

St Paul's Catholic Primary School Newsletter 23

Friday 13th March 2026



Thought for the Week

"You must accept your
Cross; if you bear it
courageously it will carry
you to Heaven."

(St Jean-Marie Vianney)



GOSPEL

In this Sunday's Gospel, when Jesus Christ meets the Samaritan woman at the well (Gospel of John 4:5-42), we see something simple yet powerful. Jesus speaks with her, and she listens. In that conversation her life begins to change.

Our theme this Lent is doing what God wants, and this Gospel reminds us that it begins by spending time with Jesus. The woman listens, asks questions and opens her heart. God desires the same from us: to come to Him in prayer, to listen to His voice, and then to go out and live differently because of what we have heard.

HEAD'S UP

This week, we interviewed Isabela and Ellis from St Jude.

On Monday, they had SPaG where they learnt about relative pronouns and relative clauses and they had comprehension where they were learning about children from the Victorian times. During maths they were learning about how to find the mean of numbers. For their art lesson they made their own pom poms. On Wednesday, after hymn practice, St Jude did their proper write up of the children in Victorian times.

Come back for next week where we will be interviewing Early Years!



Seminararian of the Month Farvin Gonsalves

Farvin is in Year 4 at Allen Hall Seminary in London. His home parish is Christ the Kind in Reading.

Last year he completed his year of Pastoral Theology, based at St Colmans, with St Paul's Parish in Cosham & Paulsgrove near Portsmouth. His role included (among other things) serving; reading; distributing Holy Communion as well as visiting the sick and housebound and assisting in the celebrations of Baptisms and funerals.

100% Attendance for St Jude for week ending 6th March 2026

98% Whole School Attendance for week ending 6th March 2026 – Target 98%

TILEHURST DROP-IN CENTRE & FOODBANK

We continue to support families, with the number of requests increasing each week. This week we are in need of rice pudding, custard, tinned fruit, packet soups, cereal, instant mashed potatoes, peanut butter, honey, tinned tomatoes, and baked beans.

Thank you for the generous donations we received this week. Financial donations can be made to CDP Reading St Joseph. Sort Code: 30-93-04. Account No: 00885992. Please include as a reference, 'Foodbank'. Thank you.. Financial donations can be made to CDP Reading St Joseph. Sort Code: 30-93-04. Account No: 00885992. Please include as a reference, 'Foodbank'. Thank you.

WELL BEING

Supporting young people with challenging behaviour by Dr Kelsey Odgers and Dr Katherine Thrasher, Norfolk and Suffolk NHS
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GJYr2-GjNbw>



MESSAGES FROM THE OFFICE

OFFICE HOURS—Mon—Thurs 8.00—3.30pm, Fri 8.00—8.15 and 8.35—3.30pm

CHARITY RAFFLE TICKETS

Year 6 pupils are now selling raffle tickets for the charity Easter raffle. Tickets will cost 20p each and staff will generously be providing prizes.

Please be aware that children will only be able to win a maximum of 2 Easter Eggs each. The draw will take place when we return from the Easter Holidays.



Mr Hegarty and the Garden/Eco Team would be grateful if parents or friends of St Paul's could help with our School Garden by contributing any of the following items in the next few weeks:

- Old square paving slabs
- Top soil
- Concrete blocks/bricks
- Bags of Compost
- Bags of sharp sand
- Bags of concrete



Gardening jobs for March

- Tidy up your borders. If the recent gales have brought down branches or leaves, now's the time to clear these and remove any weeds. Watch out for any bulbs or perennials coming through.
- There's still time to cut back your herbaceous perennials. As the new growth starts to emerge, remove last year's old stems completely.
- Sow some sweet peas for Summer. If you love a vase of fragrant sweet peas in the summer, it's time to sow these easy to grow climbers indoors. Sow seeds individually about 1.5cm deep in seed compost, water well and place on a warm windowsill, in a greenhouse or a propagator.



Dates for your diary

MARCH

Fri 13 th	Yr5/6 Boys Local Football Tournament
Mon 16 th	Stations of the Cross
Tues 17 th	Stations of the Cross
Tues 17 th	Irish Dancing Performance to school
Tues 17 th	Lenten Reflection 2pm & 6.30pm
Thurs 19 th	Swimming Gala at Rivermead TBC
Fri 20 th	Yr5/6 Boys Football at The Dome
Fri 20 th	LKS2 Rain Forest Day
Fri 20 th	Yr6 Local Football Tournament
Mon 23 rd	Yr6 Charity Day TBC
Wed 25 th	Service of Reconciliation in school
Wed 25 th	Yr5 Public Speaking Masterclass
Fri 27 th	End of Term - 1pm

