



Recognising and celebrating the presence of Christ in one another.

Newsletter No. 23: Friday 6th March 2026

Weekly News

Dear Parents,

In this week's Gospel, we hear the story of the Transfiguration. Jesus goes to the top of a mountain with Peter, James and John. When he gets there his appearance changes - his face and clothes shine with light. A voice comes from a cloud, saying, "This is my Son, the Beloved. Listen to him." The voice is God. We have been thinking about how we can take time to hear God's voice when we stop and pray.

Y3 have had a wonderful week. Well done to all children for their reverence and participation in our Mass of Commitment on Sunday. They are preparing so well for their Sacraments of Reconciliation and First Holy Communion which take place soon. Thank you all parents who attended our workshop today. We hope that this was a lovely opportunity to find out more about what the children will be learning in school and how to support at home.

Well done, Reception, who performed their first class showcase this week! They were wonderful in their speaking in front of an audience and their singing was beautiful. We were wowed by their knowledge of number bonds and they shared with us the importance of being kind, helpful and sharing! We know that they are looking forward to learning all about space! Thank you to everyone who came to watch.

Please see attached a presentation from the Mini Vinnies outlining their plans for Lenten fundraising and initiatives. They shared this in assembly on Monday and the children are excited to get started gathering sponsors for the Pipeline Challenge! Please support them with this. Thank you, also, to EYFS and Y1 and Y2 for supporting the first of our 'Giving Fridays.' Please see the letter attached for more information from the Mini Vinnies.

Finally, well done to all of the children and staff who made a huge effort for World Book Day! We had a fantastic day yesterday, celebrating and promoting the joy of reading and the children have been thinking about their favourite books. We had a wide range of characters - from Harry Potter, Where's Wally, detectives, superheroes and many more, including a range of non-fiction characters based on our class texts and wider learning projects. This was lovely to see. Please find a link to a digital book token. This can be used in many stores before 15th March.

<https://www.worldbookday.com/books-and-tokens/book-token/digital-tokens/>

Have a lovely weekend.
Kindest regards, Mrs Hill

**Personal Development:
Learning Behaviour**

As we have shared with you, this academic year, we have started a whole school focus on learning behaviour. We have introduced: independence, collaboration and pride.

This half term, our key driver word is: **CHALLENGE!**

We have shared a story about an eagle and their incredible mountain challenge! Through this, we are teaching the children how to be resilient and ambitious in facing challenges and allowing ourselves out of our comfort zone to further our learning. We are teaching the following objectives:

- Motivation to do well
- Challenging ourselves to do more than expected
- Showing a limitless attitude - wanting to do more
- Being competitive with ourselves - striving to be better each day
- Working hard and always being focussed

Please speak to your child about this new initiative and support us in using the common language. Our school website also has more information under the 'Learning Behaviours' tab. Perhaps you could share the story at home!





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Notices

- Holy Week Assemblies: Different year groups will be leading assemblies to talk us through the events of Holy Week. These will take place on the following dates. Parents are welcome to attend. They all start at 9:10am.
- [Palm Sunday Prayer Service led by Y2 Monday 23rd March](#)
- [Last Supper Prayer Service led by Y3 and Y4 Tuesday 24th March](#)
- [Agony in the Garden Prayer Service led by Y6 Wednesday 25th March](#)
- [Stations of the Cross Prayer Service led by Y5 Thursday 26th March](#)
- We are saddened to inform you that Mrs Teal will be leaving our school office on 20th March. Mrs Teal is moving on to a pastoral role in a new school. We will greatly miss her at SMA, but wish her all the best for her new role. Please see an advert for an administrative assistant attached.
- We have enjoyed celebrating world book week this week; however, our culture of reading is evident on a daily basis around school and not just during a themed week. We are always stocking up on the 'recommended reads' for each year group and children have the opportunity to read them for pleasure. Here is a document which can help parents make the most of reading time at home:
- <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/10-top-tips-to-encourage-children-to-read/10-top-tips-to-encourage-children-to-read>

Events

Next week we are on week 1 of the menu available on our school website.

Lenten Charities - Please see the attached information slides from the Mini Vinnies regarding our fundraising initiatives during this season of Lent.

Thursday 12th March 7pm Y6 Confirmation Mass

Friday 13th March PTA Mother's Day Shop - please see the separate flyer

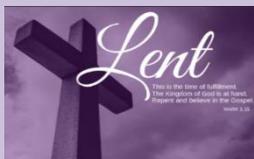
Tuesday 17th March - Y5 Rainforest Roadshow in school

Friday 20th March 1:45pm Y3 Sacrament of Reconciliation

Holy Week Assemblies - parents are welcome. All start at 9:10am - see the notices section

Friday 27th March 9:15am Mass in school. Parents and parish welcome.

Term ends on Friday 27th March at 1:30pm and summer term starts on Monday 13th April. Summer uniform can be worn from Easter. Please see the school website for more details. Uniform: Please note that for health and safety reasons, our policy is that long hair should be tied back



Reflection and Prayer

This Sunday is the Third Sunday of Lent.



During Lent, we remember the forty days which Jesus spent fasting and praying in the desert. We are called to turn away from selfishness and grow closer to God's love.

Jesus showed us the importance of spending some time growing closer to God through prayer. With God's help, he was able to choose to do the right thing and turn away from temptation.

In Sunday's Gospel, we hear of a meeting between Jesus and a Samaritan woman at the well. When Jesus had spoken to her, she hurried to tell the people all about the son of God.

*We thank you Lord, for the 'water of life,'
Poured out and shared with us at our Baptism,
So that we can have everlasting life.
Amen.*

Yours sincerely,
Mrs N. Hill
Headteacher

