



WHAT'S IN THE NEWS?

Welcome back to school, we hope you have all enjoyed a lovely week despite it being very wet for long periods. We begin today with year 4 commencing their Forest School sessions with Mrs Harrison and Mr Jessop. Please ensure the children have a change of footwear for these sessions as the ground can be very wet and muddy.

As we are now in the season of Lent, please make a note of our Celebrations of the Word which the children will lead for our community. All families are welcome to join us.

- **Monday 23rd February at 2:30pm led by Year 2. Theme - Prayer**
- **Wednesday 4th March at 2:30pm led by Year 3. Theme – Fasting**
- **Monday 9th March at 2:30pm led by Year 4. Theme – Almsgiving**
- **Friday 20th March at 2:30pm led by Year 5. Theme – Sacrifice**
- **Friday 27th March at 2:30pm led by Year 6. Theme - Journey**

Children in Year 4, 5 and 6 will also have the opportunity to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation on 16th March.

Please make a note of our remaining three INSET days this academic year. The first one is on Friday 26th June and 27th July. School is closed for all children on these days.

As always follow us on X [@elseacademy](https://twitter.com/elseacademy) and [Instagram: elseacademy_nottingham](https://www.instagram.com/elseacademy_nottingham) for the latest news and photos.

WORD OF THE WEEK: PRAYER

1st Week of Lent Year C

Word of the Week

Prayer

First Reading [2] Deuteronomy 26:4-10
Gospel Reading [1] Luke 4:1-13

Hebrew Bible [2] Jeremiah 29:10-14
New Testament [1] Matthew 6:5-15

Prayer is a conversation with God. It is a way of opening our hearts to him and sharing our thoughts and feelings with him. Prayer can be done in many different ways, such as through words, music, or silence. During Lent, we can use prayer to reflect on our relationship with God, and to ask for his guidance and strength.

Reflection Take a moment this week to pray. Think about what you want to say to God and what he might be saying to you.

Daily Breakfast Club 7:45-8:45	EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES	
Monday Breakfast Club	TB Sport: Volleyball (Year 4, 5 and 6)	3:15 - 4:30
Tuesday Breakfast Club	TB Sport: Mult skills (Year 1 and 2)	All day 3:15 - 4:30
Wednesday Breakfast Club	TB Sport: Fitness (Year 1,2 and 3)	3:15 - 4:30
Thursday Breakfast Club	TB Sport: Table Tennis (Year 3, 4 and 5)	3:15 - 4:30
Friday Breakfast Club	No afterschool provision	

ARTISTIC FLAIR IN RECEPTION

Reception developed their cutting and sticking skills, whilst recreating a piece of artwork, inspired by the artist Megan Coyle.

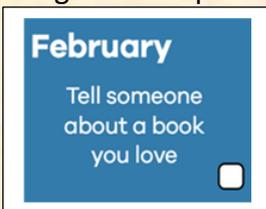


NATIONAL YEAR OF READING 2026

As we approach the end of the month, don't forget to complete your reading challenge for February.

Well done to all the children who received their reading certificates prior to half term.

Thank you to all the families who are supporting our reading initiative.



ATTENDANCE SHOUT OUTS!!

Our Education Welfare Officer, Miss Bradshaw, monitors attendance daily and continues to make home visits to support parents to ensure their child attends school regularly and on time.

Our whole school attendance for the last half term was 96.68% This is an increase of 2.21% from Advent 2. Well done everyone.

Four classes achieved above our school target Year 2 with 98.03%, Year 3 with 97.47%, Year 4 with 97.2% and Reception with 97.07%





Week beginning:	School Event	Assemblies/Services	After School
5 th January		05.01.26 Whole School COTW - Epiphany	EXTENDED SERVICES CLUBS BEGIN
12 th January	16.01.26 Talent Show Auditions	12.01.26 Mass to celebrate Feast of Epiphany 9:30am	
19 th January	23.01.26 Talent Show Final	19.01.26 Whole School COTW - Discipleship 20.01.26 Blessed Cyprian Tansi Feast Day	
26 th January	30.01.26 – Bread making afternoon with Aspens	27.01.25 20.01.25 Whole School COTW - Scripture	
2 nd February		02.02.26 20.01.25 Whole School COTW - Inspiration 06.02.26: Celebration Assembly	
9 th February	Children's Mental Health Week 10.02.26 Safer Internet Day 13.02.26 INSET Day	09.02.26 Whole School COTW - Diversity 10.02.26 Safer Internet Day Assembly 12.02.26 Achiever of the Half Term Assembly	
16th February	HALF TERM		
23 rd February		23.02.26 Whole School COTW – Prayer led by year 2 27.02.26: Celebration Assembly	
2 nd March	06.03.26 World Book Day	04.03.26 Whole School COTW – Fasting led by year 3	
9 th March	British Science Week 11.03 – 13.03 Year 6 visit The Briars	09.03.26 Whole School COTW – Almsgiving led by year 4 13.03.26 Celebration Assembly	
16 th March	Assessment Week	16.03.26 Lent Penitential Service led b Chaplaincy Team 20.03.26 Whole School COTW – Sacrifice led by year 5	18.03.26 Parents Open Afternoon 3:30 – 5:30pm
23 rd March	27.03.26 Class photographs	26.03.26 Achiever of the Half Term Assembly 27.03.26 Whole School COTW – Journey led by year 6	
30th March	EASTER HOLIDAYS		

