please do not abuse this request - it could be your child who is knocked over! In special circumstances only, car park permits may be issued at the discretion of the Headteacher.

When parking on the street please park safely, legally and with consideration for our neighbours. If you hold a blue badge and are unable to walk from the road, please contact the school office and we will make arrangements for you to park in the school car park when required.

PE KITS

Please check the website to make sure that your child has the **correct** PE kit.

Children need to **wear** their kits on the following days:

- Year 1 and 2 - Wednesday
- Year 3, 4, 5 & 6 - Thursday



White School PE Top



Green PE Shorts

Children need to bring their kits to school with them on the following days:

Year 1 - Monday

Year 2- Tuesday

Year 3 - Friday

Year 4, 5 & 6 - Friday

UNIFORM

Please ensure that your child comes to school in the correct uniform and that all items are clearly labelled with your child's name. Please check our website for up-to-date uniform and PE kit information. Please note that your child must have the correct PE kit, as specified on the school website. **Branded T-shirts, shorts and jumpers are not suitable, and items in colours other than those specified on the website should not be worn.**

INFANT UNIFORM



School Cardigan or V Necked Jumper with Logo

White Shirt and Tie or Polo Shirt

Green Pinafore Dress or Skirt

Grey Trousers with Dark Socks

Plus the following:

- Green or Grey Tights (*Winter*)
- White Knee or Ankle Socks (*no trainer socks*)
- Green/Gold Hair Accessories
- Sensible Black Shoes (*no boots or trainers and no open toes shoes in summer*)

Summer Uniform (*From after Easter until October*)

- Green and White Gingham Dress
- Grey Shorts with Dark Socks



White School PE Top



Green PE Shorts

PE KIT

- Trainers - Outdoor Use
- Plimsolls - Indoor Use
- A Drawstring Bag for PE Kit
- Dark Tracksuit to Wear Outside

OTHER ITEMS

- Reversible Jacket
- Infant Back Pack
- Baseball Cap or Legionnaires Hat
- Drinks Bottle

JUNIORS UNIFORM



School Cardigan or V Necked Jumper with Logo

White Shirt and Tie or Polo Shirt (Summer Uniform)

Green Pinafore Dress or Skirt

Grey Trousers with Dark Socks

Plus the following:

- Green or Grey Tights (*Winter*)
- White Knee or Ankle Socks (*no trainer socks*)
- Green/Gold Hair Accessories
- Sensible Black Shoes (*no boots or trainers and no open toes shoes in summer*)

Summer Uniform (*From after Easter until October*)

- Green and White Gingham Dress
- Grey Shorts with Dark Socks



White School PE Top



Green PE Shorts

PE KIT

- Trainers - Outdoor Use
- Plimsolls - Indoor Use
- A Drawstring Bag for PE Kit
- Dark Tracksuit to Wear Outside

OTHER ITEMS

- Junior Back Pack
- Baseball Cap
- Drinks Bottle

HAIR

Please ensure haircuts are suitable for school e.g. not elaborate hair styles or short shaved/with a design and the over use of hair gel is not allowed. Please ensure that long hair is tied back and any hair bands are of the soft variety in school colours.

JEWELLERY

For health and safety reasons, jewellery should not be worn in school. The exceptions are watches and small, plain stud earrings. No decorative earrings are to be worn. All earrings and watches must be removed for PE and games by the child or taped over before coming to school. Staff are not permitted to remove earrings. It is wise to encourage your child to get into the habit of not wearing watches or earrings on PE days.

MOBILE PHONES AND SMART WATCHES

Phones are only allowed in school if your child is walking/cycling home alone, they must be switched off and handed in to the school office by your child in the morning. Please make sure this arrangement is put in writing. Smart Watches are not allowed in school.

ABSENCES

All absences must be reported to the school on each day of illness by 8:50am. To report an absence please either phone the school on 01252 542511 and choose option 1 or email enquiries@st-patricks.hants.sch.uk, with the following information: child's name, year group and reason for their absence.

HOLIDAY OR PLANNED ABSENCE

A 'Request to Authorise Absence from School due to Exceptional Circumstances' form is to be completed to request absence from school for circumstances such as funerals, visa or scholarship appointments or family holidays. Copies of this form are available from the school office and on our website.

Please ensure the form is completed and returned to the school office at least 4 to 6 weeks prior to the first date of absence. We understand in the case of a change of circumstance or an emergency, this may not be possible. Please note - Schools are only able to authorise absence from school in exceptional circumstances. In making a request for an authorised absence from school you will need to explain why the circumstances are exceptional.

MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS

For any medical appointments please notify the school either via email enquiries@st-patricks.hants.sch.uk or by informing the school office. A copy of the appointment paperwork is to be shown or attached to emails.



FIRST HOLY COMMUNION - OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS

Our Lady Help of Christians Parish programme preparing children to make their First Holy Communion in June 2027 is starting later this year. Parents who would like their child to participate in the programme are invited to complete the Application as soon as possible. The Form is available on their Parish Website.

Families of Faith

September

Prayer Corner



This week we are thinking about new beginnings. New school year, new classes, teachers and friends.

Dear Jesus,

Help us to make the most of the new start that each September brings. May we use the gifts and talents you have given us to the full. Help us to become the best version of the person you created us to be.

Amen

Saints to Inspire

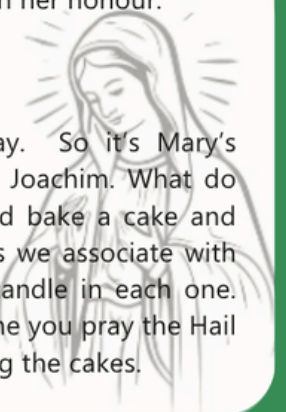


September 5th – St. Teresa of Calcutta (Mother Teresa)

She is known for her lifelong service to the poor and homeless in Calcutta, India. Try and do small acts of kindness in her honour.

September 8th - Nativity of Our Lady

"Nativity" is like a fancy way of saying birthday. So it's Mary's birthday. Mary's parents were St. Anne and St. Joachim. What do you usually do for a birthday? Perhaps you could bake a cake and decorate it with white and blue icing, the colours we associate with Mary. You could bake 10 cup cakes and put a candle in each one. Pray a decade of the rosary, light a candle each time you pray the Hail Mary. End by singing 'happy birthday' and enjoying the cakes.



Good News from the Gospel



6th September - Matthew 18:15-20 Jesus reminds us that where two or three are gathered in His name, he is there with us. Try to start and end each day remembering that Jesus is with you in your home.

13th September - Matthew 18:21-35 Jesus is always ready to forgive us. This week let us try and say sorry for the things we do wrong and to forgive those who hurt us.

20th September – Matthew 20:1-16 Jesus tells a story about some workers who all receive the same wages, even though some worked all day and some just worked for an hour. Let us try and be generous and not think 'it's not fair' if we think someone is getting more than us.

27th September – Matthew 21:28-32 Two sons are asked to help their father but respond differently. We consider how we listen to what God is asking us to do and answer that call. This week let's try and look who needs our help and give it without being asked.

Family Faith in Action

This month as we think of new beginnings why don't you think of something that you are going to try and do better as a family:

- Saying please and thank you
- Saying family prayers
- Thinking of a way you can make a difference to the community you live in. (litter picking, gardening, smiling at people, giving clothes and toys to the charity shop)



National Fitness Day - 16th September

Why not go for a walk, cycle or swim as a family to take care of our bodies that God has created.

