



**"We put Christ at the Centre of our Lives."**



**Newsletter Date:  
Friday 27th September, 2024**

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

## Feel Good Families

Huge thanks to Mrs Brizzolara for organising the Life Education Centre to come and work with our community over the next few weeks with their Feel Good Families programme.



Two sessions have now taken place but it's not too late to join. More details can be found on the last two pages of this Newsletter. The focus of next week's meeting is to decrease undesirable behaviour. Please complete the short form on Dojo or just ask at Main Reception for a paper copy. We'd love you to join us next Tuesday at 9am.

## OPAL Open Afternoon

We're really excited to welcome parents of children in Year 1 to Year 6 into school on Tuesday for our OPAL Open Afternoon. This will be a great chance for you to see what lunchtimes look like at St. Philip's following the implementation of OPAL last February.



If you'd like to join us, please arrive at our Main Reception from 1.15pm ready for us to begin at 1.30pm. We'll gather in the School Hall to begin with where our mentor, Bobby and Mrs Shivley will give a short presentation about OPAL and why we do it.

At 1.45pm, you'll be invited to go outside and join our children as they play to see how lunchtimes look at present! Following this, our PTA will provide refreshments in the Hall where we will be on hand to answer any questions you may have or how you may be able to help us build OPAL even further. We can't wait to welcome you!

## The Season of Creation

As you will have seen in last week's Newsletter, the Season of Creation is an opportunity for Catholics to renew our relationship with God and all creation through celebration, conversion, and commitment together. You are warmly invited by our parish to bring a picnic this coming Sunday (29th September) from 2pm to 3.30pm and join other families on the lawn at our church, St. Philip Neri. There will be prayer and other activities relating to Creation. Everyone is welcome.



Separately, next Wednesday in school, all children will take part in a Season of Creation Retreat led by our Chaplaincy Team. A series of activities have been planned for to enable all children to thank God for His creation and make a pledge to do all that we can to look after and protect it. It is our hope that we begin to teach our children to regard the Earth as a gift from God rather than as a resource to be used.

Attendance this week: **96.9%**

FS2KW **100%**

FS2NM 98.2%

Y1JY 92.7%

Y1JS 95.9%

Y2RB 99.7%

Y2RT 96.5%

Y3RB 98.3%

Y3AN 97.5%

Y4AS 95.9%

Y4DK 96.3%

Y5BF 96.9%

Y5VD 96.0%

Y6SC 94.7%

Y6LB 99.4%

## A message from Sr. Susan...

Our Parish needs your help. We are asking that you RECYCLE your old, damaged, broken JEWELLERY, watches, banknotes and coins - ANY currency or any age; mobile phones, cameras, sat navs, stamps - loose single stamps, first day covers, presentation packs....

If you leave them in a bag either bring them to the Parish picnic this Sunday OR leave them in the school/church/office and I will collect them and send them to WATER AID. Thank you in advance.

## Trust Survey: Homework Response

Many thanks to those of you who responded to the Trust-wide survey for parents at the end of the last academic year. The survey highlighted lots for us to celebrate — the fact that nearly all children feel happy, safe, enjoy school and are learning well. This is wonderful to hear. It has also provided us with a couple of areas to further develop, namely communication and homework. We're currently working on developing a communication protocol and will share the outcome of this with you in due course. For now, we would really welcome your feedback to give your views on Homework. Your views are really important and will help us shape the frequency, type and amount of homework we give your children. In order to collect your views, we'd really appreciate it if you could spare just two minutes to complete [this survey](#) before midday next Friday. If you have more than one child, we'd be truly grateful if you could complete it for all your children so we have a clear picture of views throughout the school. Huge thanks in advance for your time to do this.

## Harvest Festival

We're really excited to invite you to our Harvest Festival celebration taking place **next Friday from 3.30pm until 5pm** (please note the date change from Thursday to Friday due to staff availability). All classes will have made a scarecrow, which will be set out on the school field for you to look at. You'll be given the opportunity to vote for your favourite one with the winning class receiving a special prize. Tickets can be 'purchased' from your class in exchange for tins/packets of food, which we will donate to the Sherwood Forest Foodbank as part of our charitable almsgiving.



To mark the Season of Creation, there will also be a prayerful element to the celebration, thanking God for the Sun, our Earth and for nature's bounty. Our PTA are also supporting this event by hosting a variety of stalls including hot dogs, tea/coffee, cakes and sweets. Huge thanks to Mrs Wood, our wonderful TA who also supports our Chaplaincy Team, for organising this special event.

## Word of the Week

Next week our Word of the Week is **solidarity** which will form the basis of our acts of collective worship throughout the week.

This word has been chosen because in Sunday's Gospel, Jesus teaches us the importance of being tolerant and showing love and humility for others especially if they serve a good purpose. Whether or not they have faith shouldn't matter: we stand in solidarity with our brothers and sisters by the good works that are done.

