



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



**Newsletter Date:  
Friday 2nd February, 2024**

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

## OPAL: Outdoor Play and Learning

We are now just 3 weeks away from launching OPAL, our new play initiative. This week, it would be greatly appreciated if you could find a few minutes to read our updated Play Policy, which can be found on our website. **Please also note that, from after the February half term, 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.



## Nottingham Light Night

As part of Nottingham’s annual Light Night trail, you are invited to experience the Cathedral like never before. Its breath-taking gothic revival architecture will be illuminated, there will be live choral and organ performances throughout the evening, and the opportunity for families to make lanterns thanks to a new collaboration with Nottingham Playhouse. All are welcome on **Friday 2** and **Saturday 3 February**, 5.30 – 10.00pm. To find St. Barnabas Cathedral, use the postcode NG1 5AE.

## Fr. Marc Besana

Our Assistant Priest, Fr. Marc Besana will be returning to the Philippines on Monday next week which means his final days in our parish are here. His final Mass is the 11am Mass at St. Philip’s RC Church. On behalf of the whole school community, I’d like to thank Fr. Marc most sincerely for his ministry with us over the last few years. The children really view Fr. Marc as a role model and know he will be missed by us all. We will keep Fr. Marc in our thoughts and prayers as he begins the next chapter in his ministry.



Attendance this week: <b>94.9%</b>	
FS2KW	97.5%
FS2NM	97.9%
Y1GV	95.2%
Y1JS	90%
Y2JY	93.3%
Y2RT	91%
Y3RB	93.9%
Y3AN	99.7%
Y4BF	90.7%
Y4DK	94.4%
Y5SC	100%
Y5VD	90.6%
Y6LB	96.7%
Y6HG	98.7%

## Liturgy of the Word/Mass

Date	Type of Service	Who’s Involved?
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.

## Word of the Week

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



## Punctuality

Many thanks to the overwhelming majority of you who arrive in good time for the start of the school day. **Please remember that the doors open at 8:40am** where the day begins with Genius Time. Genius Time is designed to ensure your child's day begins calmly and smoothly with the opportunity for quiet reading and 1:1 or small group intervention. Please remember that your child will be marked as Late if they arrive after 8:55am, which impacts their overall attendance.

## Come & See Assembly

Many thanks to Year 4 for sharing their learning in their RE topic, Community. It was great to welcome so many parents/carers and grandparents into school. We were very proud of Year 4 for professing their faith so confidently.

## Staffing Update

Huge congratulations to Mrs Phillips who is pregnant, expecting her third child. She will begin her maternity leave towards the end of April. I am delighted to confirm that Mrs Stimpson has been successfully appointed as SENCo to cover Mrs Phillips' maternity leave.

## Welly Walks



On Thursday 8th February, we ask that all children bring their wellies with them to school. The aim is to practice changing into, using and storing their wellies as part of our OPAL uniform.

We'd be most grateful if you'd allow your child to bring a pair of wellies that will be left at school so that they can access outdoor play in all weathers. If you have a pair that is too small, please consider donating them to school. In the very near future, we intend creating class storage areas but for Thursday, please provide a carrier bag.

## 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 be reminded that we have an **INSET day on Friday 9th February**. As such, school will be closed to all pupils on this day. **School reopens on Monday 19th February**, following the Half Term break. As this will be the final Newsletter before Half Term, may we take this opportunity to thank you all for our continued support and wish you a very happy and well-deserved break.