



ST. TERESA'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL
March 2024



St Teresa's School Mission Statement

We see the light of Jesus in the eyes of those we work, play and pray with every day. We give thanks to God for our wonderful family. Like St Teresa, we always try to do the little things well.

Dear Parents,

Welcome to our March Newsletter. As Easter approaches I would like to thank the children, parents, staff and governors for your continued support in ensuring St Teresa's School continues to be a vibrant learning community that bears witness to our Gospel values.

We have lots to celebrate.

Please see the report from the Nottingham post celebrating our recent achievements. (March 2024). Congratulations to everyone.

A Nottingham school has been placed in the top one per cent of primaries in England, making it one of the 50 best in the country. St. Teresa's Catholic Primary School in Aspley has been given the recognition following its Key Stage 2 results.

The school is in the top one per cent for reading, writing and maths Key Stage 2 tests, as well as the phonics screening check, 'highlighting the school's commitment in providing quality education'. It is also ranked within the top 200 performing schools in the multiplication tables test.

Ann Glynne-Jones, Headteacher of St. Teresa's Catholic Primary School, shared her gratitude to the school community for their hard work and dedication. She said: "Our inclusion among the top 50 primary schools in England is a testament to the dedication, commitment and hard work of our pupils, staff and the wider school community."


At St. Teresa's, we believe in instilling a sense of aspiration and high ambition that empowers every child to reach their full potential academically, whilst also nurturing their moral, spiritual and social development." Ms Glynne-Jones added that the achievement marks a 'significant achievement in educational excellence and pupil success'.

The school proudly holds two Outstanding Ofsted ratings, which recognises 'the high-quality teaching, leadership and educational opportunities' for their pupils. In November 2023, the school also received a second Outstanding rating following its Catholic School Inspection, 'further highlighting its commitment to excellence in all aspects of Catholic life'.

Attendance

Our attendance for this academic year so far is **96.7%**. Thank you for all your support in getting the children to school on time ready for the day ahead. It is important for your child to be on time and prepared for their school day.

Please see individual class attendance below.

Class FMM	94.9%	Class FMA	96.8%
Class 1RC	95.8%	Class 1KG	96.5%
Class 2HB	96.8%	Class 2IJ	97.4%
Class 3SB	97%	Class 3EB	96.6%
Class 4YU	96%	Class 4KM	97.6%
Class 5HK	97.1%	Class 5SM	96.5%
Class 6KL	97.8% 	Class 6SD	96.9%

Please DO NOT book holidays in term time as this has a detrimental effect on your child's education. Children miss out on essential work, they find it hard to catch up and it can also affect their friendships. School Policy is that holidays will not be authorised and parents may be fined. School is closed for 13 weeks during the year when family holidays can be taken.

Catholic Life

Encounter Retreat Day

Thank you to Canon Stanley for celebrating Mass with us on the 29th February to mark the season of Lent. This began our retreat day, focusing on Bishop Patrick's spiritual theme of Encounter. This year has also been designated the Year of Prayer by Pope Francis, in preparation for the Jubilee Year next year. All classes spent the day studying prayers we say as a community and also had the opportunity to write their own prayer intentions.



Cafod's Big Lent Walk

Our Year 3, 4 and 5 pupils all participated in our pilgrimage walk to St Hugh of Lincoln Church on Tuesday 19th March to raise money for the Cafod Big Lent Walk. Thank you to Deacon Anthony for joining us on our pilgrimage and our lay chaplain Issie, for leading us in a special liturgical prayer. During Lent, all classes have been completing fundraising events to support the vital work of Cafod in their fight against global poverty. Thank you so much for your donations and support over this term.



CAFOD BIG LENT WALK



Liturgical prayer parent workshop

Thank you for your support in attending our liturgical prayer workshops which have taken place so far this year. We would like to remind you of the following dates for you to see your child and their class planning and leading collective worship.

