



# St Patrick's Catholic Primary School Newsletter

Friday 19th April 2024

[www.stpatricks.camden.sch.uk](http://www.stpatricks.camden.sch.uk)

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Go shine  
in the world



Dear parents and carers,

Welcome back to the summer term. We hope you are all enjoying the lovely change in weather.

Please look carefully at the 'Important Dates for your Diary' on the back of the newsletter - there is also a Bank Holiday coming soon, Monday 6th May, when school will be closed.

With best wishes, Mrs. O'Reilly (Head of School) and Ms. Richardson (Executive Headteacher)

## Top tips for supporting your child with maths at home:

Find time to practice recall of key maths facts such as:

- Counting
- Number bonds
- Times tables



There are nine cars in the group



*Lots of repetition will help your child to memorise these facts and be able to recall them off by heart! This will help them with their speed and accuracy in other areas of maths too.*

Use games or songs to make this learning fun and engaging:

- Counting songs like 'One, two buckle my shoe'.
- Number Bonds Bingo to 10 - each player chooses 5 numbers between 0 and 10. Take turns to ask each other questions: 7 plus what = 10? First to cross off all numbers wins.
- Play with cards - take 2 cards and add the numbers together, the player with the highest number wins. Try it with subtraction, multiplication, and division too!

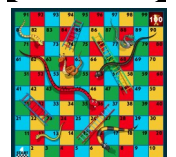


Encourage your child to log on to Numbots or Times Tables Rockstars every day

## Create opportunities to practice maths every day...

You will be doing a lot of maths at home within which you can involve your child. Talk to them about the maths you do everyday and involve them in practical real life situations:

- Look at shapes around us and describe them;
  - ◇ count how many circles or squares you see on your way to school.
  - ◇ Ask them to find a rectangle which is bigger than the one they have just spotted.
- In the kitchen: counting out ingredients, finding an item which is lighter/heavier or about the same weight as a bag of pasta.
- Shopping: counting out; discussing weights, finding a specific coin to hand to the shopkeeper.
- Board games, such as Snakes and Ladders or card games involve counting and number recognition, direction, following a sequence, pairs...



I have received and read the St Patrick's Primary School newsletter of 19.04.2024

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Name of child \_\_\_\_\_ Class \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE RETURN THIS SLIP TO THE SCHOOL OFFICE AND YOUR CHILD MIGHT WIN A PRIZE :)

## Important dates for your diary...



**Week beginning Monday 22nd April -**

After School Enrichment Clubs start this week

**Friday 26th April - Non Uniform Day**

**Monday 6th May - May Day Bank Holiday - School Closed**

**Thursday 9th May @ 3.45pm - School Journey (PGL) meeting for Y6 parents**

**Week beginning Monday 13th May - KS2 (Y6) SATs week**

**Friday 24th May - Non Uniform Day**

**Friday 24th May @ 3.30 - children break up for half term.**

**Monday 3rd June - children return to school**

**Week beginning Monday 3rd June - Whole School Project week - Looking After Our World**

**Monday 10th to Wednesday 12th June - Y6 children at PGL (school journey)**

**Wednesday 26th June - AM - KS2 Sports Day**

**Wednesday 26th June - PM - KS1 Sports Day**

**Friday 28th June - Non Uniform Day**

**Friday 5th July - Academic review Day parents and children meet their class teacher and receive their end of year school report**

**Friday 5th July - 6-8pm - St Patrick's Family BBQ**

**Week beginning Monday 8th July - last week of After School Enrichment Clubs**

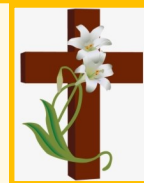
**Tuesday 9th July - PM - St Patrick's Music Concert**

## Our Prayer

**Fourth Sunday of Easter**

Jesus,  
you are the Good Shepherd  
and we are your flock.  
Help us to know your voice  
and always follow you.

**Amen**



## Attendance...

For children to learn well and make good progress, it is vital that they attend school every day.

Congratulations to **Year 4** for having the **BEST ATTENDANCE** this week - **100%**

Congratulations to **Year 3** for having the **SECOND BEST ATTENDANCE** this week - **99%**

**Please make sure your child is in school every single day this term.**

The winner of the Friday newsletter slip prize this week is **Isabella** in **Year 5**.



