



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

Newsletter Date:
Friday 17th July, 2026

St. Philip Neri with St. Bede Catholic Voluntary Academy

Summer Reading Challenge



Produced by The Reading Agency and run in partnership with libraries across the country, the [Summer Reading Challenge](#) is a great way to keep children reading over the summer. Taking part can help avoid the potential dip in reading levels over the long summer break and provides free fun for 4 – 11 year olds. There are stickers to collect and a medal and certificate when a child completes the Challenge.

This year's challenge is **Read to the Beat**, which celebrates music and sound, and explores how music and storytelling unite; it runs in Nottinghamshire libraries from now until 6th September.

How does the Challenge work?

- Children sign up at their local library and receive a free sticker book.
- Children borrow and read at least six library books, of their choice, during the summer - collecting stickers and other incentives along the way.
- Children who complete the Summer Reading Challenge receive a certificate and medal.
- Library staff and volunteers are on hand to talk to children about the books they have read.

You can find out more about the Summer Reading Challenge and the activities planned on their [website](#). Our school came first in Mansfield last year so let's aim to be the best again this year!

Residential Visits

It's been wonderful to see our Year 5 children return from their Residential Visits this week. I've enjoyed hearing what a great time the children have had all. Huge thanks to the staff who accompanied the children on this visit, and all residential visits throughout the year. These trips would simply not be possible without our wonderful staff team volunteering their time to accompany the children to make such treasured memories.

Lost Property

If you have items missing—school uniform, PE kits, lunchboxes, water bottles—it's likely they are in school. Please check the lost property trolleys under the kitchen windows on the large playground. In order to reduce the amount of lost property, **please ensure your child's name is clearly marked in all belongings so missing items can be easily returned.**

Attendance this week: 96.7%

FS2WQ 98.9%

FS2NM 98.3%

Y1BB 96.9%

Y1JD 98.5%

Y2AN 98.7%

Y2RT 96.3%

Y3RB 92.2%

Y3JD 93.2%

Y4AS 97.2%

Y4DK 98.4%

Y5BF 96.9%

Y5GC 98.4%

Y6LB 95.6%

Y6GS 96.2%

Reading Survey

One of our main aims is to develop in each child a lifelong love for reading. To help us improve how we teach, resource and support reading both in the classroom and at home, we would love to hear your feedback.

We'd be most grateful if you take just a couple of minutes to complete this short, anonymous survey. Your insights are incredibly valuable and will be used to directly shape our school development priorities and reading strategies moving forward. [Please click here](#) to complete the survey which is open until 9am on Thursday 24th July. Huge thanks in advance for taking the time to share your views.

The Big Future

The Children's Commissioner, Dame Rachel de Souza, wants to hear from young people to find out how they feel about being a child in England today. Dame Rachel will take these views to the Government to help them make life better for children. The children have taken part in this survey at school, but I wanted share this with you in case you would like to look at this together as a family. All the details to the survey can be found [here](#) and the direct link for the [survey is here](#).

Preparation for the new school year

Our wonderful PTA will provide each child entering our Reception classes in September with a free book bag as a welcome gift for joining our school. We ask that all other children purchase ONLY school book bags if you're not able to reuse the one provided from this year. These, along with most other uniform items, are available to buy from [myclothing.com](#). Please do not send your child with a rucksack as there isn't the space in cloakrooms to store these. Please also consider purchasing metal water bottles for your child too (not the Stanley metal straw cups) as these are more durable than plastic bottles, often cheaper and better for the environment. We also remind you that there is no need to purchase any stationery as all writing and drawing implements and equipment will be provided by school.

Reports

End of Year Reports for all children were emailed yesterday (16th July). Please check your inbox to make sure you've received it. For children in Year 1, Year 4 and Year 6 who have completed national assessments, the outcomes were also shared in a separate email. Please contact the school office if you have not received a copy of your child's Report or national assessment outcomes. If you wish to discuss any aspect of your child's Report, please contact your child's class teacher.

Baby News!



I'm delighted to share the wonderful news that Miss Dabrowska gave birth to a beautiful little boy. Adam arrived on 10th July at 17:54 weighing 7.36lb. Welcome to the world, little one. Huge congratulations to Miss Dabrowska and her family.

Word of the Week

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

Leavers' Mass

Please note that our whole school Year 6 Leavers' Mass takes place next week, on Tuesday morning at 9.30am. As ever, families and parishioners are most welcome to join us in Church as we celebrate our Year 6's final week of primary school.

NottAlone: It's OK to feel not OK

With the summer holidays soon upon us, please be reminded of the Nottinghamshire County Council's NottAlone service for you or anyone who is struggling with their mental health and are in need of advice and help. This comprehensive website provides local mental health advice, covering a range of areas from self-harm, to family separation, suicidal thoughts or worries about gangs/gang culture. Click [here to visit the NottAlone website](#).



Term Dates: Academic Year 26-27

As shared in previous Newsletters, our term dates have been finalised for the next academic year. Please [click here](#) for the academic year calendar. Please note that school will also be closed to all children on the following dates for our INSET days:



Tuesday 1st September, 2026
Wednesday 2nd September, 2026
Friday 16th October, 2026
Monday 2nd November, 2026
Thursday 11th February, 2027
Friday 12th February, 2027

Did you know?

Our website also contains the school holiday calendar for 2027-28 so you can book holidays/trips/visits in advance.

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 regularly!

Date	Time	Event	Location	Who's Involved?
Tuesday 21 July	09.30	Leavers' Mass	St Philip's RC Church	Whole School
Wednesday 22 July	14:00—17:00	Leavers' Party	School Hall	Year 6
Thursday 23 July	14.00—14.30	Leavers' Assembly	School Hall	Whole School
Friday 24 July	09:00—09:45	Virtues Assembly	School Hall	Whole School

Our final day of the academic year is Friday 24th July. School will therefore close for the summer holidays from 3.30pm next Friday. Following the summer holiday, please note that the first day back for children will be Thursday 3rd September, 2026.



ST PHILIP NERI PTA

WHAT WE HAVE RAISED

SO FAR THIS YEAR!

A huge thank you to all our amazing families
for your support – together, we're making
a **big** difference for our school!

HARVEST FESTIVAL



WE RAISED
£208.97!

CHRISTMAS FAIR



WE RAISED
£1036.47!

SANTA'S GROTTO



WE RAISED
£1264.50!

EASTER RAFFLE



WE RAISED
£567.57!

AUTUMN DISCO



WE RAISED
£1086.32!

SUMMER FAIR



WE RAISED
£787.91!

ICE POP SALE



WE RAISED
£100.00!

UNIFORM SALE



WE RAISED
£53.00!

**TOTAL RAISED
SO FAR THIS YEAR
£5444.71!**

Every penny
makes a
difference!

WHAT WE'VE SPENT SO FAR

We are aiming to pay for an outdoor classroom with the money
raised as soon as we have enough funds.



£371.88
Tables to be
used for Events
and PTA Fairs



£495.59
Free school
book bags for
our new starters
in Reception and
other Year groups



**FREE
ICEPOPS**
Provided free
icepops during
the heatwave

£250.00
Years 6
Leavers
Party



TOGETHER WE'RE MAKING GREAT THINGS HAPPEN!