

March Newsletter 2023

Our Journey through Lent

In the first of our Lenten liturgies in school, we looked towards Jesus, our hope, and invited Him to be at the centre of our lives and our Lenten journey. We discussed how now is the time for a fresh start in our relationship with God. The key message for our Lenten journey is to put Jesus at the centre during Lent by making time to **GIVE, ACT** and **PRAY**.

Our newsletters are uploaded onto our school website and our Facebook page. If a paper copy is preferred, please let the office know and a paper copy will be given to the eldest pupil in the family to take home.

Dates for your diary:



Thursday 2nd March World Book day

Tomorrow, children can come into school dressed as their favourite book character. Lots of fun activities will take place across the day to encourage a love of books and reading for pleasure!



Friday 3rd March 9:15-10:15am

Family Friday session for Parents/Carers and children. Focus on Internet Safety. Short assembly followed by a parent/children workshop for **Years 1-Year 6**. Please join us if you can!

Week beginning 6th March SEND Parents Afternoon

Wednesday 8th March

Year 6 SATs information session. 3:20pm in the KS2 hall. Please come if you are a parent/carer of a Year 6 pupil.

Thursday 9th March

EYFS visit to Tweddle Farm.

Friday 10th March Coffee morning

Doors open at 8:45am. Please come along if you can for a cuppa and a chat! We have made good links with our local GPs and will have Jade and John who are both Link Workers within Peterlee at hand to tell you about how they can support you and/or your child. To find out more-pop along!



Friday 17th March

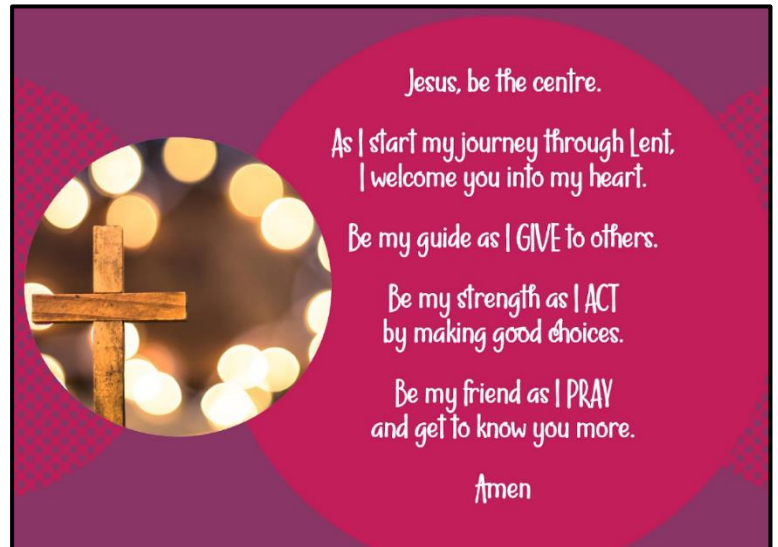
Non-Uniform day for Red Nose Day – any donations welcome.

Year 6 Visit to Beamish

Week beginning 13th March Parents' Afternoons (letters to follow)

Friday 24th March Y1 Mrs Howe's class (Penguins) liturgy

9:05am. Please come if you can! Chance to visit your child's classroom and see what they are doing in class.



Attendance Update!

We continue to work together to ensure your child attends school every day.

Currently, our average attendance is at **93.2%** and our level of persistent absence (below 91%) is **20.1%**. This is an improving trend-thank you for your continued support. We have also seen an improvement in punctuality-thank you for this.

Please contact the school if we can provide any support in improving your child's attendance.



Here is a link to the local offer if you need any SEND support:

[Special educational needs and disabilities \(SEND\) and our Local Offer - Durham County Council](#)

This week we had an exciting visit from Zak, a young songwriter and singer who performed some of his songs and followed this up with a PSHE presentation, a live question and answer with students, and finally a meet and greet with the older pupils.

It was a great way to deliver an important message around mental health, who to turn to for help and the importance of speaking up. He also gave some great advice on how to stay safe online as well as discussing cyber bullying and where to go for help.



TODDLERS GROUP

EVERY TUESDAY 1pm-3pm

INFANT HALL

OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY

We look forward to welcoming you. Come along to play, have a cuppa and a chat!

Please note all are welcome-you do not have to have a child attending Our Lady of the Rosary School

No charge!

Prime Bottles

We are aware that one of the latest trends is the prime drink. We think it is in the best interest of the children not to bring them in even though they are filled with water. The prime bottles themselves, even when filled with water, are so valuable to the children. As a result, when bottles are lost or broken children are becoming quite distressed.

We continue to promote a healthy lifestyle for the children to have access to water throughout the day. Thank you for your support in this matter.

SAFEGUARDING

Safeguarding is Everyone's Responsibility. Any concerns about safeguarding should be reported to our designated safeguarding lead, Mrs. Graham or the deputy designated safeguarding leads Mrs. Sutherland, Mrs. Myhill or Mrs. White. Ask at the school office if you would like a paper copy of the safeguarding policy. All of our Safeguarding policies are available on our school website under policies.

Each Wednesday we will share a guide from <https://nationalonlinesafety.com/>

giving valuable information on how you can help safeguard your child at home.



This week's focus is **combatting online bullying**. In the guide, you'll find tips such as playing online games with your child and talking about your child's online life.

Weekend Mass Times: Our Lady of the Rosary Church

Fr. Sean Neylan, Rev Deacon Peter Barrigan & Rev Deacon Neil Haggerstone.

Saturday Vigil 6:00 pm

Sunday Morning 9:30 am

Thank you for your continued support,

Mrs M Graham Executive Headteacher

Mrs C Sutherland Head of School