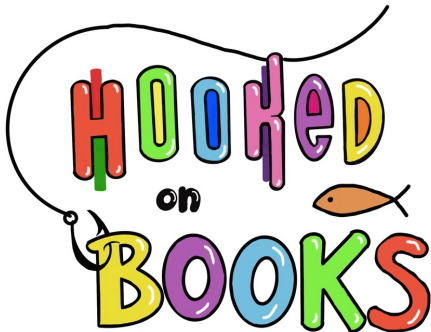
## Liturgy of the Word/Mass

Date	Type of Service	Who's Involved?
Tuesday 1 October	Mass	Year 6
Tuesday 8 October	Liturgy of the Word	Year 5
Tuesday 15 October	Liturgy of the Word	Year 4

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

## Hooked On Books

We're really excited to restart our family reading initiative Hooked on Books for this academic year. Hooked on Books is an opportunity for parents/carers/grandparents to come along and enjoy some quality time sharing our new treasure chests of stories with their children and to stay to listen to a class story at the end of the session together too. Please see this term's dates for your child's class below:



Date	Year Group
3rd October	Year 1JY
4th October	Year 1BS
10th October	Year 2RT
11th October	Year 2RB
18th October	Early Years

Date	Year Group
7th November	Year 3RB
8th November	Year 3AN
14th November	Year 4AS
15th November	Year 4DK
21st November	Year 5VD
22nd November	Year 5BF
28th November	Year 6LB
29th November	Year 5SC

Each session will start at 3pm in the Hall/the Hub, so please arrive at the School Office a few minutes before this time and the class teacher will be there to greet you. (Nursery and Reception classes session will be in their classroom).

## New Fencing Works — Update

As you'll have read in our last two Newsletters, we've been given the "green light" for work to begin on improving the security of our school site. This will involve the installation of new fences. We were told that the works are due to begin at the start of October. We've not yet received a specific date. Once we find out when this work will begin, we'll let you know although we don't anticipate the works to cause too much disruption.

## Tesco Grant Success!

We did it! We came second in Tesco's Stronger Start grant scheme securing £1000 for us to spend on our OPAL project. Huge thanks to all of you who deposited blue tokens in our container. This sum of money will go towards paying for our sand-pit which is currently being installed. Please do pass on our thanks to your friends, family and neighbours for support our school.

## Mansfield Library Visits

We are delighted to confirm that we have arranged for each class to conduct further visits to Mansfield Library this year as this was so well received last year. The aim of these sessions is to continue to promote reading for pleasure across school and to remind children of all that Mansfield Library has to offer. Your child is encouraged to bring their Library Card with them so they can return or take out books when they visit. The visits will all take place during the school day on the dates below.

Friday 8th November: Year 1

Friday 15th November: Year 2

Friday 22nd November: Year 3

Friday 29th November: Year 4

Friday 6th December: Year 5

Friday 13th December: Year 6



ALL THE  
COOL  
KIDS ARE  
\*READING\*



## School Dinners

With the noticeable change in the weather and the beginning of autumn, now might be a good time to switch from a packed lunch to school dinners. Our school meals form part of a healthy and balanced diet and are freshly-prepared each day. A copy of this term's delicious menu can be found [here](#).



If you think your child may be eligible for a Free School Meal, please [click here](#).

*[Note that we use Derbyshire County Council for this service].*

For children in FS2, Year 1 and Year 2, school meals are **completely free of charge**. For children in Year 3 to Year 6, the cost is £2.60 each day unless eligible for a free school meal through pupil premium funding. School meals can be paid for easily using your Arbor



It's always worth checking if you're eligible for pupil premium funding. The process is quick and easy too. All you need is your National Insurance Number or National Asylum Support Service Reference Number, your surname and your date of birth. If eligible, school will be able to support you in other ways, for example by heavily subsidising the cost of trips and visits, including residential visits.

## Year 6 Parents — Secondary Applications

For parents of pupils in Year 6, please ensure you apply for a secondary school place. **It is absolutely essential that all applications are made to your home Local Authority by the national closing date of Thursday 31st October, 2024.** Nottinghamshire applications can be made [here](#). Nottinghamshire County Council have produced this [factsheet](#) to make the process easier for you.

For the overwhelming majority of you who will be applying for a place at All Saints', please note that you must complete a **Supplementary Form** from All Saints' **as well as the Local Authority application form**. Information on admissions to All Saints' can be found here: <https://www.allsaints.notts.sch.uk/information/admissions/>.

If you are having any difficulties, please speak to a member of the Year 6 team, or to Mrs Shivley or Mr Steele who will be only too happy to help. It is important to note that if a late application is made, then this will not be considered until all other applications have been allocated; this means you may not be allocated a place in your preferred choice of school. Parents are notified of which school is assigned on 3rd March, which is National Offer Day.