PUPIL VOICE

We celebrated in Children's Mental Health Week in different ways. On Monday we thought about all the safe places we belong to, Internet Day was spent thinking about AI and staying safe whilst using it. There were so many wonderful scarves on show to represent Safety, Care, Achieve, Resilience and Friendship. We finished the week wearing clothes that express our personalities.



OUR LADY & ST. EDWARD PRIMARY AND NURSERY CATHOLIC VOLUNTARY ACADEMY

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Guided by Jesus in all that we do. Together, we are one school, one community, one world.



PARISH NOTICES:

Christian Initiation Lent is an important time for those who desire to become Catholics at Easter. We have an RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) group in our parish and this weekend they will meet the Bishop at the Cathedral. It is important that we hold them in our prayers as they prepare for Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist at Easter. Please remember Corey, Scarlet, Isabelle, Ellen, George, Maria and Rebecca in your prayers this Lent. If there are people in our parish who are not Catholic and want to know more about the Catholic faith, there will be a Keeping in Touch evening on Wednesday 11th March after the 7pm Mass in Sacred Heart Community Centre. This is an informal opportunity to meet with catechists regarding the next round of RCIA in the parish beginning in September.

Stations of the Cross: The traditional Lent devotion of the Stations of the Cross will be celebrated in each of our churches on the Fridays of Lent at 7.00pm. It would be very good if the various ministries in our church communities (eg. the SVP, the Ministers of Holy Communion, Live Simply group, musicians) would lead these each week, with a variety of different stations. Some Fridays still available – contact the office.

On-line Lent Resources

- Family Activity Pack for Lent produced by the Celebrate Trust and a Journey to Easter Joy game. www.celebratetrust.org/shop/lent-familypack-celebratehome-s45pm and www.celebratetrust.org/shop/lentgame-celebratehome-s45pm-39gpi
- A Different Perspective: Poems to make you think and pray - www.godwhospeaks.uk/different-perspective-poems-to-make-youthink-and-pray/ Fr Mark Skelton has written 5 beautiful poems inspired by the gospels for Lent.
- Lent Express: Short Reflections in Busy Times - www.godwhospeaks.uk/lent-express-short-reflections-in-busy-times/

Franciscan Year A special Jubilee Year marking the 800th anniversary of the death of St Francis of Assisi has been proclaimed by Pope Leo XIV. The Year of St Francis will be celebrated from 10 January 2026 to 10 January 2027, inviting all the faithful to follow St Francis' example of holiness, humility, charity and peace. During this Jubilee, a plenary indulgence may be obtained under the usual conditions by those who take part devoutly, including through pilgrimage to Franciscan churches or places dedicated to St Francis; the sick and housebound may also participate spiritually. While especially addressed to the Franciscan family, this Jubilee is open to all the faithful, encouraging renewed Christian charity, peace, and evangelical witness in today's world. Bishop Patrick has allowed our church of Our Lady and St Edward, as a Franciscan Foundation, to be a designated Pilgrimage church so anyone coming to the church and fulfilling the conditions for a Plenary Indulgence can obtain this grace during this special period.

CHANGE OF MASS TIMES As announced last week, from Divine Mercy Sunday, Saturday 11th and Sunday 12th April, the new Mass schedule in the parish will be Saturday 5pm (Sacred Heart), Sunday 9am (OLSE) and 11am (St Augustine's). Copies of the letter I read out last week are available at the back of all our churches and on our website do take a copy. During the next few weeks, the members of the Pastoral Team will be contacting the leaders of ministries and groups in the parish to look at coordinating our service of each other for the new times. Please be generous in supporting the continuing work of mission in our parish as we move forward. – Fr Chris

Please pray for:

- Godfrey Archer RIP funeral 4th March, 11:30 at Bretby Crematorium in Burton on Trent. DE15 0QE
- Francesco De Vivo RIP, funeral at Sacred Heart 16th March at 11.30am
- Jimmy Donovan RIP reception of the Body 6pm Monday 9th March, Requiem Mass 10.30am Tuesday 10th March and 12noon Committal at Gedling Crematorium

This week:

- Community Café at Our Lady & St Edward's this Wednesday: 12 – 3
- Women's group: Wednesday 25th February 11.30 – STA hall.
- Community Café at Sacred Heart Community Centre: this Thursday 12 – 3 All welcome
- 24/7 youth group: offsite meeting this week – 25 th February. Contact the office if you have not received an email.
- Meditation Group: Thursday 26th February on zoom. Meeting ID: 517630879 Passcode: 6em01w at 7.30 pm. All Welcome.
<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/517630879?pwd=UysvOEIKSTBkVHlNMWtMRDdkMEpUZZ09>

Women's Group at St Augustine's Church Hall: join Sr Treasa for a mixture of mediation and Capacitar which is a flow of body-based exercises and meditation techniques. Capacitar means "to empower" in Spanish. Capacitar's mission is to teach body-mind-spirit practices to empower healing, wholeness and peace, both in the individual and in the world. Join her on Wednesday 25th February 11.30 – 1 pm in St Augustine's Hall.

