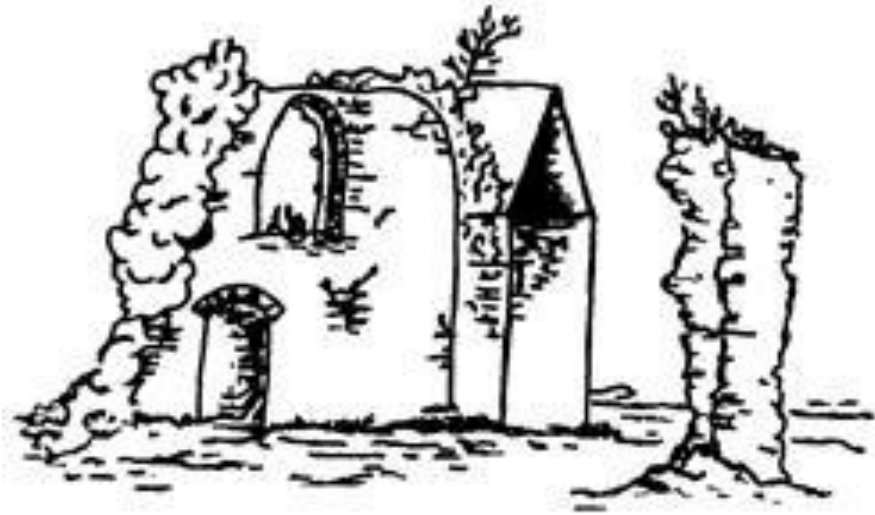


The Priory Catholic Voluntary Academy



Newsletter November 2023

IMPORTANT DATES

Term 2: Monday 6th November 2023 to Wednesday 20th December 2023

Armistice Day – Saturday 11th November

Remembrance Sunday – 12th November

Please note – Pupils are expected to come to school as normal on Friday 1st December – this is no longer a school INSET Day.

Catholic Life

Weekend Mass: Our Lady of Good Counsel Eastwood – Sundays 11am (streamed).

Virtues to live by: During this term, we have focused on the virtue of Piety and Perseverance. From the second week of November our virtue is Justice as we link the message of the Gospel into shaping our daily lives.

Monday 6th November – Perseverance - We reflect on the teachings of Jesus when he said: "Practice what you teach others to do."

KS1: *"I like making good choices to teach other children."*

KS2: *"I practice what I preach."*

Monday 13th November – Justice - We reflect on the teachings of Jesus when he taught in Sunday's Gospel: "Be prepared like the five wise bridesmaids – not the five foolish ones." (Matthew 25:1-13)

KS1: *"I try to be ready on time at home and at school."*

KS2: *"I know I will be rewarded for being ready, respectful and safe at all times."*

Monday 20th November – Justice – Our virtue to live by is Justice - We reflect on the teachings of Jesus when he taught in Sunday's Gospel: "Use your talents wisely and you will be rewarded." (Matthew 25:14-30)

KS1: *"I will get as many do-jos and stickers as I can for working hard."*

KS2: *"I know I will be rewarded for doing well at school and showing off my talents."*

Monday 27th November – Justice – We reflect on the teachings of Jesus when he taught in Sunday's Gospel: "Show love, care and compassion for people who are poor, and we will be rewarded in heaven." (Matthew 25:31-46)

KS1: *"I share my things with my friends, and I look after poor people."*

KS2: *"I will be rewarded in heaven for sharing and caring for poor people."*

Eastwood Food Bank: Please do send tinned and dried food into school as we continue to collect it in the main entrance. We wish for upper Key Stage 2 pupils to visit the Eastwood Food Bank before half-term. Thank you for your much needed generosity.

Advent: The first Sunday of Advent is 3rd December. Services begin in school on Monday 4th and parents, grandparents and family members are welcome to join us in our daily celebrations. Information about times will be sent out before December.

Eastwood Poppy Launch: During the next week in the run up to Armistice Day and Remembrance Sunday, pupils from Year 6 will be “selling” poppies and other items, each evening after school on the driveway. Thank you for your support.

Useful dates: **Monday 15:** National Anti-Bullying week begins.