**Isabella** has won a £5 gift voucher to spend at Amazon.



## Work of the week...

Every week a great piece of children's work is showcased in the school lobby (next to the office).



This week, **Year 2** have been reading 'Man on the Moon' by Simon Bartram.

The children planned and designed a 'Wanted Poster', using persuasive language, to encourage the visitors to the moon to help Bob (the astronaut) find the aliens.

**Jules** designed a fantastic poster, which included 2A (adjectives) sentences to describe the aliens and emotive language to help persuade the search party to look for the aliens.

**Well done, Jules!**



## Person of the Week!

EYFS - Isla

Year 1 - Giovanni

Year 2 - Luel

Year 3 - Jack

Year 4 - Emmanuel

Year 5 - Ruby

Year 6 - Kimora



## Don't let a little worry turn into a big one...

If you or your child are worried about something or have any questions, please phone the school office and book an appointment to see their class teacher, Ms Fearon or Mrs O'Reilly.

**We are always really pleased to meet with you and chat things through.**



## Reading for Pleasure!

### Why is Reading for Pleasure Important?

#### Cognitive Development:

Reading fosters cognitive development by exposing children to a variety of words, concepts, and ideas. It enhances their vocabulary, comprehension, and critical thinking skills.

#### Language Skills:

Reading helps improve language skills, including listening, speaking, and eventually, writing. Exposure to diverse language patterns through books supports language development.

#### Imagination and Creativity:

Reading stimulates imagination and creativity. It exposes children to different worlds, characters, and scenarios, encouraging them to think creatively and envision new possibilities.

#### Cultural Awareness:

Books often reflect diverse cultures, traditions, and perspectives. Reading for pleasure introduces children to a range of experiences, fostering cultural awareness and empathy towards others.

#### Emotional Development:

Stories often explore emotions and relationships, helping children understand and navigate their own feelings. This emotional engagement promotes empathy and social-emotional development.

#### Academic Success:

Children who read for pleasure tend to perform better academically. They develop stronger literacy skills, which are fundamental for success in various subjects across the curriculum.

#### Positive Attitudes toward Learning:

Reading for pleasure instills a positive attitude toward learning. Children who find joy in reading are more likely to approach other learning activities with enthusiasm and curiosity.

#### Bonding and Social Skills:

Reading together with parents or caregivers can be a bonding experience. It provides an opportunity for shared activities, conversations, and the development of social skills.

#### Establishing Lifelong Habits:

Encouraging reading for pleasure at a young age establishes a habit that can continue into adulthood. Children who develop a love for reading are more likely to become lifelong learners.

#### Critical Thinking Skills:

Reading exposes children to various perspectives and encourages them to think critically about the content. They learn to question, analyse, and form their own opinions.

Reading for pleasure is not just about acquiring literacy skills; it is about nurturing a love for learning, fostering creativity, and supporting overall development in young children. At Blessed Sacrament we encourage all our children to develop a real love for reading!

## **St Patrick's Catholic Primary School Parent Questionnaire February 2024**

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you for all of your helpful comments. Your views and those of your children are very important to us. They help us move the school forward and are an effective way of checking that we are getting things right. School leaders take them into account when we are planning for the future of our school. We were very pleased with the huge number of positive comments about St Patrick's. Positive comments really help staff to keep motivated and to keep doing their best for your children.

Parents told us that communicating about their children's progress, safety and wellbeing is very good and that it is 'easy to get in touch' with school leaders. Also, parents are kept up to date about school life and events in general, particularly through the weekly newsletters. The school also sends emails and text messages, and the Head of School greets the parents and children every morning.

Parents said that the school is very well organised and well led. Everything runs smoothly and on time and they are happy with how the school performs. Also, that everyone is very welcoming, especially the adults in the office, who are supportive.

Parents also told us that there are good Catholic links and activities, including the weekly visits to church. This provides a strong Christian/spiritual upbringing and supports parent inclusion and participation.

Parents said that they feel their concerns are listened to and dealt with quickly, including behaviour issues. Problems are solved and appropriate support is provided. They said that the school supports the children really well in their learning and helps them to improve and make progress. The school provides the additional help needed to support children and keeps parents informed about this.

