



*Catholic Academy*

**The**  
**Communicator**  
**Friday 1<sup>st</sup> March 2024**



# A message from Mrs Hamilton

Firstly, a minibus update. I am very pleased to confirm that we will be offering a minibus service from Tunstall High Street each school morning. From Monday 8<sup>th</sup> April, the minibus will collect from the bus stop outside Subway on Tunstall High Street at 8.25am each morning. Children will need to be booked onto the bus 24 hours in advance on Scopay at a cost of 50p per child per day. Our minibus driver is fully trained and all necessary checks have been carried out and so parents/ carers will not travel with their children. I will advise you in due course that booking is open and encourage you to take advantage of this service if it will help you to get your children to school.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yoeKlaSpXqs>

## World Book Day

We will celebrate our love of reading with World Book Day on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> March 2024. As you know, children may come to school dressed as a book character if they wish to. We have included this as an option as many children tell us they enjoy it. However, there is no pressure from school to do so and we encourage you not to spend lots of money buying costumes. Our focus in school will be on enjoying reading together. Classes will pair up to share stories and our older children will read to younger children. All classes will enjoy a Book Hunt and will be rewarded with a World Book Day Book Prize. A HUGE thank you to Mrs Williams for arranging for The Works to swap all our book tokens for book prizes.

# Catholic Life

Happy St David's Day. Thank you to the children in Y1 and Y6 who led lovely Key Stage Assemblies this week to remind us of the example which St David sets for us.

During his life, St David founded a number of monasteries. The monks were known for eating and drinking very little, simple food and drink and doing hard physical farming work during the day, and praying and studying in the evenings. During his simple life, St David did many little things to help others and to show his faith and he encouraged us all to do the same, saying

“Be joyful and keep your faith and your creed. Do the little things that you have heard about and seen me do. I will walk the path that our fathers trod before us.”

We are encouraging the children to think of a little thing that they can do which will make a big difference to someone else.

## Saint David,

You chose to live a simple life, and helped others whose lives were simple not through choice but circumstances. Pray that I may consider my choices and live more simply in order to make a big difference to others.

Show me the way to make small tasks occasions of prayer. Kindle in me a love of God so that in everything I do, I will keep that spirit of prayer.

**Amen.**

# Thank you

Thank you to those families who have been able to make a donation to the Food Bank this week. We appreciate that many families are experiencing financial challenges; this is exactly why so many are relying more and more on Food Banks. Your donations are very gratefully received and, as St David said, will make a great difference to another family. We will continue collecting throughout Lent and will be pleased to receive your donations at any time.

The Foodbank urgently needs donations of:

Instant Mash  
Tinned potatoes  
Coffee  
Tea  
Squash  
Pasta  
Rice  
UHT/ Powdered milk  
Fruit juice  
Cereal  
Soup  
Tinned spaghetti  
Tinned tomatoes

## Family Mass

Our next Family Mass, on Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> March at 11.00am at St Joseph's Church is a great opportunity to help your child to spend time with God this Lent. Like last time, we will be asking for volunteers to read, to pray and to take up the offertory procession. Please do join us for Mass if you can.

# Asthma

Each year, our staff update their asthma training so that we have the most recent information and advice to help us to take good care of children with asthma. We need your help to ensure that our care of asthmatic children is the best that it can be.

I urge you to read and take note of the reminders below:

- If your child is prescribed an inhaler for the first time, please notify the school office so that we can agree an Asthma Care Plan for your child
- If your child's asthma medication changes, please inform the school office so that we can update their Asthma Care Plan
- Please pass information about short term or permanent changes to your child's Asthma Care Plan to staff in writing to ensure that they are properly read and understood. Please do not give verbal instructions to staff as this may get confusing for staff
- Best practice is for all children to use inhalers with a spacer; please ensure that your child has a spacer in school. If your child's spacer is lost, we will provide them with a disposable spacer **in an emergency only**. **It is a parent's responsibility to ensure their child has an inhaler and spacer at school**
- Please ensure that your child has their inhaler and spacer in school every day. Please ask your GP for an additional inhaler and spacer to keep in school to avoid them being forgotten

## Award Winners

WOW Award	
Nursery	Chase Fearn
Reception	Abel Shinto
Year One	Abram Bittu
Year Two	Lola Warrender
Year Three	Elsie Meakin
Year Four	Chase Sowerbutts
Year Five	Layla Grace Bradley
Year Six	Temetua Igbiriki

Virtues Award – Faith Filled and Hopeful	
Nursery	Simey Doherty
Reception	Elsie Wiltshaw
Year One	Daisy-May Bailey
Year Two	Lucas Dupoi
Year Three	Darcie Davies
Year Four	Lewis Price
Year Five	Harry Mckinlay
Year Six	Oliver Philips

