

St Nicholas Catholic Primary School

'Love one another as I have loved you'



Headteacher: Mrs J. Burns BA QTS (Hons) NPQH
Address: Oakwood Lane, Leeds, West Yorkshire, LS9 6QY
Telephone: 01132 930 318
Email: schooloffice@stnicholasprimaryleeds.org.uk
Website: www.stnicholasprimaryleeds.org.uk

Head Teacher Newsletter 12
Monday 16th March 2026

Virtue to Live By: Forgiveness

Dear Parents and Carers

Yesterday in church we heard the Gospel of the man born blind, healed by Jesus so that "the works of God might be revealed in him." As we continue our Lenten journey, this reminds us that Lent is a time for our eyes and hearts to be opened – to see more clearly where God is at work in our lives, in our families and in our school community. Through prayer, fasting and almsgiving we are invited to turn back to God, notice those who need our kindness most and live out the light of Christ in very practical ways each day.

I hope you all had a lovely **Mother's Day** yesterday and enjoyed some time to relax and be spoilt. Our Reception children led a beautiful Mother's Day assembly last week, with wonderful pictures of their mummies, confident reading and joyful singing. They made us all very proud, and it was lovely to see how much care and love they put into preparing that celebration.



We were saddened to hear of the death of **Terry Cunningham**, aged 89. Terry was a former caretaker of St Nicholas, a very active member of the parish, and well known for his many years training altar servers and managing local football teams for generations of lads in the community. He was a special man who quietly and faithfully lived out his Catholic faith in service of the school, church and local families. We give thanks for his life and keep his family in our prayers. May he rest in peace.

Our Year 5 children had an amazing residential at **Nell Bank** last week. Staff were full of praise for their behaviour, teamwork and resilience. The children enjoyed a range of outdoor activities and even walked up the Cow and Calf in Ilkley – we were very fortunate with the weather! A big thank you to the staff who gave up their time to make the trip possible; we are very proud of how well the children represented St Nicholas.

Tomorrow we celebrate St Patrick's Day. Miss Mountain's Year 4 class will be leading a St Patrick's Day assembly at 9:10am and parents are very welcome to join us. Some of the children will also be lucky enough to enjoy an Irish dancing lesson as part of the day. St Patrick is a great example of faith and mission, and we remember that our school and parish were founded in an area with a strong Irish Catholic community; their faith and commitment were central to the building of the church and the school we enjoy today.



Our **Book Fair** has now arrived in school. Children and families are welcome to browse and purchase books before and after school. This is a lovely opportunity to encourage reading for pleasure at home and, as always, a proportion of sales comes back to school to help us buy new books for our classrooms and library.

Families in Lower Key Stage 2 (Years 3 and 4) should have received a message about tickets for the Easter production, which will take place on Monday 30th March at 2:00pm and again on Tuesday 31st March at 9:30am. The children have been working extremely hard in rehearsals and we are very much looking forward to sharing their performance with you. Please ensure you have requested your tickets so that we can manage numbers safely.

Children in Years 1 and 2 are looking forward to their visits to Skelton Grange. This is an outdoor education centre where pupils will explore nature, take part in hands-on environmental activities and deepen their science and geography learning through real-life experiences. Year 1 will visit on 18th March and Year 2 on 19th March. Please ensure permission forms are returned and that children are dressed appropriately for the weather and outdoor activities.

You will also have received information about our **Parents' Evenings on Tuesday 24th and Wednesday 25th March.** If you have not yet booked an appointment, please do so as soon as possible. These meetings are an important opportunity to discuss your child's progress and next steps. If you are having any difficulty accessing the booking system, please contact the school office and a member of staff will be happy to help.

Well done to our footballers who secured a great win against Roundhay last week. They showed excellent teamwork, determination and sportsmanship throughout the match. The team are now through to the Quarter Finals, to be played against Shakespeare Primary. Thank you to the staff and parents who supported the team and to the children for representing St Nicholas so well.

Below is a reminder of key dates and events for the rest of this term:

<p>Monday 16th March Easter Egg raffle tickets on sale at break time all week. Whole School. 20p per ticket</p>	<p>Tuesday 17th March St Patrick's Day Assembly led by Miss Mountains Class 9:10am</p>	<p>Wednesday 18th March Toast on sale at break time for Foundation & Key Stage 1 children (20p a slice).</p>	<p>Thursday 19th March Juice and biscuits on sale at break time for Key Stage 2 (20p a biscuit).</p>	<p>Friday 20th March Non-uniform day: Children bring a food item (tin/can) for the Mini Vinnies Appeal.</p>
<p>Monday 23rd March Easter Egg raffle tickets on sale at break time all week. Whole School. 20p per ticket Chaplaincy Team to run breaktime St Francis of Assisi worships. (Focusing on living out gospel values)</p>	<p>Tuesday 24th March St Francis of Assisi worships. (Focusing on living out gospel values) pilgrims of hope worships.</p>	<p>Wednesday 25th March Bun Sale / cupcakes /cookies whole school (50p each). Chaplaincy Team to run breaktime St Francis of Assisi worships. (Focusing on living out gospel values)</p>	<p>Thursday 26th March Chaplaincy Team to run breaktime St Francis of Assisi worships. (Focusing on living out gospel values)</p>	<p>Friday 27th March Chaplaincy Team to run breaktime St Francis of Assisi worships. (Focusing on living out gospel values).</p>
<p>Monday 30th March Drawing of the raffle 2pm Easter Production – tickets needed</p>	<p>Tuesday 31st March Easter Production AM 9:30am tickets needed Stations of the cross 1:30 PM.</p>	<p>Wednesday 1st April Easter competitions 2:15 PM parents welcome</p>	<p>Thursday 2nd April Holy Thursday Non-uniform day £1 donation Good Shepherd Appeal. Break up for Easter Holidays at 1:15pm</p>	<p>Friday 3rd April Good Friday School Closed Start of the Easter Holidays</p>

Thank you, as always, for your continued support and for all the ways you work with us to make St Nicholas such a warm, faith-filled community for our children.

With every blessing,

Mrs Burns
Headteacher