Parents told us that their children are taught well in all aspects of their learning. The school has a 'fun' way of teaching the children curriculum subjects and making the overall school day fun. This includes the weekly homework that the children are given, and the additional lessons (Y6 boosters) that are organised.

Parents said that the teachers have really helped the children with confidence, encouraging them to speak in class and know it is ok to be wrong. They know their child always has someone to talk to if they are upset, and support staff go above and beyond to support individual children and classes.

In terms of what we might do to make the school even better; a few parents think that there should be even more homework and a homework club. We will look at a homework club for the next academic year. We also make sure that alongside providing homework, children have enough time to spend quality time with their families.

Some parents commented that they would have liked the after school childcare to remain on site. PACE Camden Square now provide provision until 6pm and we

have a daily walking bus to get the children there. By moving the after school childcare to PACE, we can also offer more subsidised after school enrichment clubs from the summer term. Support staff will also be available after school to meet with teachers and plan learning for children.

A few parents commented on the school dinners, saying that they would like more selection available. There is always a meat and vegetarian option available every day. The menu works on a three-week rota. We have a new meeting every term.

Some parents said they would like even more fair events and musical assemblies. In the summer term we have the Family Summer BBQ, music concert and the Year 6 performance to look forward to. Our choir also regularly sing at concerts which parents are invited to, for example at the Camden Choir festival, the Royal Albert Hall and Young Voices at the O2.

Another suggestion was more playground equipment and board games for breaktime. The children can play board games in the indoor club and Coach Smokie will be ordering even more equipment for playtimes for the summer term.

One parent said they would like to be informed weekly/monthly about what children are learning at school. We send a termly curriculum overview to share this information with parents. There is always a copy of this on the website for you to refer to. We also ensure that children's Friday homework always follows what the children have been learning in class.

Thank-you for your suggestions for Parent Coffee Mornings, they will help us to plan for the future. These sessions are ongoing every week at our partner school, Our Lady's.

Many of you commented that you couldn't think of anything that might improve the school! That is great to hear, but we don't pretend to be perfect so if there are things that you think we could do to improve, do pop in to meet us and let us know.

Mrs O'Reilly and Ms Fearon

1. My child enjoys coming to school.	Mostly yes 94%	Mostly no 6%	Don't know
2. My child feels safe at school	Mostly yes 98%	Mostly no 2%	Don't know
3. My child is making good progress	Mostly yes 92%	Mostly no 7%	Don't know 1%
4. Most children behave well at St Patrick's	Mostly yes 93%	Mostly no 3%	Don't know 3%
5. I am kept informed about how my child is getting on	Mostly yes 100%	Mostly no	Don't know
6. I feel comfortable about approaching the school with a question or a problem	Mostly yes 100%	Mostly no	Don't know
7. Staff expect my child to work hard and do his/her best	Mostly yes 100%	Mostly no	Don't know
8.. Staff treat my child fairly	Mostly yes 97%	Mostly no 3%	Don't know

9. The school is led and managed well	Mostly yes 93%	Mostly no 7%	Don't know
10. The school provides appropriate homework	Mostly yes 93%	Mostly no 5%	Don't know 2%
<b>Religious Education</b>			
1. The school keeps me informed of what is taught in Religious Education lessons	Mostly yes 90%	Mostly no 5%	Don't know 4%
2. My child is making good progress in Religious Education	Mostly yes 93%	Mostly no 3%	Don't know 3%
3. My child enjoys learning in Religious Education lessons	Mostly yes 93%	Mostly no 2%	Don't know 5%
4. I understand the school's Catholic Mission and I am supportive of it	Mostly yes 93%	Mostly no 3%	Don't know 3%
5. The school provides clear moral teaching	Mostly yes 93%	Mostly no 3%	Don't know 3%
6. The school provides opportunities for spiritual growth and development (for example through daily prayer or Christian Meditation)	Mostly yes 93%	Mostly no 2%	Don't know 5%
7. These are sacramental celebrations of Mass and Reconciliation	Mostly yes 92%	Mostly no 3%	Don't know 5%
8. There are opportunities for my child to serve others and support those in need	Mostly yes 95%	Mostly no 3%	Don't know 2%
9. The school actively promotes strong partnership with parents	Mostly yes 95%	Mostly no 5%	Don't know
10. There are strong links between the school and our local parish	Mostly yes 95%	Mostly no	Don't know 5%