



## The Good Shepherd Catholic Primary Academy

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Diary Dates

Headteacher Newsletter 10, 1<sup>st</sup> March 2024

### February

29<sup>th</sup> Year 3 swimming begins

### March

5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> Parents' Evenings – **please book via Arbor if you haven't already**

7<sup>th</sup> World Book Day – come dressed in your comfiest PJs or dressed as your favourite character

8<sup>th</sup> Reception Mothers' Day Liturgy – RAW: 10am RSD: 2pm

9<sup>th</sup> Year 3 First Confession – 11am

18<sup>th</sup> Book Look – 3.30 to 4.15pm

21<sup>st</sup> Year 2 trip to White Post Farm

22<sup>nd</sup> CAFOD Sponsored Walk for Lent – non-uniform day

24<sup>th</sup> Stations of the Cross – 12pm in Church

25<sup>th</sup> Reconciliation Service in school – 9.30am – all welcome

27<sup>th</sup> Y5 Performance of Resurrection Rocks – 2pm and 6pm

28<sup>th</sup> Last day of term

### April

15<sup>th</sup> Return to school

16<sup>th</sup> Year 4 trip to Cadbury's World

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you had a lovely half term. It is good to feel the days getting longer as we fast approach springtime.

As we move into the season of Lent, our mission is to give alms to those around us - especially those who are in need, both locally and globally. Each year group will engage in an activity to reach out to people in the community – for example by serving tea and coffee at the Easter performance or posting Easter cards through the doors of our neighbours.

On 22<sup>nd</sup> March we will be taking part in CAFOD's 'The Big Walk' appeal to raise as much money as possible in a bid to help fight global poverty. Please look out for your child's sponsor form which will come out next week. I also invite you to say this prayer with the children each night:

Loving God,

We thank and praise you  
for all the gifts you have given us.  
But in a world of plenty  
too many people go hungry.

We pray that you may work through us,  
so our small acts of love  
may make a big difference  
and everyone may have enough to eat.

Amen.

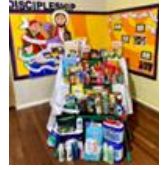
Yours sincerely,

Celine Toner



## PTA News

On behalf of the PTA I would like to thank you for your amazing generosity before half term. We collected a total of 316kg of food for the Arnold foodbank who, as always, were so grateful to receive such an abundance of food and toiletries.



Also a reminder to please respond to the PTA email / google form that went out this week regarding ordering Mothers' Day flowers by end of Friday 1 March and the upcoming Summer Fair.

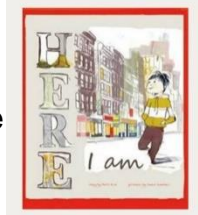
## Free School Meals – are you entitled?

If your financial circumstances have changed recently, you might be able to claim for free school meals for your child. Please [click this link](#) for an application form, or alternatively, call into the school office for a paper copy.

## World Book Day

We are excited to celebrate World Book Day on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March where the children are invited to come to school dressed in their comfiest PJs or, if they wish to, as their favourite character from a book.

All week across school we will be looking at the book 'Here I am' by Patti Kim. Here I am is a beautiful children's wordless picture book. It tells the story of a young boy who arrives in a strange land where he doesn't understand the language or the customs. It deals with the challenges of leaving home and coming to terms with the big changes you might face in your new world. Children will be inspired to produce their responses to the story which will be displayed across school. [Remember to look on X](#) (formerly Twitter) for details of all the reading happening across school next week.



## Book Look

Following on from parents' evening next week, you will have an opportunity to view your children's books in their classrooms on 18<sup>th</sup> March – from 3.30 until 4.15pm. This is a great opportunity for your children to share with you their learning so far this academic year.

## First Reconciliation – 9<sup>th</sup> March at 11am

Please keep in your prayers the children who will receive the sacrament of Reconciliation on Saturday in Church. This is a big step for them as they journey towards receiving Jesus for the first time in communion on 8<sup>th</sup> June.

## Stations of the Cross – Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> March at 12pm in Church

On Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> March, the beginning of Holy Week, we will be taking part in the Stations of the Cross in Church. The service lasts around 40 minutes as we travel round each station in church reflecting at each in a child friendly way. The children can take on the role of the different people of the time as we follow the way of the cross. If you are able to attend, please [complete our online form](#) by Monday 18<sup>th</sup> March so that we have an idea of the number of families that will be joining us and can allocate readings to children and their families.