



St Patrick's Catholic Primary School, Dipton

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Headteacher: Mrs J Burgess
We follow in Christ's footsteps

Thursday 17th March 2022

Dear Parents/Carers



Happy St Patrick's Day

We all know school, like every other aspect of life, has been very different during the pandemic and our usual events and activities have been severely restricted. Whilst we are still affected by Covid absences in school, we are now trying to gradually reintroduce the range of curriculum enhancement activities such as trips and visitors to school. Today our pupils were able to go to church for Mass. This was the first time many of our younger pupils have shared such an experience with our school family. Thank you, Fr Abel for making the occasion so special.

Even though we are rapidly approaching the end of term, I thought I would give a shorter 'diary of events' so you can see what is happening in the lead up to Easter. We all hope this is a flavour of the wider opportunities to come for pupils.

Date	Event
16/3/22	Y1 trip to Beamish ✓
17/3/22	Whole school St Patrick's Day Mass ✓
18/3/22	Y4 Trip to Beamish
30/3/22	Reception trip to Hall Hill Farm
1/4/22	Y2 Trip to Newcastle Castle
4/4/22	Y1 and Y2 Palm Sunday Liturgy 9.30am
5/4/22	Y3 and Y4 Lenten Liturgy 9.15am
6/4/22	Y5 and Y6 Stations of the Cross 9.15am
6/4/22- 8/4/22	Y4 and Y5 Residential to The Youth Village
Various dates	<i>Class walk (to be planned before the Easter holiday)</i> linked CAFOD's Lenten campaign is Walk Against Hunger. Parents will be sent a text in advance to ensure pupils are appropriately dressed.
28/4/22	Looking ahead, there will be a liturgy led by our Reception pupils - New Life! More details to follow.
Easter liturgies are open to parents/carers, but please be mindful that we are still in a position where events may change at short notice.	

We will send out a diary of events for the summer term in due course.

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Welcome Mrs April Smith

Some of you may have already contacted school and have spoken to the newest member of our office team, Mrs April Smith. It is great to have Mrs Smith onboard and, even though she has only been with us a few weeks, Mrs Smith is already proving a vital member of our team! Thank you for joining us!

Communicating with our staff team

Teaching and office staff are always considerate and polite when speaking to parents/carers. I would ask, and expect, that they are always shown the same courtesy in return. Please remember that everyone working at St Patrick's has the best interests of every pupil at heart and all staff work extremely hard to ensure each child makes the best progress possible. We have had a couple of occasions of late when staff felt tempers were raised during conversations. Whilst I do appreciate opinions on situations may differ from school's or home's point of view, this would never be a reason to speak aggressively to a member of the team. I would expect every member of our team to be treated respectfully.

Reading Challenges

I hope our pupils are getting stuck into a selection of fun reading challenges introduced on World Book Day. Thank you for the photos which have been shared. Keep them coming and continue to enjoy reading.

Regards

Mrs Burgess

Headteacher

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