



Dear parents/ carers,

I can't quite believe we are already 4 weeks into the new term – and there are only 2 weeks to go until the half term break.

This week I had the pleasure of teaching a music session to Reception class and the chance to look through some of the children's books – especially their writing ones. It was lovely to see the work the children are doing in their classes – and seeing the progress they have made since September. I'm sure you will see the same when you get the next chance to look at your children's books at parents' evenings in March.

We also had a Year 6 SATs meeting on Tuesday which was very well attended. Thank you for taking time out of your day to find out more about the next few months and the tests they will be doing. It was nice to talk to some of you afterwards as well.

### ***Catholic Life:***

Last Friday we held a special Celebration of the Word (Act of Worship) to officially open the Catholic year of jubilee as a school and to share its theme - 'Pilgrims of Hope'. It was a lovely celebration – that was followed up with some activities in the class arranged by Mr Lowson. This week, we have learnt some new Jubilee hymns and learnt more in our worship about pilgrimage. Does your child remember how far it would be to walk from St John Fisher to the holy door within the Vatican? (answer at the end of the newsletter!)



You don't need to go all the way to the Vatican though! Holy doors are being opened across the diocese – the nearest to St John Fisher will be at St Mary's Catholic Church in town – I believe Bishop Patrick will open this later in the year.

Over Lent we will carry out some whole school fundraising – and link this to the year of jubilee – details will follow in early March! We will use this as an opportunity to

bring the school together and have some fun while also thinking of those less fortunate.



**St John Fisher Catholic Voluntary Academy**  
<https://www.stjohnfisherderby.srscmat.co.uk>

*For I know the plans I have for you; plans to give you hope and a future – Jeremiah 29:11*



### ***Parking:***

Thank you to so many of you for thinking of all the children in school's safety at the beginning and end of the day. It is greatly appreciated.

To keep all of our children safe please:

- Do not pull into the driveway of the school to drop off/ pick up – or stop by the end of the drive to do this.
- Park so that the traffic can continue to flow – with respect to our neighbours.
- Do not do 3 point turns in the road – or use the driveway to turn around.
- Drive at a slower speed when around the school on Alvaston Street.

### ***Parents' Evening:***

The next parents' evenings are on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> March. For these meetings, bookings will be made online through Arbor. We will send more details letting you know how and when you will be able to book closer to half term!

### ***Uniform:***

We have noticed that some children aren't quite in full uniform. Some children are not wearing their ties in particular; others are in polo shirts. Our full uniform expectations are [here](#).

There are also still a number of children who do not have their PE kits in school.

The PTFA do have items of pre-loved uniform available in the school's foyer for £1 per item. If you need an item/ size that isn't on their rail, speak to a member of the PTFA and they will be able to check their stocks!

### ***Dinners:***

We have had some instances recently of children ordering a school dinner when they have bought sandwiches to school. Please remind your children about what they are having if it is a change to their usual/ they are changing from one to the other. Repeated instances may lead to us having to charge parents for a dinner even if their child ate their sandwiches as Derbyshire County Council do charge school for all the cooked dinners!

Best Wishes

Graham Lobb

Headteacher

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### **Diary dates:**

Upcoming dates.

For a list of the full dates for the year – see the newsletter from 10<sup>th</sup> January. Changes are added in red.

|  |                                     |   |
|--|-------------------------------------|---|
| Tuesday 11 <sup>th</sup> February                                      | Safer Internet Day                  |   |
| Thursday 13 <sup>th</sup> February                                     | PTFA Disco                          | 3:30-4:15pm (EYFS/KS1) and 4:30-5:30pm (KS2)<br>See posters for details |
| Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> February –<br>Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> February | Lent Half Term                      | School closed for all pupils  |
| Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> February                                       | INSET DAY                           | School closed to pupils.  |
| Tuesday 25 <sup>th</sup> February                                      | Back to school                      | School opens to all pupils.   |
| Wednesday 26 <sup>th</sup> February                                    | Compass Coffee Afternoon 2:30pm     | All parents welcome.  |
| Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup> March  | Ash Wednesday Worship 10:00am       | All parents welcome.  |
| Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> March   | World Book Day                      | Details to follow   |
| Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> March  | Parents evening session 1 3:30-6:30 | Parents' evening appointments.  |
| Tuesday 18 <sup>th</sup> March   | Parents evening session 2 3:30-6:30 | Parents' evening appointments.  |
| Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> March  | World Poetry Day                    | Details to follow   |
| Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> April   | End of term Worship 2:00pm (TBC)    | All parents welcome.  |
| Monday 7 <sup>th</sup> April –<br>Monday 21 <sup>st</sup> April        | Easter Holidays                     | School Closed   |

St John Fisher to Vatican City is 1211miles and would take about 421 hours to walk!!