



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

Newsletter Date:
Friday 6th March, 2026

St. Philip Neri with St. Bede Catholic Voluntary Academy

Lent

As we journey through Lent, our focus this week has been based on our Word of the Week: Fasting. Throughout school, we have been encouraging each other to fast from the things that hinder us from being good and to feast on the things that help us to be good. During worship time, many children have vowed to make an extra special effort to try their hardest to use kind and helpful thoughts, actions and words. We hope you have noticed a difference at home too.

Our Key Stage 2 children were also provided with the opportunity to engage in our Prayer Fayre, organised and led by our chaplains and chaplaincy team. They have made sacrifice beads, have explored what they can place in the 'sin bin' and have built a reconciliation prayer wall; the children have also engaged in palm cross making.



During Lent, we are encouraged by the Catholic Church to prioritise supporting those less fortunate than ourselves. This year, we are delighted to confirm that our almsgiving efforts will support the work of CAFOD. More information about CAFOD can be found on their [website](#). To support Mrs Shivley who will take part in the London Marathon next month, we have organised our very own Runathon to raise money for CAFOD. Next week, children (and staff!) will be invited to gather sponsors for their 26 minute run (or walk!) to support Mrs Shivley's 26 mile marathon. You'll find further details on the Sponsor Form, which you'll receive next week. The run will take place when we return from the Easter holiday.

As Mrs Shivley continues her training and preparation for the London Marathon next month, you can find out more about her motivations by [clicking here](#) and can use the same link if you wish to make a donation. Thanks in advance.



Attendance this week: 96.5%	
FS2WQ	96.7%
FS2NM	97%
Y1BB	94.6%
Y1JD	95.9%
Y2AN	98.7%
Y2RT	96.3%
Y3RB	96.9%
Y3JD	100%
Y4AS	93.4%
Y4DK	97.5%
Y5BF	95.6%
Y5GC	98.8%
Y6LB	91.3%
Y6GS	99.1%

Parents' Evening

Many thanks to the overwhelming majority of you who were able to attend Parents' Evening this week. We're thankful that you were able to prioritise meeting your child's teacher to be updated on their achievement, friendships and general behaviour & attitude. A close partnership between home and school really does help children flourish and achieve their full potential. For those of you unable to make an appointment, staff from the School Office will be in touch to arrange a meeting with your child's class teacher.

World Book Day

Thank you for helping us to celebrate World Book Day in style yesterday; the children looked incredible in their chosen outfits. It was wonderful to welcome parents into classrooms to start the day by reading for pleasure with your child. During the day, children in all classes have taken part in book-related activities to celebrate the joy of reading.

Come & See Assembly

It was a pleasure to welcome parents and grandparents into school this morning for Year 5 and Year 6's Come and See Assembly. This was an opportunity for the children to share what they have learnt in their most recent RE topic of the year, sharing their knowledge of the sacrifice made by Jesus for us all, and His messages of love and unity. Very well done to all children involved; they were brilliant.

Alice's 5K Race for Live

I'm proud to share the news that one of our pupils, Alice Tomlinson in Year 5, has signed up to take part in a 5k *Race for Life Pretty Muddy* event to raise money for cancer research. A staggering 1 in 2 people will be diagnosed with cancer in their lifetime. Every single pound you donate makes a difference to Cancer Research UK's groundbreaking work, so please sponsor consider sponsoring Alice.



Alice tells us, "I have been taking part in a park run every Sunday morning and working hard training in the gym with dad to help make me stronger and faster to help me get ready for my 5k challenge. Thankyou everyone for helping me raise money to help this great charity". To make a donation, please visit <https://fundraise.cancerresearchuk.org/page/alice-tomlinsons-race-for-life>. Many thanks in advance for your generosity.

Our PTA's Annual Easter Egg Raffle

It's almost time for our PTA's very popular, annual Easter Egg Raffle which will be drawn at the end of this half term. Raffle tickets go on sale from Monday and are available from the adults in each class. Tickets cost 20p each or £1 for a strip. Later this half term (Friday 20th March), we'll hold a non-uniform day in exchange for an Easter Egg. All donated Easter Eggs will then be used as prizes for our Easter Egg Raffle. Thanks in advance for your support with this year's Raffle. Please also see the final page of this Newsletter with details of the PTA's *eggciting* decorate an egg competition, open to all children from Nursery to Year 6.



Word of the Week

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



Liturgy of the Word/Mass

Date	Type of Service	Who's Involved?
Tuesday 10 March	Mass	Year 1
Tuesday 17 March	Liturgy of the Word	Year 6
Tuesday 24 March	Mass	Year 5

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

Baby news!

Mrs Steele and I welcomed a baby girl into the world on Friday 6th February. I'm delighted to report that Mum and baby Nella are both doing really well. Many thanks for your well-wishes and words of congratulations. Ava is also enjoying being a responsible big sister!

This week, we've welcomed Mrs Bridges back to our school, who is covering Mrs Steele's maternity in Year 1. Y1BS is now known as Y1BB.



Lime Trees Wrap Around Care & After School Clubs

If you need wrap around care, please be reminded of the service that *The Lime Trees* provide right here on our school site. Their breakfast club runs from 7.30am and after school provision runs until 6pm. Find out more here on [our website](#). We are excited to confirm that after Easter, The Lime Trees will move from the cabin into our Dining Room. Not only will this make dropping off and collecting easier, but we're also confident that it will improve the experience for our children too.

Please also note that we have just launched a new, even wider range of activities on offer for After School clubs. Clubs on offer this term include dodgeball, crazy golf, chess & board games and archery. Please see Class Dojo for all the details.



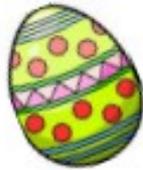
Key Dates

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. Please note that new events may appear each week so please check back each week in case new events appear!

Date	Time	Event	Location	Who's Involved?
Monday 9 March	14:30—15:30	Stay & Play	Foundation	Nursery & Reception
Tuesday 10 March	09:15—12:15	National Measuring Programme	Meeting Room	Reception & Year 6
Friday 13th March	08:40—09:45	Stay & Play	Foundation	Nursery & Reception
Friday 20th March	All Day	Non-uniform Day in exchange for an Easter Egg		Whole School
Friday 27th March	14:30	Stations of the Cross Presentation	School Hall	Key Stage 2

Looking further ahead, please note that this half term ends at 3.30pm on Friday 27th March for the Easter holidays. **Pupils will return to school on Monday 13th April at 8.40am.** [Click here](#) to view the full year's Term Dates.

St Philip PTA invite you to share your
creativity in our



Decorate an Egg Competition



Be as Eggstravagant as you like...



**£1 per entry with prizes for both adults
and children**

All entries need to be in by 20th March

The PTA are raising funds for an outdoor classroom and as always thank you for all your support