



St Patricks Updates

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to a new school term! Although we have had a very wintry start to the week, it has been lovely to see you all again and I've enjoyed seeing the many smiles at the return to school. On behalf of myself and all the staff, thank you for the gifts, cards and good wishes shared with us at Christmas.

This week, we have celebrated the feast of the Epiphany with Mass in school: thank you to Fr Michael for celebrating it. This feast reminds us that Jesus is the light of the world and we are called, like the Wise Men, to follow the star that leads us to him.

In this newsletter, you will find more notices and reminders rather than any celebration of the children's work. We felt that these messages may have got lost if they had been included in the newsletter before Christmas so, please read it carefully to make sure you know what is going on.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Tong

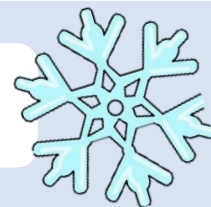
Parent Communication



During the Autumn term, we sent out our parent communication procedure again. We welcome communication with all parents and carers. We will also act to ensure that our school remains a safe place for pupils, staff and all other members of our community.

No meeting, held either in person or remotely (via an online meeting platform or on the telephone) may be electronically recorded without the express permission of all parties. Should you need a meeting to be recorded for accessibility purposes, please discuss this ahead of the meeting.

Winter Uniform



All children should be coming to school in their winter uniform. Winter uniform comes into effect from the October half-term up until the beginning of the summer term, after Easter.

The winter uniform consists of long trousers or a pinafore dress/skirt. KS2 must now be wearing a shirt AND tie, whereas KS1 have the option to wear a shirt AND tie or a polo shirt WITHOUT a tie.

Everyone must be wearing black school shoes. Trainers are not allowed, except for in the case of exceptional circumstances, such as an injury.

For PE, children must be wearing plain, dark coloured tracksuits. Please refrain from obvious branding and bright colours.



INFANTS UNIFORM

This can be found bigger on our website under Parents → Uniform.



JUNIOR UNIFORM

PSHE

This term, the children will continue their PSHE learning through our Catholic 'Life to the Full' scheme. Over the course of the Spring term, all children will cover the topics of: emotional well-being, life cycles and personal relationships. Throughout these lessons, the children will explore their own feelings, as well as their own and explore different types of relationships. In addition to the online safety work which is delivered through our Computing curriculum, Key Stage One and Lower Key Stage Two also explore the NSPCC resources for life online.

**Our Catholic schools
need you!**



Are you a Catholic currently teaching in a non-Catholic school? Have you considered applying for a post in one of our schools but are unsure how they are different and whether your application would be welcomed? Find out the answers to these questions and any others you may have about working in a Catholic school by attending our online webinar, 'Come to work in our Catholic schools' being held at 7.00 p.m. on Tuesday 13 January 2026. The webinar will last approximately one hour. Please register your interest in attending by clicking on the link below.

Registration Link: <https://staging.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/caso/events-booking/>

What is ELSA?



Mrs Kendall is our school ELSA. A school ELSA (Emotional Literacy Support Assistant) is a trained teaching assistant who helps children with their social and emotional needs. An ELSA will teach children to understand and manage feelings such as anger, anxiety or sadness, as well as developing the skills needed for friendships, self-esteem and dealing with big emotions.

ELSAs provide a safe space and tools to empower children to build their own emotional resilience.

If you are worried about your child's emotional wellbeing, in the first instance you need to speak to your child's class teacher. If an ELSA intervention is required, the class teacher will be able to make an ELSA referral.

Road Safety

DRIVE
SAFELY

Sadly, we have, once again, had some complaints from our neighbours about driving on Avenue Road at drop off and collection time. Please can we remind you to be considerate of each other when driving and parking. For the safety of pedestrians, if your child is riding a scooter on the pavement, please make sure that they are going at an appropriate speed, remembering that some of the children who attend Pandas are as young as 2!

1st Farnborough Brownies

One of the oldest units in the UK - est: 1916!

Come & Join Us On:



Friday (Term Time)



We Meet in North Camp

Lots of badges, lots of games, Lots of fun, picnic&outings!

★ Is your daughter approaching 7?

★ Or: Is she a Rainbow?

★ Or: Is your daughter between 7-10years old?

Please contact:

Farnborough1stbrownies@outlook.com



The local Brownies unit in North Camp return next Friday and currently have a few spaces available for new girls aged 7–10. Brownies is a fantastic opportunity for children to build confidence, make friends, try new activities, and have lots of fun.

Families of Faith

January



Prayer Corner



Dear Jesus, Mary, and Joseph, thank you for loving each other. Help us to love like you do, to be kind, and to help each other. Make our home a place of peace and joy. Amen

January can feel a cold and grey month with the excitement of Christmas behind us. Imagine how Mary and Joseph felt as they got to know the baby Jesus. In your prayer area this month collect things that remind you of being a family.

Family Faith in Action 😊

Spread a smile to others when you go for walks together. Say hello to another family at Church or on the playground - thinking about the Holy Family being in a strange land not knowing people.

Saints to Inspire

31 January - St John Bosco

St John Bosco is the patron saint of children. His father died when he was two years old and his mother brought him and his brothers up in poverty but with a strong faith. He became a priest and devoted his life to helping the poor and young people. He taught them, cared for them, and gave him opportunities. He had a fun side. As a boy he learned magic tricks and used this to help him teach children about the faith.

How can you be like John Bosco? Learn a magic trick this month and perform it to others - telling them about St John Bosco. Save pennies to give to a youth charity. At your family meals celebrate the children's strengths, talents and potential with them.

Good News from the Gospel



We have come from the East to worship the King (Mt 2:1-12)

January is the month of change for the Holy family. They welcome visitors from afar who have followed a star for many months to see the new baby. They then had to travel to a strange land themselves. Their faith in God meant that they knew they had to live with strangers until such a time that Jesus could be safe. During this time they were giving their best offering to God. What can you do this month to show your best offering to God? Think about people who are living away from home in your prayers.



National Hot Chocolate Day 31st January

Go for a walk and share hot chocolate with someone who would appreciate your friendship

