



## The Good Shepherd Catholic Primary Academy

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Diary Dates

Headteacher Newsletter 9, 24<sup>th</sup> February 2022

### March

1 <sup>st</sup>	Year 6 SAT's & Briars meeting – 5.30pm in the school hall
1 <sup>st</sup>	Gaelic Football starts for Y5
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Ash Wednesday
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Level 2 First Aid club begins
11 <sup>th</sup>	Family Fast Day – more information to follow
14 <sup>th</sup>	Lenten Reflection Day in school
18 <sup>th</sup>	Police Service in Year 6 – knife crime presentation
20 <sup>th</sup>	Stations of the Cross – 12pm in Church
21 <sup>st</sup>	CAFOD Sponsored Walk
23 <sup>rd</sup>	PTA Disco's – please note date change
28 <sup>th</sup> – 1 <sup>st</sup>	Y6 Briars Residential
30 <sup>th</sup>	Y5 Easter Production – Resurrection Rocks: 2pm & 6pm
31 <sup>st</sup>	Zoolab Animal Handling Company visiting Year 1 – more information to follow

### April

1 <sup>st</sup>	Last day of term
19 <sup>th</sup>	Children return to school
20 <sup>th</sup>	Reception & Y6 Height & Weight Check – more information to follow

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you had a lovely half term – despite the wet and windy weather! It is good to feel the days getting longer as we fast approach springtime.

Next Wednesday, we begin the season of Lent. Our focus this year is to show that we are children of God and as Christians our mission is to spread joy and hope to those around us, especially those who are in need, both locally and globally.

So, during this Lent 2022, each class will engage in an activity to reach out to people in the local community – for example by inviting people to share their prayer intentions with us or by making Easter cards for the elderly at a local care home.

We will also be taking part in CAFOD's 'Walk against Hunger' appeal which aims to support the 200 million children whose lives are at risk because of malnutrition. Our main fundraiser for this takes place on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> March with a sponsored walk – sponsor form to follow.

Finally, we remember in our prayers our brothers and sisters in the Ukraine.

God of peace and justice,  
we pray for the people of Ukraine today.

We pray for peace and the laying down of weapons.

We pray for those with power over war or peace, for wisdom, and compassion to guide their decisions.

Above all, we pray for all those who are scared, that you will hold and protect them.

Amen.

Many thanks,

Celine Toner

## Non-Uniform Day & Cake Sale

Many thanks for supporting our efforts to raise money for the Walker family last half term. Altogether we raised £500 for Amelita's hometown in the Philippines that was devastated by the recent typhoon there. Mr and Mrs Walker are very grateful for your generosity. Many thanks as always to the PTA for arranging the cake sale.

## PE at the Good Shepherd

One of our aims this year, as we come out of Covid restrictions, is to raise the profile of PE across school and encourage our children to become 'Active for Life'. One of the ways we will do this is by ensuring all children (Y1-Y6) have access to two high quality PE lessons every week – one delivered by Mr Connolly and the other by class teachers. In addition, we will be taking part in a wide variety of sporting competitions and events locally and will also invite outside providers in to introduce the children to a wider variety of sports – for example, Gaelic Football which starts for Y5 next week.

To enable us to do this as efficiently as possible, we have made the decision to allow all children to come to school dressed in their PE kit on their PE days – twice per week. The timetable for this is outlined below. This will begin from next week and children should wear full school PE kit (see below) – no logos/brands please.

- Navy tracksuit/shorts: plain / school logo
- White polo-shirt: plain / school logo
- Trainers

Year Group	PE Day 1	PE Day 2
Reception		Friday
Year 1	Thursday	Friday
Year 2	Monday	Wednesday
Year 3	Wednesday	Thursday (swimming)
Year 4	Tuesday	Thursday
Year 5	Tuesday	Thursday
Year 6	Tuesday	Wednesday

### Boys Football Team Fixtures

01/03	Arno Vale v GSA
10/03	GSA V Burton Joyce
30/03	Ernehale v GSA
28/04	Willow Farm v GSA

### Girls Football Team Fixtures

15/03	GSA v St Peter's
16/03	Mapp. Plains v GSA
17/03	Burton Joyce v GSA
24/03	Arno Vale v GSA

## Support for one of our families

You may have heard about one of our families who tragically lost their home to a fire last weekend. So many of you have generously offered to help and I know the family is very grateful for this. If you would like to support, you can donate via this link [https://www.gofundme.com/f/to-help-rebuild-lives-after-housefire?fbclid=IwAR0jSZq0QLZCufkt\\_K0qt\\_S8hBivdReUpbh\\_m06Gd\\_MwiNVBitqCo0A4KUI](https://www.gofundme.com/f/to-help-rebuild-lives-after-housefire?fbclid=IwAR0jSZq0QLZCufkt_K0qt_S8hBivdReUpbh_m06Gd_MwiNVBitqCo0A4KUI)

## Lost Property

Please can you ensure your children come to school in uniform and coats that are clearly labelled. The lost property box is overflowing! Also, can I ask that you check your child's coat to ensure they have not gone home with someone else's property by mistake – we have a child in school who has lost a labelled coat. Thank you.

## Parking

Unfortunately, I find myself writing to you again to insist that you park responsibly around school. This is not only to keep our children safe, but also out of respect for our neighbours who continually find their roads and driveways blocked due to the poor parking of some of our parents. Every day I am dealing with complaints regarding this. Please be more considerate of others!

## First Holy Communion Dates

Fr Philipp has confirmed the following dates:

- First Reconciliation – Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> May 2022
- First Holy Communion: Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> June 2022

## COVID-19 Update

Children who test positive should stay at home and isolate for at least five full days and continue to follow the guidance until they have received two negative test results on consecutive days.