

St. Patrick's Catholic Primary School

Headteacher Newsletter 11.1.24



Our Virtue to Live by: Faith

"It is with your heart that you believe..."

(Romans 10:10)



Our current Virtue to live by...faith

Faith is about placing our trust in God or Jesus. There are many examples in the gospels when Jesus told people not to give up especially when they thought something was impossible or because they were afraid. Jesus asked them to have faith. Faith is a gift that comes from knowing and living what you believe no matter what happens. Our friendship with Jesus needs to deepen if our faith is to grow. If we are faithful this will show itself by a life filled with trust, hope and love. As we enter the spring term we pray for the pupils in Y6 and Y4 as they take the next steps on their faith journey and prepare for the Sacraments of Confirmation and First Holy Communion.

Sacrament of Confirmation Y6

We have 2 further preparation classes on the 15th and 22nd January. The Sacrament will be celebrated by Bishop Marcus on Thursday 25th January in St.Patrick's Church - 7pm.

Invitation to prepare for First Holy Communion

A letter will soon be sent home to the Y4 children who have made their First Confession inviting them to begin preparing for First Holy Communion. If your child is in Y5 or Y6 and is eligible please ask the office and we will make sure they are enrolled. The date for the Sacrament has not yet been set.

Parish News

Please see the Parish Website regarding Mass times and the latest bulletin. Canon Eugene looks forward to seeing all the children at Mass each weekend. <https://www.stpatrickschurchleeds.org.uk/>



Key dates going forward

January

- 9th - Y6 at WYP to see production of Oliver
- 10th – Y5 visit York as part of History topic
- 18th – KS2 Athletics comp.
- 25th – Y6 Confirmation St.Patrick's 7pm

February

- 5th-9th Looking After Myself focus week in school
- 5th-7th – Y6 Residential to Robinwood
- 6th - Y3 visit Leeds City Museum – History topic of Egyptians
- 8th FOSP Family Movie Night
- 8th Inner-East Pupil Summit Civic Hall – Group of KS2 pupils attending
- 9th – Break for half-term
- 14th – Ash Wednesday – Lent begins
- 19th - School Closed – Training Day
- 20th – School re-opens to pupils

Safeguarding /Health and Safety Information

Domestic Violence Support - Please click on this link if you are experiencing domestic violence and need help or support - <https://ldvs.uk/>

Mental Health Support (adults and children) - <https://www.mindwell-leeds.org.uk/>

Applying for Benefits and Financial support - <https://www.leeds.gov.uk/benefits>

Keeping you and your family safe online - <https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/>

Website – See the website for latest school policies including the Child Protection policy 23-24 and Online Safety Policy 23-24.

Please ensure that you keep your 2 emergency contacts up to date and that you are contactable throughout the school day should your child become unwell.

Online Safety Support

Please check under the parent tab on the website or [click here](#) and it will take you all the current resources. Alerts will be sent out when new information is uploaded to this area of the website. **New addition this week - What Children & Young People Need to Know about Free Speech vs Hate Speech**

Twitter – Make sure you follow us on Twitter @stpatricksleeds. We have pinned our Twitter account to the main website. Every class is posting and showcasing their wonderful learning and achievements each week. We hope you are enjoying seeing our curriculum in action.

Reception parents September 2024 – DEADLINE TO APPLY IS MONDAY 15TH JANUARY

Children born between 1 September 2019 and 31 August 2020 are due to start primary school in September 2024. The deadline to apply for a place in Reception is 15th January 2024.

Please ensure if you apply to St.Patrick's you complete our SIF and return it to school.

Click here to find out more information about applying for a place and the timelines involved.

Programme of building works

We are finally nearing the completion of the building works. The governors and I are delighted with the first- class built environment we have managed to develop so far. The Boys and Reception toilets are set to be refurbished in February and new display boards will finally complete the work for now. A big thank you to all those parents who have contributed to the VCS building fund this year. We will be making another request at the start of next year if you were unable to contribute this year. All the money raised goes to helping maintain the building and the valuable resources needed for teaching and learning.

