



WHAT'S IN THE NEWS?

I am sure you have all had an opportunity to read the letter that was sent out last week to you from our deputy CEO Mrs Dales sharing that I will provide some additional support to another Trust school on a temporary basis. I will undertake this role two days per week and will be based at Our Lady and St. Edward's for the remainder of the week. I remain fully available should you wish to speak with me. If it is a day when I am not in school, Miss Greenwood will be available ensuring continuity of leadership and support for pupils, staff, and families.

This week Year 4 continue with their Forest School sessions with Mrs Harrison and Mr Jessop. On Tuesday children in Reception and Year 6 will have their height and weight checks. Year 3 lead us in their Lenten Celebration of the Word at 2:30pm.

This week we also celebrate World Book Day. We will celebrate on Friday and ask your child either come dressed as a favourite book character or wear their pyjamas to represent they enjoy snuggling up with a good book. The children will participate in reading activities and the pupil librarians are working with Miss Greenwood to set a homework project. Look out for further details later this week.

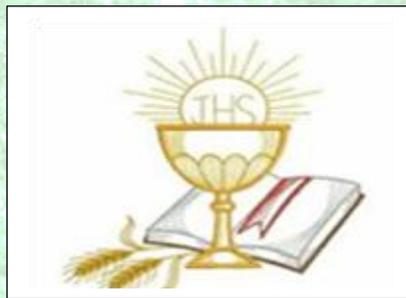
Please make a note of our remaining three INSET days this academic year. The first one is on Friday 26th June and 27th July. School is closed for all children on these days.

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.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PREPARATION

Children and families continue with their preparation this week. Please ensure you attend one of

- The following:
- Our Lady & St Edward's - Monday
- St Augustine's – Tuesday
- Sacred Heart – Wednesday.
- All classes are 6-7pm.



NATIONAL YEAR OF READING 2026

As we begin a new calendar month, we also begin with a new reading challenge. Your March challenge is to join in with World Book Day Celebrations.

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



WORD OF THE WEEK: FASTING

2nd Week of Lent Year A

Word of the Week

Fasting

First Reading
Genesis 12:1-4

Gospel Reading
Matthew 17:1-9

Hebrew Bible
Deuterius 5:4-25:28

New Testament
Matthew 6:16-18

Theme
Fasting is a way of showing self-discipline and of focusing on our relationship with God. Fasting can also be a way of expressing solidarity with those who are less fortunate. Fasting is an important part of Lent, as it allows us to follow the example of Jesus in the desert, and to grow in our compassion for others.

Reflection
What can you go without this Lent? Think of something that you can give up to leave more time and space for what's important.

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	

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.

Last week, three classes achieved above our school target of 97% - Year 1 with 98.62%, Year 4 with 98.13% and Year 5 with 97.5%.





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

Year 4 made a great start to their Forest school sessions by thinking about the theme of Lent being a time for reflection, preparation and trust in God. We played a trust game, tidied the garden to prepare for spring and whittled Lenten promise crosses.



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

GORDON ROAD, ST. ANNS, NOTTINGHAM. NG3 2LG

TEL: 0115 9155800

WEBSITE: www.elseacademy.org.uk

X: @elseacademy Instagram: elseacademy_nottingham

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



PARISH NOTICES:

CAFOD Big Lent Walk Saturday 7th March: meeting at 12.00 noon, car park of Our Lady of Lourdes, Ashby de la Zouch, Station Road, LE65 2GL. All are welcome.

CHANGE OF MASS TIMES As announced, 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 Sunday 11am - St Augustine's Sunday - 11am Italian Mass – Sacred Heart Copies of Fr Chris' letter are available at the back of all our churches and on our website, do take a copy. The leaders of ministries and groups in the parish have been contacted and thank you all for continuing in your Ministry. We are beginning our new volunteer recruitment at St Augustine's this week – do consider volunteering in the parish.

Keeping in touch: 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.

First Holy Communion Preparation Sessions – this week 6 – 7pm: Monday 2nd March – Our Lady & St Edward's Community Space Tuesday 3rd March – St Augustine's Church Hall Wednesday 4th March – Sacred Heart Community Centre

First Holy Communion new Mass times at Sacred Heart: letters are available at the back of Sacred Heart Church for you to choose your Mass time. Do take yours and bring it back next week or drop in at the office.

