



The Good Shepherd Catholic Primary Academy

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Diary Dates

Headteacher Newsletter 7, 10th January 2024

January

10 th	First Holy Communion parents' meeting – 7.30pm in the parish centre
11 th	Young Voices choir trip
22 nd	Year 3 to Creswell Craggs
23 rd	Year 6 SATS meeting - 5pm (new date to the one previously advertised)
23 rd	PTA meeting – 7.30pm in school
30 th	Reading workshop for parents – see attached flyer for more information

February

5 th – 9 th	Children's Mental Health week
6 th & 7 th	Art Exhibition – see below for further information
6 th	Safer Internet Day
7 th	First Holy Communion parents' meeting – 7.30pm in the parish centre
8 th	PTA Non-uniform day – bring an item for the food bank
9 th	INSET Day – school closed
12 th – 16 th	Half Term week
19 th	INSET Day – school closed (HA4K available – book via Arbor school shop)
20 th	Children return to school
21 st	Reception & Year 6 height and weight check – more information to follow
26 th	4SD swimming begins
28 th	Y3 swimming begins

March

5 th & 6 th	Parents' Evenings – face to face in school. Booking information to follow.
6 th	First Holy Communion parents' meeting – 7.30pm in the parish centre
7 th	World Book Day – more information to follow
8 th	Reception Mothers' Day Liturgy – 10am for RSD & 2pm for RAW
9 th	First Reconciliation in church – 11am
24 th	Stations of the Cross in church – 12pm
27 th	Year 5 Easter production – 2pm & 6pm
28 th	Last day of term

April

Dear parents and carers,

A very happy, healthy and peaceful New Year to you all. I trust you all managed to get some well-deserved rest this Christmas whilst spending quality time with loved ones.

Fr Philipp asked me to thank you all sincerely for attending the 5pm mass on Christmas Eve. The church was packed with people, with so many of our families there to celebrate the true meaning of Christmas with the parish community.

Many thanks for the lovely cards and gifts myself and the staff team received for Christmas. Your generosity and kindness really is appreciated.

We look forward to a very busy and exciting term ahead.

Best wishes,

Mrs Toner

Art Exhibition 6 - 7 February

Last term in their Art lessons, the children were busy creating a piece of art suitable for framing. We have since sent this work away to an exhibition company who will frame each individual piece for display. The 'Good Shepherd Art Exhibition' will be open after school in the hall on Tuesday 6 and Wednesday 7 February, and you are all invited to come and view the children's artwork – from Nursery to Year 6. All pieces will be on sale for £10 each and will make a perfect gift. Any profit made will go towards buying art supplies for school. Please look out for a letter next week with more information.

PTA News

The Christmas discos seemed to be a great success with over £1,100 raised! Many thanks to all the parents who volunteered to help - it was great to see so many new faces. Please do come along to our next PTA meeting – in person or on line – on Tuesday 23 February at 7.30pm.

Year 3 Staffing

For your information, there has been a slight change to the staffing arrangements in 3AM. Mrs Coley will now be teaching the children Monday and Tuesday and Miss Aghoghogbe Wednesday - Friday.

Midday Supervisors Required – to start as soon as possible.

We are recruiting for two new midday supervisors. Please pass this information on to anyone who might be interested in the positions. Applications via [this link](#) or the school website.

A few reminders...

School Uniform

Children must come to school each day in full school uniform – including a tie and school shoes (not trainers). On PE days, children must wear a plain navy tracksuit and a plain white t-shirt or polo shirt – the only logo permitted is the school crest. Thank you for your cooperation.

Parking / driving around school

Please ensure you park legally and safely around school, showing courtesy to our neighbours and each other. Unfortunately, this issue remains a constant source of frustration for all in our school community. Please make an effort this new year to be more considerate when dropping off and picking up your children and refrain from parking in the staff carpark as this is used for disabled drop offs and the school bus.

Arbor Payments

Please keep on top of all Arbor payments - for dinners, trips and after school clubs. If you are struggling to meet any costs, please do speak to us. Remember the Trust does operate a 'Little acts of kindness fund' to support any of our families who require financial support in these very difficult times. Please use [this link](#) to find out how to access this.

Attendance and Punctuality

Children must attend school every day, on time (unless they are too unwell to do so). As you know, I am not permitted to authorise holidays in term time and leave of absence will only be authorised in exceptional circumstances and on a case by case basis.