## Award Winners

### Presentation Award

Nursery	Ayaan Sheikh
Reception	Emily Wheatcroft
Year One	Racheal Bailey
Year Two	Maciej Jezierski
Year Three	Aurora Shaw
Year Four	Mia-Rose Kearney
Year Five	Alfie Potts
Year Six	Natasha Cook

### Homework Hero's

Nursery	Indie-Grace Grocott
Reception	Abel Shinto

### 75 Dojo Awards

Finnley Turnock	Roman Platt
Mya Latham	Oliver Phillips
Amira Mahmood	Lennon Gilbert-Davies
Kane Esposito	Nicolas Ingram

### 100 Dojo Awards

Persayus Doherty	
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# Attendance

Congratulations to

Year 6

who have the best  
attendance this week

99.3 %.

A polite reminder that children who are ill with vomiting or diarrhoea MUST stay off school for 48 hours after the last episode. Many thanks for your support in this matter.

This year, our attendance reward trip to Drayton Manor will be for any children who have 100% attendance. The class with the best attendance will have a treat of their choice in school.



As you know, we are only able to authorise a Leave of Absence in term time in the most exceptional circumstances and some requests will result in a referral to the Education Welfare Service for a Penalty Warning.

Our 2025 – 2026 term dates are now available on our website. Please do check these before booking any holidays:



# Diary dates

## This term

Monday 4.3.24	Nursery Class visit to Westport Lake REARRANGED FOR 15.4.24
Monday 4.3.24	Year Five visit to SMW for a Science lesson. THIS SESSION WILL BE REARRANGED DUE TO SMW STAFF ABSENCE
Tuesday 5.3.24	World Book Day celebrations in school. Children may come to school dressed as a favourite book character <b><u>if they wish.</u></b>
Wednesday 6.3.24	Recorder Group to perform at the Recorder Festival
Thursday 7.3.24	Reception Class visit to Peak Wildlife Park Choir to perform at Stoke Gotta sing
Thursday 7.3.24	First Holy Communion preparation sessions begin for children in Y4 who have already received the Sacrament of Reconciliation
Friday 8.3.24 2.30pm	KS1 Mother's Day Service. 2 female relative per child in Y1 and Y2 are very welcome to join our celebration
Monday 11.3.24	Year Five visit to the Safe and Sound Event
Monday 11.3.24 6.30pm	Sacrament of Confirmation in Church for Y6 children
Tuesday 12.3.24	Fire Service visit to Nursery and KS1

# Diary dates

## This term

Tuesday 12.3.24	Year Five to perform in the Manchester Camerata project
Thursday 14.3.24	KS2 Mass in Church at 9.30am. Please do join us to celebrate Mass
Friday 15.3.24	St Patrick's day celebrations. Children in St Patrick (the green team) may come to school in their own clothes including something green
Friday 15.3.24	3.30pm Easter Egg Hunt
Sunday 17.3.24	Family Mass in Church at 11.00am
Monday 18.3.24	Y5 visit to SMW for a Science lesson Parents Evening
Tuesday 19.3.24	St Joseph's Day Please join us to celebrate Mass in Church at 9.30am and for refreshments in school after Mass
Thursday 21.3.24	KS2 Dance Group to perform in the Dance Extravanza
Friday 22.3.24 2.30pm	Nursery and Reception Easter Bonnet Parade School closes for the Easter holidays
Monday 8.4.24	School opens to staff and pupils

# Future Diary Dates

Wednesday 17th April 2.30pm - Y3 Class Saint Liturgy. Y3 parents invited into the classroom to celebrate the feast of St Bernadette

Monday 22nd April - Watch Me Learn. Parents invited to join their child in the classroom. Nursery, Reception, Y1, Y3 and Y5 9.45 - 10.45, Y2, Y4, Y6 10.45 - 11.45, Monday 13th - Thursday 16th May - Y6 SATs

Monday 20th - Friday 24th May - Y6 residential trip to Stanley Head

Monday 10th June - Class and Team Photos

Monday 24th - Friday 28th June - Change4Life Week

Wednesday 26th June - Sports Day. 9.30 EYFS, 11.00 KS1, 1.00 KS2

Sunday 30th June - First Holy Communion

Wednesday 3rd July 2.30pm Y4 Class Saint Liturgy. Y4 parents invited into the classroom to celebrate the feast of St Peter

Thursday 4th July - Summer Disco

Friday 5th July 2.00pm - Y1 Inspire Workshop

Tuesday 9th July 6.00pm - Y6 Production

Friday 12th July - Achievement Assembly

Tuesday 16th July 6.00pm - Y6 Presentation Evening, Meal and Disco

Wednesday 17th July 2.15pm - Summer Concert

Thursday 18th July 9.30am Leavers Mass in Church

Friday 19th July 9.00am Leavers Assembly, Toy Day, School closes