



PADRE PIO CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Padre Pio is a Catholic family where we pray and learn in peace with each other.
Together we take the message of Jesus to the world.

07
October
2022

Relationships and Sexuality Education (RSE)

From September this year, RSE has become a mandatory part of the curriculum and parents no longer have the right to withdraw their child from these lessons. To reassure parents, we have been teaching RSE for a couple of years and our aims and vision of RSE remain unchanged. We continue to deliver provision designed to assist in the formation of the whole person and to do so in ways that are developmentally appropriate, serve the specific needs of pupils and are in harmony with the Teachings of the Catholic Church.

RSE is intended to help children to develop healthy relationships and behaviours with their friends and families, based on kindness, empathy and respect. This is important for them to develop as 'healthy, confident individuals' with positive social, emotional and mental well-being.

RSE is also intended to keep children safe and to protect their well-being. This is critical as technology and society continue to change rapidly. RSE helps children recognise relationships and situations that might put them at risk of harm. It can support all children with what they need to know and what to do to keep safe and how to seek help.

One of the programmes we use is called Life to the Full and you can view the resources the school will be using by logging on to the parent portal at: www.tentenresources.co.uk/parent-portal

School login: padre-pio-np4
Password: conifer-15

Before half term we will arrange a meeting for parents to explain our curriculum in more detail and to listen to any concerns or queries you may have.

Catholic Life of the School

This week, Class 3 celebrated the feast day of their patron saint, Saint Francis, by participating in Mass at St. Alban's Church. They said prayers and reflected on St Francis' life and how he dedicated it to following Jesus and helping others.

October is the month of the Rosary. During this month all classes will say the Rosary regularly and reflect on the important events in Jesus' life. Later this month, classes will visit St. Alban's Church to support the topics they are studying in class.

Join us for Family Mass – Sunday 23 October

You're invited to attend Family Mass on Sunday 23 October, 9.30am at St. Alban's Church – we hope that pupils and their families will join staff to celebrate Mass (Harvest theme). We ask that everyone bring a donation of a long-life food item (all donations will be given to the local foodbank).

Free Reading Books

Every child will be bringing home a free reading book today, which they have chosen from a selection provided by the Books Council of Wales. It is theirs to keep but once they have read it, they may want to bring it back to school to swap it for a different book another child in their class has read.

Class 5 Assembly – Wednesday 12 October

You're invited to join us for assembly on Wednesday at 9.15am.

Consultations with Class Teacher

Monday 24 – Thursday 27 October

Consultations will be held by telephone. Appointments must be booked using our online booking system; an easy way for you to book a convenient time to speak with your child's teacher. Next week, you will receive a text with a link to the online booking system. Click on the link and type in your child's first name (if you have more than one child, any of their first names will work). Click 'Please Choose' to be shown a list of available times that you can click to book. Then click 'Book this Slot' to complete your booking. When the button has turned green you know your booking has been made. Please note: the booking system will close on Friday 21 October – if you need to change your booking after this time, please call the school office. **Please note that there will no after school activities/clubs during this week.**

INSET DAYS

School will be closed to pupils on these dates:

Friday 28 October – INSET 2

Friday 23 December – INSET 3

Dates for INSET 4 and 5 to be confirmed (and a possible 6th INSET day)

HALF-TERM – Mon. 31 October – Fri. 04 November

School will be closed for the half-term holiday.

Uniform

To help pupils identify their own uniform / property and to assist staff when returning lost property please label every item of school uniform, PE kit and lunch boxes. Also, we remind parents that the correct footwear is black shoes. Pupils should not wear brightly coloured trainers – these are not part of school uniform.

Music Tuition Fee

The charge for music tuition provided by Gwent Music Centre is £25 per term, per instrument. The cost of music lessons is subsidised by school. Payment should be made online, via the new CiviPay portal.

Please make sure that your child brings their instrument(s) to school on the correct day(s):

Guitar lessons – Tuesday afternoons;

Strings (violin) lessons – Wednesday mornings;

Woodwind lessons – Wednesday mornings;

Brass lessons – Thursday afternoons.

Reception Class – September 2023

Would you like your child to join our reception class 2023? Please email susan.lewis@torfaen.gov.uk to request an application pack (or call in to the school office). The closing date for applications is midday on Wednesday 11 January 2023 (parent/guardians will be notified of the result of their application on 17 April).

PhotoMan – Photos of Pupils – Monday 24 October

PhotoMan will be in school on 24 October taking photos of pupils – proofs will be sent home and you can order photos if you wish to. Photos will be taken of siblings who are in school together but, unlike previous years, there won't be photos of non-school siblings.

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