APRIL

Mon 13 th	Pupils return to school
Thurs 16 th	Wonka Week
Fri 17 th	Yr5/6 Girls Local Football Tournament
Thurs 23 rd	BHF Football/Netball Tournament
Fri 24 th	Yr3 Boys Local Football Tournament

MAY

Mon 11 th	KS2 SATs Week
Sun 17 th	Children's Mass at St Joseph's
Fri 22 nd	Sports Day
Mon 25 th	Half Term

JUNE

Tues 2 nd	Class Photos
Thurs 4 th	Corpus Christi Procession at Douai
Fri 12 th	Rise Theatre Performance
Mon 15 th	Yr5 Maths Masterclass @ River

Academy
Sun 28th

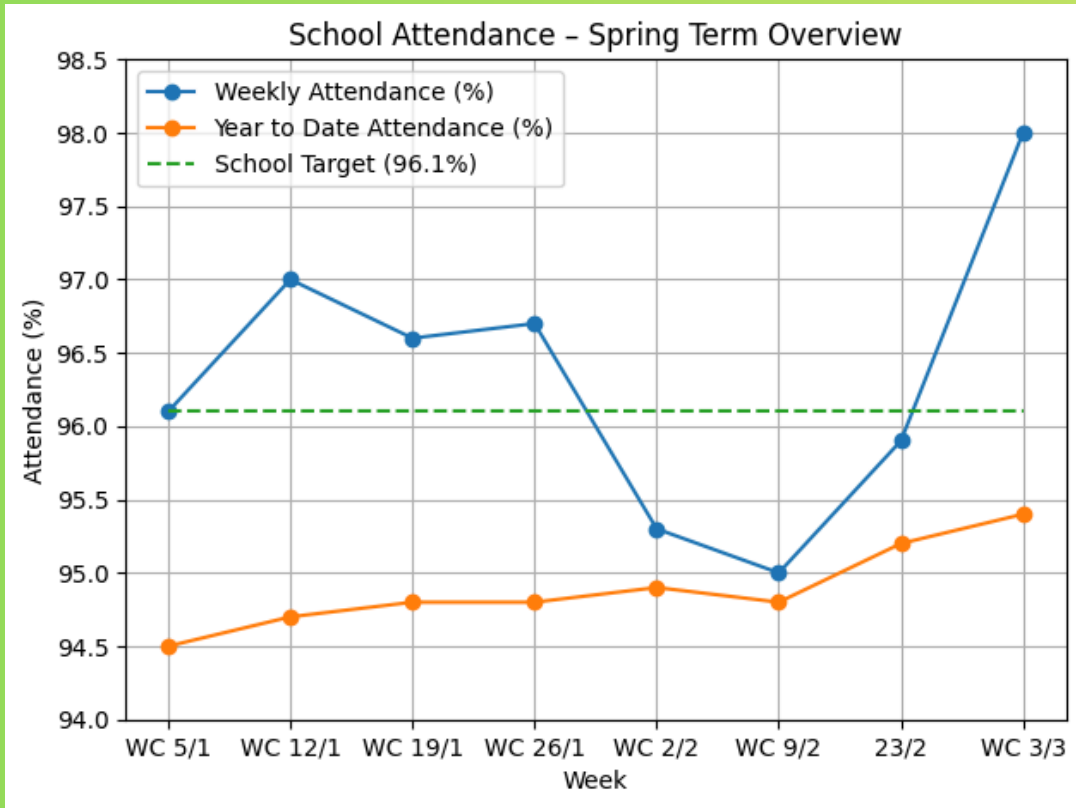
Children's Mass at St Joseph's

JULY

Tues 7 th	Yr5 Public Speaking Competition
Fri 10 th	Family Fun
Fri 17 th	End of Term 1pm

HOUSE POINTS

Week Ending	St Anne	St Bernadette	St Brigid	St Margaret Clitherow	St Rose of Lima
06/03/2026	446	345	511	303	511



Saint Carlo Acutis

Oh God, Our Father,
 thank you for giving us Carlo,
 a life example for the young
 and a message of love for everyone.
 You made him become enamoured with
 Your Son Jesus, Making of the Eucharist
 his "Highway to Heaven".
 You gave him Mary, as a most loving Mother,
 and, with the Rosary, you made him
 a poet of her tenderness. Receive his prayer for us.
 Above all, gaze upon the poor,
 whom he loved and helped.
 Grant for me too, by his intercession,
 the grace that I need ...
 And make our joy fulfilled,
 placing Carlo among the Saints
 of your Church, so that his smile
 may shine again for us in the glory of your name.

Amen



On Thursday 12th March, we were lucky to be able to take 2 Yr5 children to St John's Cathedral in Portsmouth to venerate the relics of St Carlo Acutis

Yr6 Diary Dates

We will update these dates as soon as they have been decided

JUNE

Tues 23rd Leavers Mass at Douai Abbey

JULY

Mon 13th Leavers Party