

St Paul's Catholic Primary School Newsletter 25

Friday 27th March 2026



Thought for the Week

"Once you understand the Eucharist, you can never leave the Church. Not because the Church won't let you, but because your heart won't let you." (St Teresa of Calcutta)



GOSPEL

In the story of Lazarus, Jesus asks for something difficult: "Take away the stone." It would have felt risky, even pointless—but they obeyed. Because they did what Jesus said, they witnessed something extraordinary: new life where there had been death. This reminds us that following Jesus is not always easy or obvious, but it is always life-giving. When we listen to His voice—especially in the small, everyday moments—we make space for Him to work in us and through us. What "stone" might Jesus be asking us to move today?

HEAD'S UP

This week we interviewed Ruby and Christopher from St Andrew.

In maths, they were learning about weight. They were also learning about sounds in phonics like the sound for the letter 'w' and 'f'. During PE this week they had a cricket lesson and they played dodgeball. They also had RE and they were thinking about what Jesus would bring to the 'Last Supper'. In science, they were learning about explosions. They were also writing a poem about daffodils in English.

That's it for this week's newsletter. After the Easter Holiday we will be talking to 2 children from St James!



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.

98.5% Attendance for St Peter for week ending 20th March 2026

96.2% Whole School Attendance for week ending 20th March 2026 - Target 98%

WELL BEING

Online Workshop: Sensory Differences Part 1

Thursday, 7th May, 2026, 12:30 pm - 2:00 pm

This free autism advice workshop looks at sensory systems and how they work, how autistic people may process sensory information differently and have different sensory experiences, and strategies to help with sensory needs.

Please note that this free online workshop is in two parts. The second session will take place on Thursday, May 14, at the same time.

NB: This workshop is provided by the Berkshire West Autism & ADHD Support Service for parents/carers registered with a GP surgery in the Berkshire West NHS area (Reading, Wokingham, West Berkshire), whose children have an autism diagnosis, or are on the Berkshire CAMHS waiting list for assessment.

If you would like to register an interest in attending this two-part workshop or have any questions, please email

contact@autismberkshire.org.uk or call 01189 594 594 (option 1) and leave a voicemail message.

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 cereal/weetabix, jam, long life milk, tea, instant coffee, sugar, cooking oil, ketchup, tinned fruit and shampoo. 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.



MESSAGES FROM THE OFFICE

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

SUMMER UNIFORM

We will be entering the summer term after Easter and we are all hoping for warmer weather!

Please find below a reminder of what children should wear as part of their summer uniform:

Boys Grey trousers/shorts, white open neck aertex or polo shirt, royal blue pullover, grey socks, black shoes.

Girls A blue gingham dress. Royal blue pullover/cardigan, white socks, black shoes, no sling backs, slip-ons or high heels. Girls in Year 6 **only** may wear a white open neck short sleeved shirt with grey skirt.

PARKING

A gentle reminder to please park courteously and to treat our neighbours with respect. Please do not park on pavements or yellow/zigzag lines.

ECO TIPS

Use your local Community Fridge

Food waste is a significant contributor to climate change. Stop perfectly edible food from getting binned by using your nearest [Community Fridge](#).

The food stocked in them, often donated by retailers and restaurants just before its use by date, is available to anyone to collect, irrespective of need.