Family Learning opportunity – January to April

There are still some places left on this course. The sessions will be held every Wednesday morning in the school hall after morning drop-off. The focus for this term is helping parents support their child's learning. The sessions will be more interactive and will involve creating resources to help your child. Please wait in the playground next Wednesday (17.1) if you wish to attend.



Whole School Priorities

Reading

If pupils cannot read, they will not be able to access the curriculum, and will be disadvantaged for life. Education inspection framework: January 2019

Please read every day with your child at home; share a story together each day.

Book exchanges – The book exchanges are open for business. Remember you can bring in any good quality book from home and exchange it for a new book in the main entrance and for our younger readers, outside Reception class. There are some great titles and there is something for everyone.

Borrow Box – This is a great way to loan ebooks and audiobooks from the library service and it's FREE for both children and adults!

For more information follow this link <https://www.borrowbox.com/>



Reading Ambassadors – The Reading Ambassadors are busy choosing books for the new school library and the class libraries. They will also be recording books that will be put on Google Classroom for your child to access at home.

After-School clubs begin next week

A letter came home yesterday to KS2, please return it as soon as you can so that we can allocate spaces. Clubs are open to everyone and the majority are free. Lego club is taking a break this term and will be replaced by Film club for Y3 and Y4. The children will watch a film over 2 weeks and then review them. If your child is given a place in Film club a separate permission letter will need to be signed. Please note we have a number of clubs at lunchtime run by sports coaches for children in Reception and KS1. We also have our brass band practising at lunchtime and we very much look forward to the spring music concert when they will perform again.

Key skills practice and website support

Keep practicing those key skills of Reading, Spelling and Maths each day at home. Your child's class curriculum was shared in September but can also found on the website

<https://www.stpatricksleeds.org.uk> under the Parent tab then Classes. A spring 2024

newsletter will shortly be uploaded on the website for every class. The website has links to different websites to support learning in all subjects and your child has passwords to access key resources such as TTRS. Remember to click on the globe in the top left-hand corner to explore the range of languages that the website can be translated into.



**St Patrick's Catholic
Primary School**

About Us

Key Information

Catholic Life

Parents

Curriculum





FOSP – Family Movie Night 8th February

We are trialing a new event to raise much needed funds for school. We are showing the Disney movie Encanto on the big screen in the hall. We will also be showing the film in a classroom for families with children who have SEN – this will be a more relaxed space. A family ticket costs £5 and up to 5 people can attend on the ticket. The film will begin at 5pm and conclude at 7.15pm, this includes a short break in the middle. Families are welcome to bring their own drinks and snacks – No products containing nuts please. We are also hoping to run a tuck shop and popcorn stand. A letter will come home shortly regarding this event – please note we will have to limit the number of tickets and these will be allocated on a first come first served basis.

RSHE (Relationship, Sex and Health Education)

All 7 classes will this be taught RSHE this term. The RSHE curriculum is well embedded here at St.Patrick's and we feel confident that our pupils begin high school with all the knowledge they need in this area and the results of our annual pupil surveys tell us so. The focus of RSHE in primary schools is on the fundamental building blocks of positive relationships with a particular emphasis on friendships, family relationships as well as other types of relationships with other children and adults. Please click on the link to our website to view parental letters regarding RSHE and links to the resources that each class will be using during their studies.

<https://www.stpatricksleds.org.uk/curriculum-rshe>

And finally... the children at St.Patrick's were truly blessed during the season of Advent. The staff helped to prepare the children for Christmas in very prayerful ways. I have had wonderful feedback from both parents and parishioners thanking school for the invitations to join with us as we journeyed towards Christmas. We are so very grateful to the many people who spared their time and donated generously to our school during this time. These include the Leeds Irish Centre, Catholic Care, SVP, Neil Larkin, Caleb's grandad Y5, Penny's mum Y1 and Eve's family. You all know what you did to help our children and families and we are blessed to have your support.

Take care and best wishes to you all in 2024,

Mrs Grady



Wishing you a
Happy New Year
and blessed year
ahead. May
God's light
guide your way
in 2024.