

HEADTEACHER'S NEWSLETTER



Number 3: Friday 17 October 2025

A word from Mrs Toner

After a busy few weeks in school, it is certainly time for a rest! I will send a more detailed newsletter out after half term, but just wanted to share a few bits of information with you now, as well as some new diary dates.

Have a great half term break.
Mrs Toner.



Diversity and inclusion questionnaire

Many thanks to those of you who completed the diversity and inclusion questionnaire that we have encouraged you to fill in - we went from 15 replies to over 170 in a few days which is brilliant!

If you haven't yet, [please complete our Diversity and Inclusion Survey here](#) - it should only take a couple of minutes and will help shape the agenda for our meetings over the coming year. Thank you.

Parent Governor Vacancy

We currently have a vacancy on our board for a Parent Governor and we are delighted that three parents have put themselves forward for the role. The term of office is four years.

Information about the candidates and ballots will go to all parents after the half term break and you will have 10 days to cast your votes.

School Parliament – Parking Protest

Well done to our school parliament who, a couple of weeks ago, staged a silent protest to encourage safer parking around school.

Please support them by driving and parking safely and respectfully around school.



Follow our brand new Instagram account at www.instagram.com/GoodShepherdCatholicPrimary.

First Reconciliation and Holy Communion

For parents of children in Year 3 and above who are interested in their child receiving the sacraments of Reconciliation and Holy Communion in June 2026, there is an introductory parents' meeting on Wednesday 19 November at 7pm in the Parish Centre at church.

The purpose of the meeting is to find out what the programme entails and the commitment needed from families who wish to enrol on the programme. If you would like to attend the meeting, please fill in an expression of interest form (available at the back of church after every weekend mass).



Arnold Foodbank and harvest donations

Many thanks for your generosity in bringing in non-perishable goods for Arnold Foodbank.

Our donations weighed in at 200kg / 3 car loads, which is an amazing achievement and will go a long way to support local families in need.

We also raised £45 on the playground, selling donated fruit and vegetables.



Good Shepherd Open Day mornings

We are excited to open school to prospective parents on 19 and 25 November. If you know of anyone who is seeking a reception school place for their child in September 2026 and they are considering our school, please ask them to contact the school office to book an appointment.

Dates for your diary

November

- Tues 4th - Individual school photos - full winter uniform please (bring PE kit to change into)
- Weds 5th - Year 3 trip to Creswell Craggs
- 10th – 14th Anti-bullying week – wear odd socks on Monday 10th November
- Tues 11th Remembrance Day assembly - 10.45am – led by Year 6 – all welcome
- Weds 19th Holy Communion meeting in church – 7pm
- 19th & 25th Open days for prospective parents
- Fri 28th Non-uniform day – bring a bottle for the Christmas Fair
- Sat 29th Good Shepherd Christmas Fair: 10.30am -2.30pm in the parish centre
- Sun 30th Advent mass in church – 9.45am

December

- Mon 1st Advent retreat day & reconciliation for years 4-6
- Thurs 4th PTA Christmas discos - more to follow
- Tues 9th - Year 1 Nativity - 10am
- Tues 9th - Reception Nativity - 2pm
- Thurs 11th - Reception Nativity - 10am
- Thurs 11th - Year 1 Nativity - 2pm
- Thurs 11th Reception trip to the Theatre – 1pm
- Thurs 11th Maggie's Christmas Concert, school choir – 7pm in church
- Tues 16th Christmas Dinner Day
- Weds 17th Year 2 Christingle service – 9.30am
- Thurs 18th Choir to Valley Court care home
- Friday 19th Carol service in Church – 10am
- Last day of term – return to school on Monday 5th January 2026.