



**“We put Christ at the Centre of our Lives.”**



**Newsletter Date:**  
**Friday 26th January, 2024**

# St. Philip Neri with St. Bede Catholic Voluntary Academy

## OPAL: Outdoor Play and Learning

We are now just 4 weeks away from launching OPAL, our new play initiative. Earlier in the week, a letter giving more information about OPAL was shared on Class Dojo. If you haven't had chance to read this yet, please try and grab a minute or two to have a look. As you'll see from the letter, there are many proven benefits for schools that carry out the OPAL Primary Programme. They usually include: more enjoyment of school, less teaching time lost to disputes between children, fewer accidents and greatly improved behaviour. Just a few reason why we can't wait to get started!



Your donations are coming in thick and fast — thank you so, so much — we truly appreciate your generosity. I'm sure you've got the gist by now but just one last time, we'd gratefully receive anything from these categories (or similar):

- small world (cars, dinosaurs, farm animals)
- construction (Lego or similar building toys)
- role play items inc fancy dress
- dolls (and accessories)
- craft, colouring books, puzzle books etc
- umbrellas
- playmats or small carpet offcuts
- pushchairs (full size ones)

We also want to collect larger items but will not be introducing these for a while so would ask you not to throw away drainpipes, tubing, piping, pallets, tyres (car, motor-bike, tractor), planks, decking, small crates). **Please also note that, from February, all children will be required to have a pair of Wellington boots in school.** This is so children can continue to play outside even when the ground is wet and muddy.

## Liturgy of the Word/Mass

Date	Type of Service	Who's Involved?
Tuesday 30 January	Liturgy of the Word	Year 6
Tuesday 6 February	Mass	Year 5
Tuesday 20 February	Mass	Year 4
Tuesday 27 February	Liturgy of the Word	Year 3
Tuesday 5 March	Liturgy of the Word	Year 2

As ever, families and parishioners are most welcome to join us at 9.30am in Church for each celebration.

**Attendance this week: 93.9%**

FS2KW	94.6%
FS2NM	97.2%
Y1GV	85.2%
Y1JS	93.2%
Y2JY	89.7%
Y2RT	94.1%
Y3RB	91.3%
Y3AN	98.3%
Y4BF	97%
Y4DK	96.7%
Y5SC	91.9%
Y5VD	95.5%
Y6LB	96%
Y6HG	93.3%

## Word of the Week

Next week, our Word of the Week will be **Leadership**, which will form the basis of our acts of collective worship throughout the week.

<sup>21</sup>Jesus entered the synagogue and taught.  
<sup>22</sup>The people were astonished at his teaching.  
*Mark 1: 21-22*



## Toddler Tales

It was great to welcome 8 families to Wednesday's Toddler Tales session, which took place at Mansfield Library joining in with their *Rattle, Rhyme and Roll* session. As you'll see from the photos below, a great time was had by all. For anyone interested, please note that the Library's *Rattle, Rhyme and Roll* sessions run every Tuesday and Thursday at 10am. Just turn up on the day and have fun singing and dancing.



**Toddler Tales**

Our next Toddler Tales session will take place on Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> March. This will be held in school with activities linked to Easter. Please save the date!

## Key Dates

See below for some of next term's Key Dates. We strongly advise that you check Class Dojo regularly to see notifications of other events, including specific year group activities and Class Charity Events.

Date	Time	Event	Location	Who's Involved?
Friday 26 Jan	2.45pm	Come & See Assembly	School Hall	Year 4
Thursday 8 Feb	During School	Year 5 Charity Bake Sale	School	Whole School
11 Mar — 13 Mar		Residential Visit	Mount Cook	Year 4
19th Mar & 21 Mar	From 3.45pm	Parents' Evening	School Hall & Dining Room	Reception — Y6

Please note that the last day of this half term is Thursday 8th February. This means that Half Term will begin on Friday 9th February for our pupils. The Lent 2 term will begin on Monday 19th February.