Wednesday 15: KS2 Boys Football Team Tournament at Kimberley Leisure Centre

Friday 17: Non-school Uniform Day in support of the Christmas Fair. Please bring chocolate on this day – this will be collected by the PTA.

Friday 1 December: Non-school Uniform Day in support of the Christmas Fair.

Please bring bottles of all kinds on this day. The PTA will be on-hand to take glass bottles from parents at the end of the school drive.

School open days: School open days for prospective new parents and pupils who will be starting school in Reception class in September are taking place on Friday 10, 17 and 24 November, and Friday 8 December. Please tell any parents that you know who are looking for a school place for their child starting in September 2024.

Free School Meals: We were recently approached by parents who did not realise that they qualified for their children to receive free school meals. If you would like to know more information about whether or not you are eligible, then please contact the school office personnel, or Mrs Smith; they are always on hand to help. Indeed, you can also just follow the link to the Nottinghamshire County Council help page: www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/education/school-meals/free-school-meals-and-milk

Winter/Playtimes: Please ensure that your son/daughter has their coat and jumper/cardigan in school for wearing at playtimes. As a school we endeavour to remain open during wintry weather. When such weather comes, your child may wish to play in any snow we may get. If it is safe to do so, he or she will only be allowed to play, if they have boots that cover the ankles, and a thick, warm coat. If it is too icy, or cold to play outdoors, the children will play inside in order to ensure their safety. During playtimes, Key Stage 2 children are allowed to change into their trainers to save their school shoes from getting ruined. If your son/daughter comes home with worn out shoes on a regular basis, you may wish to consider sending in a pair of trainers. Pupils, who wish to do this, must change back into their school shoes promptly for lessons.

Dogs: There have reports that some people are bringing dogs down the school drive at home time. Please ensure that dogs do not enter the school site at any time unless they are officially accompanying and supporting as a guide dog.

Parent Governor: The school is looking to recruit a parent governor as a vacancy has arisen. Please contact the school office by Friday 17th November if you think you would like to fulfil this role. I am on-hand to answer any questions you may have regarding this important and vital voluntary role.

Teaching Assistant Vacancy: If you – or you know of anybody who is a TA and is looking for a job – then please do consider the role that is currently being advertised for us by the Academy Trust. Information is provided on the trust website at <https://www.srscmat.co.uk/work-with-us/vacancies/>
Do pass this information on to friends and family members.

Safeguarding our children: Please note that in accordance with our Safeguarding Policy, from time to time we may need to make a referral to Children & Young People Services at Nottinghamshire County Council. The school’s Designated Safeguarding Leads are Mrs Smith (Family Liaison Lead) Mr Harrison (Headteacher) Mrs Grimes (Deputy Headteacher) and Mrs Symonds (SENDCO). You can contact our DSL team directly by emailing the school at: Safeguarding@pri.srscmat.co.uk
Your concerns and correspondence will be treated in the strictest confidence. For your information, our safeguarding policy can be accessed on the school website or by following this link:
<https://www.theprioryeastwood.srscmat.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/sites/28/2023/09/The-Priory-Safeguarding-Child-Protection-Policy-2023-2024.pdf>

Prompt Payments: I would remind you to please pay for dinners, breakfast club and after-school provision promptly online. We will be unable to provide a dinner for any balances over £30 and we will assume that your child will bring a packed lunch until the debt is cleared.

Food For Thought: At his best, man is the noblest of all animals; separated from law and **justice** he is the worst – **Aristotle**
Peace and **justice** are two sides of the same coin – **Dwight D. Eisenhower**
I shall not submit to **injustice** from anyone – I shall conquer untruth by truth. And in resisting untruth, I shall put up with all suffering – **Mahatma Gandhi**
Human progress is neither automatic nor inevitable... Every step toward the goal of **justice** requires sacrifice, suffering, and struggle; the tireless exertions and passionate concern of dedicated individuals – **Martin Luther King Jr.**
If you want peace, work for **justice** – **Pope John Paul VI**
We pray together for peace and justice in the world we have been given.
God bless – Anthony Harrison