Enabling Our Mission Campaign: Our parish is currently undertaking the Enabling Our Mission Campaign which aims to support our Diocesan vision of each parish becoming more missionary and outward looking, supporting our priests in their ministry and encouraging parish mission initiatives. In the next weeks, gatherings across the parish will be run to explain this Bishop's campaign to parishioners and it is hoped you are able to come. The proposed dates are: Monday 16th March – 5.30pm in Our Lady and St Edward's Church Tuesday 17th March – 6.00pm in St Augustine's Church Wednesday 18th March – 5.30pm in Sacred Heart Church In order to confirm your attendance, please can you email Fr Chris christopherthomas@dioceseofnottingham.uk or call the parish office on 0115 9118266.

Please pray for:

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

This week:

- Community Café at Our Lady & St Edward's this Wednesday: 12 – 3
- Community Café at Sacred Heart Community Centre: this Thursday 12 – 3 All welcome
- Meditation Group: no meeting this week • 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.

Thanks: I am grateful to Fr Marcus and Fr Bill, along with the support of Deacon Anthony for supplying our weekday Masses this week whilst I am away – Fr Chris

Stations of the Cross: Could you lead? Some Fridays still available – contact the office.

Lost Property at Sacred Heart: have you lost your glasses? Still 7 pairs unclaimed plus other items. Take a look in SH Community Centre to see if your lost item is there - they will then be disposed of on Friday.

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.

Young Adults are especially invited to join Bishop Patrick, in the Nottingham Diocesan Lourdes Pilgrimage 2026. Departing from East Midlands airport on Monday 13th July, enjoy five days in Lourdes with over 200 people from across our diocese. Help in caring for those with additional needs! Mary invites us all to come to this holy place. More details from the tour operator: <https://www.tangney-tours.com/diocesepilgrimages/diocese-nottingham/>

Inspire Adult Learning: Carlton Community Hub 88 Carlton hill NG4 1EE Monday 2nd March 10am-12noon – Avoiding Scams Monday 9th March 10am-12noon – Internet safety To book: www.inspireculture.org.uk/learning

Hayward House Fundraiser – sponsored cycle from London to Paris:

<https://www.nottinghamhospitalscharity.org.uk/donate/ourappeals/hayward-house-appeal-2> to donate to our local hospice.

Lent & Easter Leaflets: are available from the back of church – do take one home and give one to family and friends as their invite to services.

Word of the Week; Fasting. Fasting is a way of showing self-discipline and of focusing on our relationship with God. Fasting can also be a way of expressing solidarity with those who are less fortunate. Fasting is an important part of Lent, as it allows us to follow the example of Jesus in the desert, and to grow in our compassion for others. What can you go without this Lent? Think of something that you can give up to leave more time and space for what's important.



CELEBRATING LENT IN SCHOOL

As we are now in the season of Lent, our children spend time with our Lay Chaplain Joe to think about our various words of the week. Last Monday Year 2 led us in a Celebration of the Word on the theme of prayer. They asked us to think about the times we have not always been a good follower of Jesus. They chose the Gospel when Jesus taught his disciples how to pray and how he gave us the Our Father. We said the Our Father as a whole school community and year 2 shared some action with us. Well done to Year 2 for reading and sharing your reflections with such confidence.



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.

- **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**

MASS TIMES & LITURGICAL CALENDAR

Monday 2 nd March	9.30am (OLSE)	MASS David Mackay RIP (Snr) & David Mackay RIP (Jnr)
Tuesday 3 rd March	9.30am (STA)	MASS Service of Word and Communion
Wednesday 4 th March	6pm (SH) 7pm (SH)	MASS Exposition and Confessions Sr Antionette Moore CSJP Int
Thursday 5 th March	9:30am (SA)	MASS Joseph RIP
Friday 6 th March	9:30am (SH) 7pm	MASS Noel Maguire RIP Stations of the Cross
Saturday 7 th March Sts Perpetua and Felicity, martyrs	9am	MASS Mass in HMP Whatton
Sunday 8 th March Third Sunday of Lent (A)	9am (OLSE) 10.15am (SH) 11:30am (SA) 1pm (SH)	MASS For the People Patricia Holmes RIP Paula McSweeney RIP Italian Mass

POINTS MAKE PRIZES!!!!!!

On Friday the children in St Alban House enjoyed their reward for collecting the most points last half term. They enjoyed time together playing with a wide range of games.