Deanery Station Mass: on Tuesday 3rd March at Holy Cross church, Hucknall NG15 7NG. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 6.00pm - 6.45pm. Confession available then Mass beginning at 7 pm. Refreshments will be available after Mass in the meeting room.

CAKE STALL: NEXT SUNDAY 1ST MARCH AFTER THE 11.30 MASS AT ST AUGUSTINE'S. DONATIONS OF CAKES WELCOME.

Vox Harmonica presents an evening of hymns with the theme: 'ashes to mercy' on Saturday 21st March 2026 4 pm the Good Shepherd Church Woodthorpe, Nottingham NG5 4HT. All are welcome to this evening of sacred hymns and solemn reflection. Refreshments served afterwards. Lent & Easter Leaflets: are available from the back of church – do take one home and give one to family and friends as their invite

Italian Evening: 4 course meal on Friday 20th March 2026 – 7 pm at Sacred Heart Community Centre – tickets £25 available from the churches and the office. Come along and enjoy some time together whilst raising funds for our parish

Word of the Week: Prayer. Prayer is a conversation with God. It is a way of opening our hearts to him and sharing our thoughts and feelings with him. Prayer can be done in many different ways, such as through words, music, or silence. During Lent, we can use prayer to reflect on our relationship with God, and to ask for his guidance and strength. Take a moment this week to pray. Think about what you want to say to God and what he might be saying to you



CONGRATULATIONS TO.....

Vy, Kezia, Deaglan, Chicago, Alice, Tsebaot, John and Timmi who achieved our Achiever of the Half Term Awards. Confident, independent, kind, polite, positive, hardworking, proficient and resilient are just some of the words used to describe you all. Well done.



Well done to the following children who received their **Bronze Award** for collecting a minimum of 100 House Points this year: **Tiara A, Myles, Iwar, Jason O, Jesse, Sammy C, Tiwa, Oskar, Junior, Raphael, Colby, Alice, Laura, Gabriel, Kevin, Milan S, Piotr, Joseph, Rey, Patrick. Abdoul, Shelia, Tsebaot, John, Adam, Freya, Olly, Prince, Zach, William, Lou. Daniel, Nikodem and Alex.**

Well done to the following children who received the **Silver Award** for collecting a minimum of 250 House Points this year: **Kendrick, Ayla, Clara, Ebum, Janelle, Thea, Kennelia, Barron, Leo, Natasha, Anna, Otis, Jessica, Najarn, Evanna, Shanelle, Chicago, Janelle, David, Aliciia, Mila, Joyce, Sinobi, Havanna, Emmanuella, Anna, Rylinn, Adiel, Andrei, Anaija, Byran, Kendall, Medet, Lena, Nell, Elizabeth, Chi An, Chiwetara, Rebecca, Ebube, Chiamaka, Zina, Evelyn, Oliver, Ethan, Roman, Gabi, Mailany, Emmanuella, Matthew, Eva Joy, Valerie, Evelyn, Hannah, Sienna, Timmi and Pacem.**

MASS TIMES & LITURGICAL CALENDAR

Monday 23 rd February St Polycarp, bishop and martyr	9.30am (OLSE)	MASS Ann Garibaldi RIP
Tuesday 24 th February	9.30am (STA)	MASS Service of Word and Communion
Wednesday 25 th February	6pm (SH) 7pm (SH)	MASS Exposition and Confessions Rose Jandrell RIP (Anniv)
Thursday 26 th February	9:30am (SA)	MASS Godfrey Archer RIP
Friday 27 th February Sts Margaret Clitherow, Anne Line and Margaret Ward, martyrs	10am (SH) 7pm	MASS Funeral Mass for Laretta Moretto RIP Stations of the Cross in all Churches
Saturday 28 th February	9am	MASS Mass in HMP Whatton
Sunday 1 st March Second Sunday of Lent (A)	9am (OLSE) 10.15am (SH) 11:30am (SA) 1pm (SH) 5pm, (OLSE)	MASS Martin Rooney RIP For the People Margaret Walsh RIP (Anniv) Italian Mass Vietnamese Mass

POINTS MAKE PRIZES!!!!!!

Our children collected 14,990 House Points last half term in under 6 weeks. The results are:

St Alban – 3,924 points

St Joan of Arc – 3,833 points

Blessed Cyprian Tansi – 3,647 points

St Therese of Liseux – 3,586 points.

Congratulations to the children in **St Alban** house who will enjoy their reward this week.