ST. TERESA'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL
NOVEMBER 2026

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 back to the beginning of a very busy half term.

Attendance
Our attendance for this academic year so far is **96.6%.** 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 FLA	98.2%	Class FLD	94.2%
Class 1RC	95.2%	Class 1KG	96.8%
Class 2AG	94%	Class 2SS	96.7%
Class 3EB	97.5%	Class 3YU	97.4%
Class 4SD	97.3%	Class 4RB	98.2%
Class 5SL	96.2%	Class 5JS	96.3%
Class 6KL	97.7%	Class 6AC	97.3%

Lateness
Punctuality is very important, please ensure that your child arrives no later than 8.55am and is collected promptly at the end of the day by 3.15pm. The gates are locked soon after these times, so you need to report to the office to arrange collection. Lateness causes extra work for staff and unnecessary upset to your child, all lateness at the beginning and end of the day is recorded and monitored. Please refer to the attendance policy on the school website if you require further information.

Catholic Life of the School
As November is the month of the Holy Souls, we are praying for people we know that have died. Please send into school the names of any family members or friends who you would like us to pray for during November. These names will be added to the class prayer table to pray for during this time.

Remembrance and Peace Day
This term, we look forward to our whole school Remembrance and Peace Day event on the Wednesday 11th November and remember those who have lost their lives in historical and current conflicts around the world. We will reflect on peace makers who are role models for us and how we can follow their example in our lives.
We would like to honour the contributions and sacrifices of those who have served or are serving in the armed forces.





As we look forward to Advent, we are reminded to wait patiently for things in our lives. We will share our Advent Retreat Day on Thursday 3rd December, with a focus on the Bishop's theme of 'Encounter'. We will start this day with our Advent Mass in church at 9.30am. All welcome.

Class liturgical prayer workshop
As part of our Collective Worship provision at St Teresa's, pupil leadership of liturgical prayer is of high importance. We come together as a whole school, key stages and year groups throughout each week. All classes have the opportunity to plan and lead their class liturgical prayer to provide some reflective time during the busy school week to gather together and bring the message of scripture into focus.

We would like to invite parents and carers into school for a liturgical prayer open afternoon for each class. This will provide you with a good understanding of how we plan, prepare and lead liturgical prayer and the importance of scripture at the heart of all we do. Details of all class liturgies can be found below.

EYFS	Wednesday 28th April	2.30pm
Year 1	Wednesday 10th March	2.30pm
Year 2	Wednesday 16th June	2.30pm
Year 3	Wednesday 5th May	2.30pm
Year 5	Wednesday 27th January	2.30pm
Year 6	Wednesday 25th November	2.30pm

Reverse Advent Calendar
Friday 27th November is the start of our reverse advent calendar, this will kick-off with a 'Cereal Box Domino Rally'. Please could the children bring an unopened box of cereal that we will use in our domino rally and then donate to the local food bank. During advent instead of taking something from a calendar each day, we would like the children to bring a packaged food item to add to their class advent calendar. This needs to be non-perishable food (not fresh), items like pasta, jars, tins, rice, tea and coffee. These items will then be donated to the local food bank at St Margaret's Church in Aspley. This has always been a very successful event for our school and greatly appreciated by the food bank. Please encourage the children to think about how we are giving to others during this special time of year.

Sponsor a Lantern
Our 'sponsor a lantern' event was so well received in our community in previous years that we would like to share this opportunity again to remember those who have passed away or for your own prayer intention. We will set up a focus tree outside the school and add lanterns to this to share the light of Jesus in our school community. If you would like to sponsor a lantern and pray for someone in particular, please ask the office for a sponsorship form, and return it to school with your chosen donation in an envelope. Alternatively, you can donate through the Arbor Parent App. All money raised will be donated to Mission Together.

Fundraising
A big thank you to our school community who donated money for our 'Rockstars Day' which took place on Friday 2nd October. We saw some amazing costumes and raised £206 for Emmanuel House. Thank you as always for your ongoing support.

