



We put Christ at the Centre of our Lives: Think, Speak, Act.



**Newsletter Date:
Friday 11th July, 2025**

St. Philip Neri with St. Bede Catholic Voluntary Academy

Summer Fayre

HUGE THANKS to the PTA for organising our Summer Fayre which took place today. Good fun was had by all. We'll let you know how much was raised next week. Thank you for supporting this event; it was really lovely to see so many of you there.



OPAL – Platinum Award achieved!

I'm absolutely delighted to share the news that following our accreditation yesterday, we have been awarded the OPAL Platinum Award. This is the highest level of recognition within the Outdoor Play and Learning (OPAL) program, signifying that our school provides exceptional play opportunities for its students, ranking among the top 1% nationally in terms of play quality! This award acknowledges our school's commitment to creating a play environment that fosters children's physical, emotional, social, spiritual, and intellectual development.



Huge thanks to our children whose play literacy has developed incredibly; to our wonderful and proactive Kitchen Staff and Play Team who have really embraced OPAL since it's inception in February 2024; and to Mrs Shivley, Mr Brown and Mrs Wood who work tirelessly to create an exceptional lunchtime experience for our children. Thanks, also, to you, our wonderful parents who support us by providing your child with appropriate clothing, with donations and for giving us your feedback through our OPAL surveys. This Award is a wonderful achievement of which I'm immensely proud.

Toddler Tales

Please be reminded that next Wednesday (16th July) is our final Toddler Tales session of the school year. Please join us at 9:15am for a fun-filled seaside theme. There might even be some ice-creams to enjoy!

If you can make it, please arrive at the school office just before 9.15am. Please share this with anyone you know who has a toddler, particularly if they are considering joining our school Nursery.



Residential Visits

Please keep our Year 5 and Year 6 children in your thoughts and prayers next week as they go on their Residential Visits. We pray that they have the most wonderful time — and that the weather is kind for them all too!

Many thanks in advance to the staff team for giving up their time to provide this opportunity for our children.

Attendance this week: 95.8%	
FS2KW	96.2%
FS2NM	97.5%
Y1BS	98.7%
Y1JY	95.2%
Y2GB	100%
Y2RT	97%
Y3RB	93.8%
Y3AN	98.4%
Y4AS	97.1%
Y4DK	98.8%
Y5BF	94.4%
Y5VD	98.1%
Y6LB	95%
Y6SC	95.7%

CAFOD Jubilee Year Pledge

Yesterday we held our Jubilee Year of Hope Pledge Day. We gathered as a whole school to be reminded of Pope Francis' desire for us to service others, especially the poor, lonely and vulnerable, promoting a spirit of generosity and solidarity. As a school, we have pledged to walk in solidarity with our sisters and brothers worldwide and promise to be agents of change so we can act to build a fairer world where every person and the Earth can flourish. We have agreed to do this by:

- being **stewards** of the Earth by taking care of our school. We will put litter in bins, look after resources and take care of the plants, animals and trees that live on our school site. We will also recycle and not waste energy.
- helping the **poor** by supporting the Sherwood Forest Foodbank especially at Harvest time and during Lent.
- **promoting peace** in our thoughts, actions and in what we say. In all that we do, we will aim to enjoy peaceful relationships and seek to resolve conflicts peacefully. We will celebrate and promote the International Day of Peace each September.
- standing in **solidarity** with our brothers and sisters. Each week during Celebration of the Word, we will pray for those in need or who are suffering; we will sell pre-loved school uniform and we will visit the elderly in a local care home. Each class will continue to adopt and support a chosen charity.
- using kind words and kind actions so that everyone knows they are loved and are special [**human dignity**].
- purchasing Fairtrade products wherever possible so farmers and producers receive a fair price for their goods and promoting Fairtrade Fortnight in February [**distributive justice**].
- inviting all children to join a pupil voice group so everyone has the opportunity to **participate** in making decisions that will affect us all.
- raising money for CAFOD to help those in need across the world to empower communities so they can work together to make life better [**subsidiarity**].
- working together for the **common good** by helping others if they are sad or hurt; supporting charity events; praying for those who need it.

Thanks in advance for supporting us to achieve the aims outlined above. I'm incredibly proud of our children for suggesting all of these actions which shows that they are true beacons of hope.

School Bags & Water Bottles

As shared in the last few editions of the Newsletter, our PTA have kindly donated a brand new Book Bag for each child, all of which have had each child's name written on the tag ready for them to be handed out. Please note that we ask for these Book Bags to replace your child's current school bag from September. Over the last few years, some children are using bags that are much bigger than necessary, and these bulky items are taking up too much space in our cloakrooms. From September, your child will only need to bring with them their reading book and any homework books. All other stationery and equipment is already provided by school so is not needed. In appreciation for supplying waterproofs, we are also giving each child in Years 1-6 a named, draw-string bag to keep their waterproofs in from September. These will be handed out next week with the book

We're also seeing an increase in the size of children's water bottles coming into school. Smaller water bottles are easier for children to handle and help minimize the risk of spillages. We ask for your support in ensuring that your child's water bottle is no larger than 750ml and has a secure, leak-proof lids. We recommend Metal water bottles as these keep the water colder for a much longer period and typically come with a secure lid. Thanks in advance for your support with this. Please note that children have access to water coolers which provide cold and refreshing filtered drinking water.

Liturgy of the Word/Mass

Date	Type of Service	Who's Involved?
Tuesday 15 July	Liturgy of the Word	Year 3
Tuesday 22 July	Leavers' Mass	Year 6

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

For more details about our Parish, including Mass times and weekly Newsletters, visit their newly-updated website:

<https://catholicmansfield.uk/>

Word of the Week

Next week, our Word of the Week is **Gratitude**, which will form the basis of our acts of collective worship throughout the week. Gratitude is being thankful for what we have. It is about being grateful for the good things in our lives. We have a lot to be grateful for and it is important to take time to appreciate the good things in our lives. Having gratitude helps us to be truly happy and to live a fulfilling life.

Key Dates

As well as checking the dates below, 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?
Monday 14 July	All Day	Transition Visit	All Saints'	Year 5
Monday 14 July— Friday 18 July	All Week	Residential Visit	The Briars	Year 6
Wednesday 16 July— Thursday 17 July	Two Days	Residential Visit	Perlethorpe	Year 5
Wednesday 16 July	09:15—10:15	Toddler Tales	The Hub	Parents & Toddlers*
Friday 18 July	09.00—09.30	Virtues Assembly	School Hall	Whole School*
Friday 18 July		End of Year Reports shared		Whole School
Tuesday 22 July	09:30—10:30	Year 6 Leavers' Mass	St. Philip's Church	Year 1—Year 6*
Thursday 24 July	09:00—09:30	Hooked On Books	Dining Room	Year 5
Thursday 24 July	09.15—09.45	Come & See Assembly	School Hall	Foundation Stage*
Thursday 24 July	14:00—14:30	Leavers' Assembly	School Hall	Year 6*
Thursday 24 July	14:30—17:00	Leavers' Party	School	Year 6

*Parents are welcome to attend all events marked with an Asterix.

Please note that our final day of this academic year is Friday 25th July. See [our website](#) for more information including details of the holiday pattern for the next academic year.