Dates for your diary

MARCH

Fri 27th

End of Term - 1pm

APRIL

Mon 13th

Pupils return to school

Mon 13th

Uniform Sale 3.20 in the KS1 playground

Thurs 16th

Wonka Week

Fri 17th

Yr5/6 Girls Local Football Tournament

Thurs 23rd

BHF Football/Netball Tournament

Fri 24th

Yr3 Boys Local Football Tournament

MAY

Mon 11th

KS2 SATs Week

Sun 17th

Children's Mass at St Joseph's

Fri 22nd

Sports Day

Mon 25th

Half Term

JUNE

Tues 2nd

Class Photos

Thurs 4th

Corpus Christi Procession at Douai

Fri 12th

Rise Theatre Performance

Mon 15th

Yr5 Maths Masterclass @ River

Academy

Sun 28th

Children's Mass at St Joseph's

JULY

Tues 7th

Yr5 Public Speaking Competition

Fri 10th

Family Fun

Fri 17th

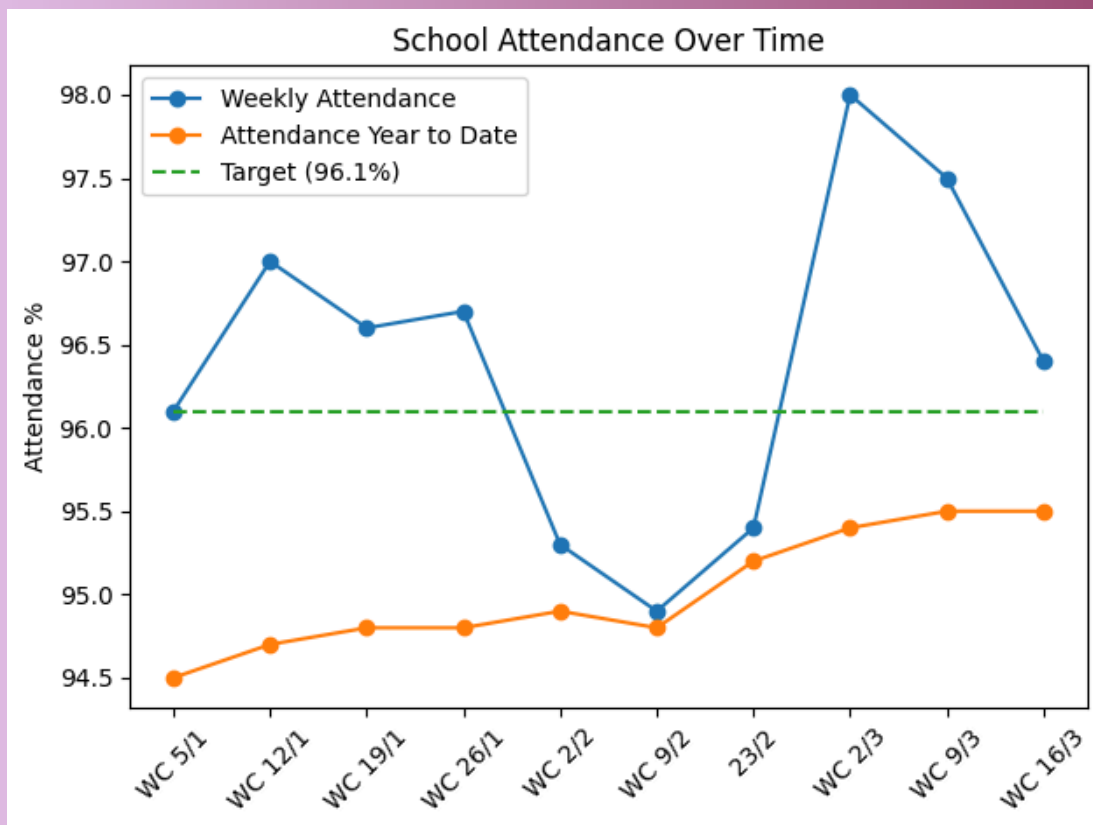
End of Term 1pm

HAPPY EASTER

**Wishing everyone a Happy
and Holy Easter**

HOUSE POINTS

Week Ending	St Anne	St Bernadette	St Brigid	St Margaret Clitherow	St Rose of Lima
20/03/2026	1034	650	623	864	861



Gardening Tips for March

- Use Organic Pest Controls: As pests like slugs and aphids emerge, avoid chemicals. Instead, use natural methods like beer traps, horticultural fleece, or encouraging natural predators.
- Support Wildlife and Pollinators: Clean bird feeders and bird baths to provide fresh water and food. Leave some areas of the garden slightly messy to provide shelter for emerging wildlife.
- Plant Early Nectar Sources: Plant bee-friendly, early-flowering, and native plants like primroses and lungwort to support bees and butterflies waking from hibernation.
- Reuse and Repurpose Materials: Repurpose old wooden pallets for raised beds, use toilet roll tubes for seedling pots, and turn old plastic containers into mini cloches.
- Delay Lawn Mowing: Let the grass grow to support biodiversity. Take part in the "No Mow May" concept by not cutting the grass, or at least reducing the frequency, which allows early wildflowers to bloom.



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

Tues 14th Leavers Mass 10.30am St Joseph's