What's been happening in school?
This half term, Foundation will be learning all about Celebrations during our countdown to Christmas. Please keep an eye out for the Knowledge Organiser containing new knowledge and skills in your children's bag to practise at home. We are currently casting for our Nativity that will take place on **Wednesday 9th December at 9.15am**. To support the fundamental British Values, all children will have the opportunity to choose the part they play in the performance, and we will let you know what costume they will need and send home any lines to practise.



Year 1 have been busy learning and exploring! We walked to a post box in the local area to post letters we had drawn. This was a lovely opportunity to explore their local community and discover how letters begin their journey.

Year 2 were delighted to take part in an exciting workshop with the RNLI. As part of their learning about seaside resorts and why many have a RNLI presence, the children discovered the important role the charity plays in keeping people safe around the coast. During the session, they learnt about the history of the RNLI and how to stay safe while having fun near water. They explored the RNLI's four key safety messages: *Stop and Think*, *Stay Together*, *Float to Live*, and *Call 999* in an emergency. The children were fully engaged throughout the workshop and especially enjoyed acting out a beach rescue scenario. It was a fun and informative experience that helped everyone learn important water safety skills. We would like to say a huge thank you to Geoff, our RNLI volunteer, for delivering such an engaging and memorable workshop.







Year 3 have been busy creating some beautiful artwork inspired by Stonehenge! The children have worked incredibly hard, using their creativity and imagination to recreate this famous prehistoric monument.



Year 5 visited Go Ape at Sherwood Pines on Thursday 15th October. The children enjoyed the experience of walking on the wires and discussing the forces that were acting on them while they walked. They were the same forces that acted on the subject of our literacy book, Philippe Petit. Year 5 were incredible ambassadors for our school and the staff on site were very complimentary about their behaviour.

PE Enrichment Provision



We are delighted to welcome Miss Walsh and Miss Sands from First Grade Sports to our school this autumn term. Experienced coaches will be delivering high-quality PE lessons across the whole school, helping children develop their skills, confidence, teamwork and love of physical activity.

We are also excited to welcome back Ben from Rockin' Robins Drum Services, who will be delivering fun and energetic Stick Fit sessions to Year 3. Fesa from FSD Dance Academy returns to deliver specialist dance lessons to Years 2, 4, 5 and 6, alongside additional sessions for our fantastic performance group.

We look forward to an action-packed autumn term filled with exciting opportunities for all children to stay active, learn new skills and shine!

St Teresa's School Choir

Ms MacDonald continues to lead our amazing choir, and the children are thoroughly enjoying rehearsing for the Young Voices Concert in Birmingham. This year's theme "Power in Me" encourages children to celebrate their strengths, talents and potential. Thirty-four pupils will be attending this exciting event and are already showing great enthusiasm during rehearsals. They will be performing alongside thousands of other children in one of the world's largest school choir concerts which will be a truly unforgettable experience.

Mental Health Support in School

We are delighted to welcome our Mental Health Support Worker, Megan, who is now working in school as part of the Nottingham City Mental Health Support Team. Her role is to provide low-to-moderate mental health support, deliver interventions, workshops and group activities, and help promote positive mental health and wellbeing across the school. Megan has already established a team of Mental Health Ambassadors, with two pupils from every class in Years 2 to 6 taking on this important role to help champion wellbeing and support their peers. We are excited to be working with Megan and look forward to the positive impact she will have on our school community.

Anti-Bullying Week



This year's Anti-Bullying Week has the theme 'Break the Silence' and will take place from Monday 16th - Friday 20th November. This theme emphasises the positive influence everyone can have in combatting bullying and promoting kindness in communities. This week will also feature activities encouraging everyone to engage in acts of kindness and support one another.

Odd Socks Day will be held on **Monday 16th November**. Children can wear odd socks (with their school uniform) to celebrate what makes us all unique.

Throughout the week, children will explore what bullying is, how it affects others, and the ways we can work together to prevent it. They will take part in assemblies, learn about e-safety, and discover how to stay safe online.