## Key Dates

See below for this half 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. Please note that new events may appear each week so please check back each week in case new events appear!

Please also note that, for this academic year, our Virtues Assemblies and Come & See Assemblies will take place in the mornings. This is because we recognise that afternoon events do not work for everyone.

Date	Time	Event	Location	Who's Involved?
Tuesday 1 Oct	1.30pm—3.00pm	OPAL Open Afternoon	School	Year 1 — Year 6
2 Oct — 4 Oct		Residential Visit	The Mill	Year 3
Wednesday 2nd Oct	During School Day	Season of Creation Retreat Day	School Hall	Whole School
Wednesday 2 Oct	3.00pm—3.30pm	Phonics Information Workshop	School Hall	Year 1 Parents
Thursday 3 Oct	3.30pm—5pm	Harvest Festival Celebration	School Hall & Field	Whole School & Parents
Friday 4 Oct	9.00am—9.45am	Come & See Assembly	School Hall	Year 5 & Year 6
Monday 7 Oct	All Day	Flu Vaccination Programme	Medical Room	Children with parental permission
Wednesday 9 Oct	3.00pm—3.30pm	Phonics Information Workshop	School Hall	Nursery
Thursday 10 Oct	From 9am	School Photographer	School Hall	Individual Photos
Monday 14 Oct	3.40pm—6pm	Parents' Evening	School Hall	Whole School
Wednesday 16 Oct	2.00pm—3.00pm	Toddler Tales	The Hub	Parents with Toddlers
Wednesday 16 Oct	3.40pm—6pm	Parents' Evening	School Hall	Whole School
Thursday 17 Oct	1.45pm —2.30pm	PTA Disco	School Hall	Foundation Stage
Thursday 17 Oct	2.30pm —3.30pm	PTA Disco	School Hall	Key Stage 1
Thursday 17 Oct	3.30pm —4.30pm	PTA Disco	School Hall	Key Stage 2

Looking further ahead, please note that half term begins at 3.30pm on Friday 18th October. Pupils return to school on Tuesday 5th November at 8.40am. Please also note that the PTA have kindly booked tickets for all children from Year 1 to Year 6 to go to Mansfield Palace Theatre to watch this year's pantomime, Aladdin. Many thanks to the PTA for providing this wonderful opportunity for our pupils.

## Feel Good Families

# FAMILY LEARNING

WITH LIFE EDUCATION CENTRE NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

## FEEL GOOD FAMILIES



Find out the 10 secrets of successful and enjoyable parenting



Pamper yourself with some Aromatherapy.

Help your children make healthy choices



Talk to other parents about the joys and pains of parenthood

Have a bit of time-out with a cup of tea and a chat

## HAVE FUN!

**All mums, dads, grandparents, and carers are welcome!**

Come join us at St. Philipneri  
on Tuesday mornings at 9am

Web: [www.lecn.co.uk](http://www.lecn.co.uk)  
Twitter: [@LifeEdFamLearn](https://twitter.com/LifeEdFamLearn)  
Facebook: [@LifeEdFamLearn](https://www.facebook.com/LifeEdFamLearn)

## Feel Good Families

Session		What it's all about...	
1	Sept 17 <sup>th</sup>	Introduction	The attention switch Ignoring undesirable behaviour
2	Sept 24 <sup>th</sup>	Increasing Desirable Behaviour	Positive things about being a parent Giving positive attention, attends and praise Understanding behaviour reinforcement
3	Oct 1 <sup>st</sup>	Decreasing Undesirable Behaviour	Solving problem behaviours (ABC of behaviour) Giving effective commands, Time out, withdrawal of privileges
4	Oct 8 <sup>th</sup>	Behaviour Management	Children's rights and responsibilities Managing anger. Peaceful problem solving
5	Oct 15 <sup>th</sup>	Children's Health and Wellbeing	What does healthy mean? The Eatwell Guide The importance of sleep
6	Nov 5 <sup>th</sup>	Drug Awareness	What is a drug? Talking to your children about drugs and ways to help prevent future drug misuse Risk and protective factors
7	Nov 12 <sup>th</sup>	Stress Management	What is stress? Understanding coping strategies 5 steps to emotional well-being
8	Nov 19 <sup>th</sup>	Aromatherapy	Introduction to Aromatherapy and its benefits Hand massage

If you would like to come and join **Feel Good Families**, please return this completed slip to your child's class teacher: Please provide us with your email so we can send you course information.

Child's Name:	INSERT CHILD'S NAME
Child's Class:	INSERT CHILD'S CLASS
Parent / Carer Name:	INSERT PARENT / CARER NAME
Telephone:	INSERT TELEPHONE NUMBER
Email:	INSERT EMAIL