

HEADTEACHER'S NEWSLETTER



Number 6: Friday 9 January 2026

A word from Mrs Toner



A very Happy New Year to you all. I trust you 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 over 600 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 from you and the children for Christmas. Your generosity and kindness really is appreciated. We look forward to a very busy and exciting term ahead. Best wishes, Mrs Toner.

Hot Topic – Attendance and Punctuality

As we begin this new year, I feel it is a good time to send out a general note regarding the school policy on attendance and punctuality. [Our Pupil Attendance Policy is available online.](#)

Please bring your children to school every day unless they are too unwell to attend. Holidays / leave during term time will not be authorised – unless it is felt there are exceptional circumstances surrounding the request. As per the policy, unauthorised leave may result in a fine for both parents for each affected child.

Please ensure your child is on time for school each day. Whilst I completely appreciate that on occasion lateness can't be helped, there are many children who are late on a weekly / daily basis. This week alone, 15 children were late on Monday, 7 late on Tuesday, 3 late on Wednesday and 8 late on Thursday.

Children who arrive late to school miss valuable learning time. Lessons in every class across school start promptly at 8.55am. Children arriving after this not only affect their own learning, but they disrupt the learning of others too. Moreover, children do not like being late – they feel uncomfortable entering classrooms when the learning is already taking place.

Please make an extra effort this New Year to bring your children to school on time. Thank you.



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

Dates for your diary



Month	Event
January	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 13th - Dental survey for selected 5 year olds (you will have received a letter if chosen). • 22nd - Reception and Year 6 NCMP Height/Weight measurement – see specific email to these year groups. • 23rd PTA meeting – 9am in back of the school hall. • 27th - First Holy Communion preparation sessions begin after school.
February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2nd - Year 4 trip to Wollaton Hall. • 6th - Preloved Uniform Sale - after school, back of the hall. • 10th - Safer Internet Day. • 12th - Last day of term for children. PTA Non-uniform day – bring a food item for the food bank. • 13th - INSET Day – school closed (HA4K is available). • 16th – 20th - Half Term week. • 23rd - INSET DAY – school closed (HA4K is available).
March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3rd - Year 6 to the Houses of Parliament – more information to follow. • 4th - 5th - Parents' Evenings – book appointments through Arbor in Feb. • 5th - World Book Day – more information to follow. • 5th - Year 3 swimming starts on Thursdays for 12 weeks - info to follow. • 7th /14th /21st - First Reconciliation in church – 11am. • 9th -12th - Bikeability for Year 5. • 13th - Reception Mothers' Day Liturgy – 10am RAW and 2pm RMK. • 19th - Year 6 Theatre Trip. • 25th - Year 5 Easter production – two performances, 2pm and 6pm. • 26th - Year 2 Trip to White Post Farm. • 27th - Last day of term. • 30th - 10th April - Easter Holidays.
April	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 13th - Back to School after Easter Holidays. • 13th-15th - Year 5 to The Briars – more information to follow next week.