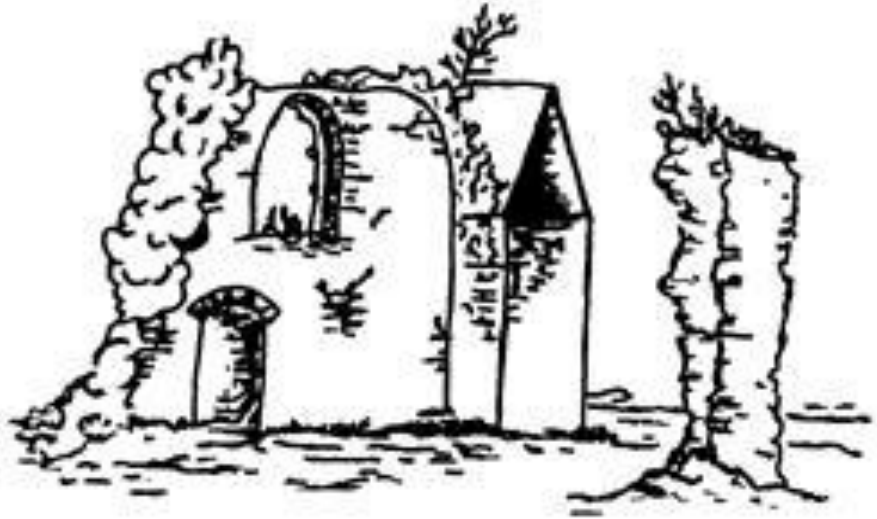


The Priory Catholic Voluntary Academy



Newsletter July 2024

IMPORTANT DATES

Summer/Pentecost Term

Term 6: Monday 3rd June 2024 to Friday 19th July 2024

INSET DAY: Monday 22nd July 2024 – school staff only to attend.

Autumn/Advent Term

INSET DAY: Monday 2nd September 2024 – school staff only to attend.

Reception Class begin school: Tuesday 3rd September 2024.

All pupils return to school: Wednesday 4th September 2024.

Catholic Life

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

Eastwood Food Bank: Pupils have taken our final donations of food up to Eastwood. Thank you for your generosity throughout the year. We will resume our food collections when we return from our summer break.

Virtues to live by: The virtue to live by that we have had at the forefront of our minds from mid-way through June was **Faith (Faithfulness):** *Having a clear, strong focus, and concentration on our end goals and desires. Faith is ideal for parents who would like to take their children on a journey through the virtues that build greater purpose in family life. Faithfulness means having a clear focus and a vision, which all of us can benefit from when what we pray for, and desire becomes reality.*

The virtue of Faith continues throughout the month of July:

Monday 15th July: Gospel from the fifteenth Sunday in ordinary time (MARK 6:7-13): Jesus sends out the disciples to do his work.

Virtue to live by: **Faith – Missionary Discipleship.**

FS2/KS1: I build God's kingdom by being a disciple.

KS2: I have been sent out into the world to spread the Good News!

Catholic Life: Thank you to everybody in your support for various charities and fundraising carried out in school over the last year. The children have brought record amounts of tins and dried food, as we have made more visits to the Eastwood Food Bank. Thank you for your generosity.

All are welcome to join us for our end of academic-year whole school Mass which takes place on Friday 19th July at 9.30am. This will take place at church and marks the children's final day in school. Later in the afternoon, our Year 6 pupils will present their leaving assembly to which you are invited – this begins at 1.30pm.

You are also welcome to join Year 6 on Monday 15th July at 2pm for their class Mass which will take place at church and celebrate their time here at The Priory.

A prayer for Peace: God of peace and justice, we pray for the people of Ukraine, Israel, and Palestine. We pray for peace and the laying down of weapons. We pray for all those who fear for tomorrow, that your Spirit of comfort would draw near to them. We pray for those with power over war or peace, for wisdom, discernment, and compassion to guide their decisions.

Amen.

Dear Parents, thank you to everybody for your support in partnership with the school in helping to make your child's educational experience here at The Priory as happy and worthwhile as possible. For our current Year 6 pupils, their experience of primary school is coming to an end – they hold so many fond memories created during their journey throughout the school. The group are fabulous – they have been a real joy to have in school and it is true to say they have left their mark! It has been a real honour watching them grow into such lovely people who are now ready and well prepared to tackle their next challenge of entering secondary education. We wish them every success and happiness in their new schools.

Reports: On Monday 15th July your child will have been issued with their end of year report. This will allow sufficient time to include data and assessments taken externally by children undertaking SATs and Phonics tests. Overall, we feel that the reports are very detailed and comprehensive. However, if you feel that there is something that you would like to discuss, then please make an appointment at the school office for a meeting before we break up from school for the summer.

Safeguarding our Children: 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 (SEND CO). You can contact our DSL team at ANY TIME by emailing directly to: Safeguarding@pri.srscmat.co.uk Your concerns and correspondence will be treated in the strictest confidence. Our safeguarding policy can be accessed on the school website or by following this link: [The Priory- Safeguarding-Child-Protection-Policy-2023-2024.pdf \(srscmat.co.uk\)](https://www.pri.srscmat.co.uk/Safeguarding-Child-Protection-Policy-2023-2024.pdf)

Helpers/Volunteers: Thank you to everybody who has helped this year, working for the good of the school. Whether helping in classes, listening to readers, helping to raise funds, staying to help after school with sport and clubs, or providing the children with sacramental preparation; the school would simply not run nearly as smoothly without your input! If you think you can give time each week to helping in this area, then please see Mrs Smith as we welcome all the help and support, we can get.

After School Clubs: We have had a wonderful response to the after-school clubs again this term and I hope all the children have enjoyed the clubs that have been on offer. The next timetable of clubs will come out on Thursday 5th September, with the clubs restarting on Monday 9th September. Wrap around care will begin before and after school from our first day back on Wednesday 4th September.

Reading Books: All books should have been returned to school at the end of last week. We still have some books outstanding. Please can any remaining reading books be returned as soon as possible so that staff can sort them out before we start again in September.

New Academy Trust Attendance Policy: The academy trust has approved a new policy that the school will follow from September. The policy, which has been sent out with this newsletter, has a strong emphasis on increasing attendance, as well as deterring families from taking breaks from school during term time. The St Ralph Sherwin Multi Academy Trust will not agree to a leave of absence where pupils are taken out of school for holidays – this will be treated as unauthorised absence where a Penalty Notice will be issued. The policy also refers to the DfE's guidance on the school census, which explains the persistent absence threshold.

- Persistent absence refers to pupils who miss 10% or more of school
- Severe absence refers to pupils who miss 50% or more of school.

Fixed Penalty Notices are expected to be issued for both persistent and severe absence rates – as set out in this table.

Equates to 2 days off a year.	99%	Excellent attendance
Equates to 5 days off a year.	97%	Good attendance
Equates to 10 days off a year.	95%	Slight concern
Equates to 20 days off a year.	90%	Concerned
Equates to 30 days off a year.	85%	Very concerned

Food for thought: "A handful of lion-hearts can wake the whole world up" – Abhijit Naskar.

And wherever your journey in life takes you – having passed through this place, you can do no other than always take a piece of Priory away with you in your hearts: ***"The Priory; a place to learn have fun, grow and develop, in the light and love of Christ"***

God bless – Anthony Harrison (Headteacher)