Children in Need



On Friday 13th November we are taking part in the RunPudsey 2026 challenge. Children will need to wear sports clothing to school and bring in a £1 donation for Children in Need. Thank you, in advance, for your support with our fundraising.

Grandparent's Day



We would like to invite our Year 2 Grandparents into school on Wednesday 18th November at 9.00am to 10.30am, this will be an opportunity for Grandparents to take part in lessons and activities throughout the morning and to experience a morning at St. Teresa's School. All Year 2 Grandparents welcome. Please could parents complete the form that has been sent via Arbor if a grandparent will be attending. Thank you.



Violin

Our budding Violinists will perform their Christmas concert on Monday 7th December at 2.00pm. All violin parents' welcome.

Christmas Assemblies



Foundation (Butterflies and Busy Bees)	Wednesday 9th December
Year 1	Tuesday 15th December
Year 2	Wednesday 16th December

The Christmas assemblies will start at 9.15am and take place in the school hall, doors open at 9.00am. The PTA will be selling Christmas crafts beforehand. All parents welcome.

Dance Performance

On Thursday 10th December at 2.30pm, our school dancers will be performing their new routines. This is a wonderful opportunity for them to showcase the dances they have been working hard on since September.
The children have thoroughly enjoyed taking part in dance, and it has helped to build their confidence, teamwork and performance skills. All parents of the dancers are welcome to attend

Pantomime Visit

We are excited to announce that pupils in Years 2 to 6 will be going to the Nottingham Playhouse on Tuesday 8th December to watch Alladin. Pupils in EYFS and Year 1 will be visiting Lakeside on Thursday 10th December to see 'The Snowsmith'. We are extremely grateful to the PTA who will be covering the cost of the pantomime tickets and the transport.

Whole School Christmas Dinner



We invite all our children to join the staff in our whole school Christmas Dinner celebration on Thursday 17th December. You will soon receive details of how to order your child's Christmas Dinner. The children can wear their Christmas Jumpers with their school uniform on this day.

Eco Team

Our school eco-team will be holding a 'Reuse and Recycle' Christmas jumper shop. Please bring any old or unwanted Christmas jumpers to school on Monday 7th and Tuesday 8th December for the Eco-Team to sell after school on Thursday 10th December.

Admission to Infant/Primary Education

The admissions process for entry into Foundation Year September 2027 has begun. If your child will be 5 during the academic year September 2027 to August 2028 you will need to be making an application at this time. Please ensure you also complete a Supplementary Form with details of your faith and provide a copy of your child's Baptism Certificate. The closing date for all applications is **15th January 2027**. Any applications submitted after this date will be classed as late. This could mean your child may not get a place.

St Teresa's will be open for prospective families to visit and have a look around the school before they submit their application. This will be on Thursday 26th November between 9.30am until 11.00am by appointment only. Please call the school office on 0115 9155762 to book your place.

Winter Weather



As the weather gets colder please ensure your child has a suitable winter coat, scarf, gloves, etc as learning takes place inside and outside. All children should now be wearing their winter uniforms. May I remind you that all uniform should be clearly marked with your child's name. If your child wears boots to walk to school they must bring school shoes to change into.

Should we need to close the school in the event of bad weather, please listen to local radio where timely updates will be given. www.bbc.co.uk/radionottingham

Messages will also be sent through the Arbor app.

Don't forget to follow St Teresa's on Instagram to keep up to date with all the latest news, events and activities happening in school.
It's a great way to see what our pupils have been getting involved in and to stay informed about upcoming events and celebrations.
You can find us on Instagram: **@stteresas_ng8**

Early Closure on Friday 18th December

School will close at 1.00pm on Friday 18th December, after lunch. All children will need to be collected promptly at this time following the usual end of day dismissal procedures.

INSET DAYS

Please make note of the following INSET Days
Friday 12th February 2027
Monday 26th, Tuesday 27th and Wednesday 28th July 2027.

Summer term ends on Friday 23rd July 2027.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs A Glynne-Jones and Mrs J. Green
Headteacher(s)