

St Paul's Catholic Primary School Newsletter 24

Friday 20th March 2026



Thought for the Week

"To live without faith, without a patrimony to defend, without a steady struggle for truth, that is not living but existing." (St Pier Giorgio Frassati)



GOSPEL

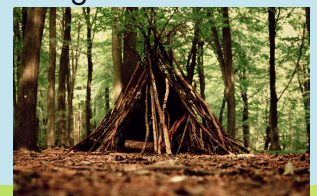
In this Sunday's Gospel, Jesus heals the man born blind, showing us what it truly means to do God's will. While the Pharisees question, doubt and focus on rules, the healed man simply speaks the truth of what Jesus has done for him. This reminds us that following God is not about overcomplicating things, but about recognising His presence and responding with faith. During this season, we are called to open our eyes—to see Jesus in one another, in acts of kindness, and in the everyday moments of school life, and to act as He would.

HEAD'S UP

Hello and welcome to this week's newsletter. This week we interviewed Safira and Emma and Early years where they tell us what they did this week.

They started off the week with phonics, they were learning about the sounds, a r, i and th. In maths, were counting up to 10. Wednesday was 'Wild Wednesday' where they spend the day in the Copse. In the Copse, they played in the train and built a den with sticks that they could go inside.

That's all for this week's newsletter. Come back for next week and we are going to be interviewing St Andrew!



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 James for week ending 13th March 2026

97.3% Whole School Attendance for week ending 13th March 2026 – Target 98%



TILEHURST DROP-IN CENTRE & FOODBANK

We are supporting approximately 35 households with food and household products. Many thanks to your very generous donations. This week we are short of tinned corned beef/ham; tinned spaghetti hoops, instant potato mash, tinned rice pudding/custard and toilet rolls. Financial donations can be made to CDP Reading St Joseph. Sort Code: 30-93-04. Account No: 00885992. Please include as a reference, 'Foodbank'. Many thanks..

WELL BEING

Understanding More About Autism - online

Tuesday, 23rd April, 2026, 12:30 pm - 2:00 pm

This free autism advice workshop looks at what autism is, the assessment process at Berkshire CAMHS, where to get help, how to get support in school, and other conditions associated with autism.

If you would like to register an interest in attending this workshop, email contact@autismberkshire.org.uk or call 01189 594 594 (option 1) and leave a voicemail message.

For more information:

<https://www.autismberkshire.org.uk/berkshire-west-workshops-and-courses-programme/>

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.



Dates for your diary

MARCH

Fri 20 th	Yr5/6 Boys Football at The Dome
Fri 20 th	LKS2 Rain Forest Day
Mon 23 rd	Yr6 Charity Day
Mon 23 rd	Uniform Sale 3.20 in the KS1 playground
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
Mon 13 th	Uniform Sale 3.20 in the KS1 playground
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 28 th	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

Gardening Tips for March

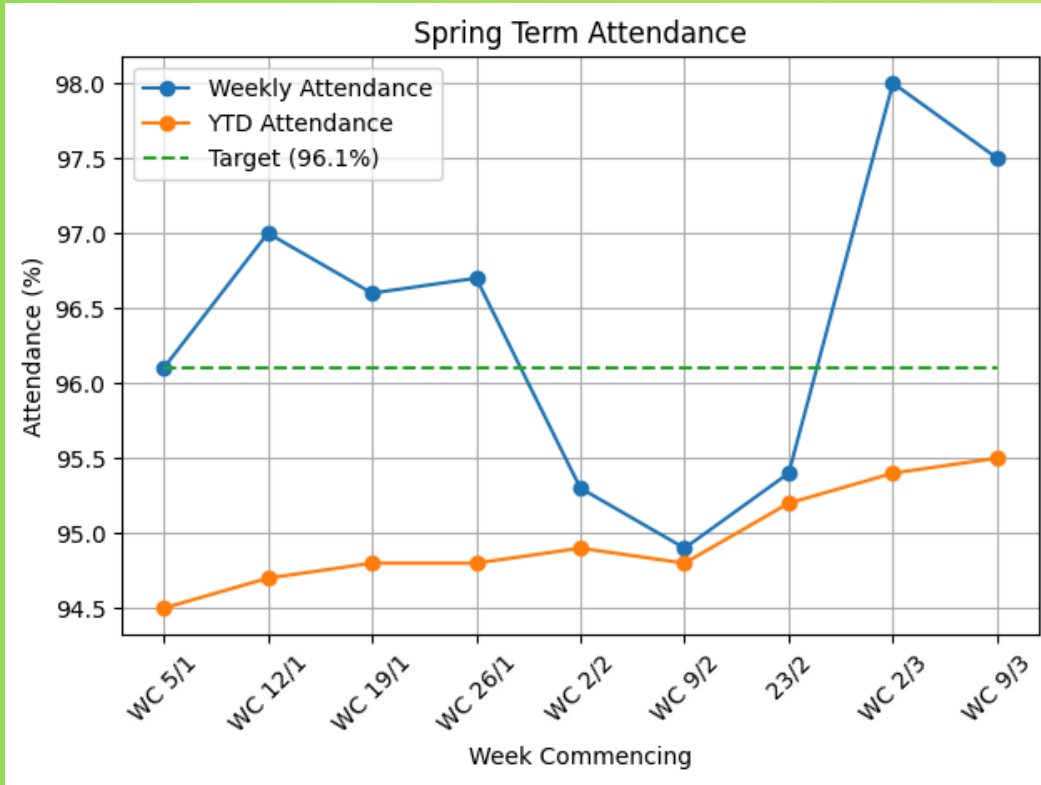
- Go Peat-Free: Use only peat-free compost for seeds, containers, and pots to protect vital peatland habitats and carbon stores.
- Mulch Borders for Soil Health: Apply a layer of organic mulch (garden compost, bark chips, or leaf mould) to borders to retain moisture, suppress weeds, and encourage worms.
- Start Home Composting: Turn kitchen waste and garden debris into nutrient-rich soil. Create a compost bin now, as a good heap reduces the need for store-bought, packaged alternatives.
- Adopt No-Dig Methods: Avoid excessive digging to preserve soil structure and prevent releasing carbon. Simply add compost to the surface, which allows earthworms and microbes to feed the soil.
- Harvest Rainwater: Install water butts to catch spring rains. This reduces dependence on treated tap water, conserving resources for drier months.



Reminder that term ends at 1pm next Friday

HOUSE POINTS

Week Ending	St Anne	St Bernadette	St Brigid	St Margaret Clitherow	St Rose of Lima
Double House Points next week					



ECO TIPS

Borrow instead of buying
 Locate your nearest Library of Things and start borrowing items instead of buying new. You'll find all sorts of useful, regularly serviced things there, from popcorn makers to pressure washers, and tile cutters to tents – all of which can be hired for a fraction of their retail price. By loaning, not owning, you can help reduce the amount of new material that needs to be sourced and processed to make brand new products and ensure that better use is made of products that are already in existence during their lifespan.



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



Eid Mubarak to all our Muslim Families