EYFS	Wednesday 24 th April	2.30pm
Year 2	Wednesday 19 th June	2.30pm
Year 3	Wednesday 15 th May	2.30pm

Ascension Mass

On Thursday 9th May, we will be celebrating the Feast Day of the Ascension with Mass at 9.30am in St Teresa's Church. This will be led by our chaplaincy team. All are welcome to attend. This will begin our Pentecost Retreat Day, focusing on the example of Mary and the Saints and how we can say yes to Jesus, just as they did.

Fundraising

We visited Emmanuel House in Nottingham with a donation of £449.32 to support this homeless charity, this was raised from a cake sale in school. Thank you to everyone who contributed and supported this wonderful cause!



Dance Show Celebration

We are thrilled to announce that our talented Year 5 and Year 6 dancers have clinched second place in the esteemed Great Big Dance Off Competition! During the Spring term, our students have poured their hearts and souls into perfecting their routines, showcasing their incredible talent and creativity. Their tireless rehearsals, under the guidance of our dedicated teachers, have truly paid off, culminating in a spectacular performance to the Grease musical medley that captivated the audience and judges alike.

Our exceptional dancers will be representing our school at the prestigious UK Great Big Dance Off finals in Oxford on 20th June. This remarkable opportunity not only highlights their exceptional talent but also underscores the collective pride and spirit of our school community.



School Trips – Spring & Summer Terms

Thursday 2 nd May	Year 5	Civil War Museum, Newark
Tuesday 7 th May	Year 3	Wollaton Hall, Nottingham
Wednesday 8 th May	EYFS	Manor Farm, Leicestershire
Friday 17 th May	Year 6	Eyam, Derbyshire
Wednesday 22 nd May	Year 1	Sherwood Forest, Nottinghamshire
Tuesday 18 th June	Year 3	Creswell Craggs, Derbyshire
Tuesday 25 th June	Year 2	National Tramway Museum, Crich, Derbyshire

Choral Speaking

We teach choral Speaking to improve confidence, vocabulary, speaking skills and to develop a love of literature. To share the work that the children do we would like to invite you to Our Choral Speaking events which will be held on the dates below in school.

Year 6	Monday 25 th March	9.15am
EYFS & Year 1	Tuesday 26 th March	9.15am
Year 2 & Year 3	Wednesday 27 th March	9.15am
Year 4 & Year 5	Thursday 28 th March	9.15am

Cake Sale



EYFS and Year 6 will be organising our next cake sale which will take place on Thursday 25th April. All children are asked to donate cakes and bring £1 to school to support this event. All monies raised will be donated to St Vincent De Paul charity. Thank you for your ongoing support.



School Photographer

The School Photographer will be in school on Monday 20th May for class photographs.

Uniform Reminder

The school PE kit is a plain white t-shirt and plain black shorts/leggings/jogging bottoms (no logos or brands). Children will need to wear their school jumper or cardigan and plimsoles or sensible sport trainers. Children in Year 6 can wear their St Teresa's hoodie. No other items of sportswear are permitted.

As the weather is getting warmer children may now wear their summer uniform. This consists of brown check dress for girls (we would consider yellow check if brown is unavailable) with a brown cardigan and boys may wear short trousers and a short-sleeved shirt, however a school jumper and school tie is still required at all times. If the weather becomes particularly warm, the teacher will allow the children to remove their jumpers/cardigans during the school day.

Shoes need to be black school shoes with laces or straps – no branding visible. Black Trainers **are not acceptable** for school.

Jewellery, particularly earrings are **not allowed**. Watches are allowed (but only simple analogue).

Hairstyles

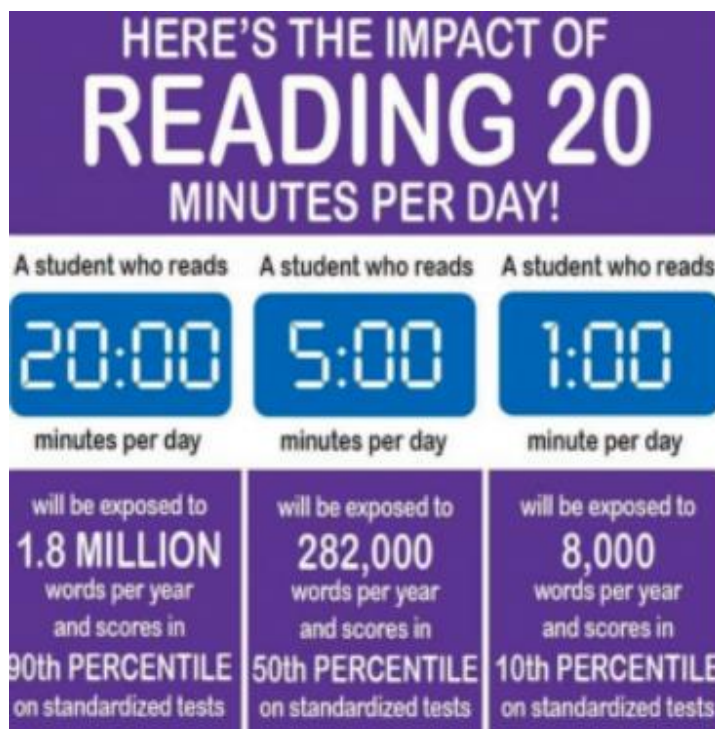
We ask that parents be reminded of the school's expectations regarding hairstyles in line with our Uniform Policy:

- Hair should be one natural colour, no hair dye.
- The style should be appropriate for school; hair should not obstruct pupils' vision.
- Long hair must be tied back.
- Boys' hair should be no shorter than **Grade 2**.
- Tramlines, patterns and sculpting are not allowed
- Coloured extensions and beads are not allowed
- Natural hair coloured extensions of a reasonable length need to be tied back.

If policy is not followed, parents will be contacted and arrangements made for school child to stay in at play/lunchtime/ not represent the school at any events or attend after school activities.

Reading Reminder

It is well proven that children who read regularly, read well, and we know that reading is vital to learning. We have a policy that your child should be reading 5 times a week at home, and that a parent must sign the reading log to say that they have read. This reading log comes to school each day, and is checked for a signature. If a child has not read 5 times in that week, then they will have to stay in at break time on a Monday to read for 10 minutes (and then go outside for 5 minutes play). Surprisingly, this rule tends to stop arguments in the evening about reading, as the children know they will be checked up on in school! A week runs from Monday to Sunday, and all organisers will be checked on a Monday – it is important a child reads at least once over the weekend.



Staffing Update

Mrs Hewlett will be leaving her two-day post at St Teresa's School after Easter. She is a valued member of staff and she will be missed. As well as teaching she has been the leader of special educational needs. We wish her all the best in her new post. We are currently advertising for a new leader of SEND.

We also welcome our new Attendance Officer, Miss White who has recently joined St Teresa's. Miss White is also the Attendance Officer at Trinity and is looking forward to working across both schools. She'll be in school on Mondays to Thursdays during the morning but will available at other times, if required, upon request.

PTA Update

The PTA would like to thank everyone for their support this academic year. They raised an amazing £191.40 from the Mother's Day gift stalls and are planning to do something similar for Father's Day, more details to follow nearer the time.

The PTA meet once a term to discuss fundraising ideas for the school. Meetings take place in the church hall and start at 6.00pm. The next meeting will be taking place on Tuesday 4th June followed by the last meeting of this academic year on Tuesday 2nd July. Everyone is welcome.

Parking in the Church Carpark

Please read the notice below from Canon Stanley at St Teresa's church.

'Recently we have had numerous complaints regarding the car parking at St Teresa's church. It has been brought to our attention some parents have exhibited some levels of rudeness and unacceptable behaviour. I would like to remind anyone who parks there, they should only do so when it is not in use by the church or hall hirers. We also need to consider our neighbours so please do not park over their entrances to their properties. This is also essential to ensure the safety for you and your children. Please park sensibly and if you can please try and walk to school with your child or park away from school and walk the last bit. Thank you for your understanding. Canon Stanley'

School will close for the Easter holidays on Thursday 28th March. All pupils back to school on Monday 15th April.

Yours sincerely,

A. Glynne-Jones (Mrs)
Headteacher