



# 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.

**27**  
**March**  
**2026**

### NEW DATE - Rugby Tournament –14 April

The Pontypool and District Schools Under 11s Rugby Tournament, postponed last December, will be held on Tuesday 14 April at Pontypool RFC – third time lucky!! The team was selected last year (and we still have trip consent slips completed by parents). Details are: 10am start, due to finish by 3pm, players must bring boots and shin pads (kit and socks provided by school), pupils need to bring lunch and drinks, warm coat, and asthma pump/medical supplies, if necessary.

### EASTER HOLIDAYS – SCHOOL CLOSED

School will be closed after Friday 27 March (for 2 weeks) for Easter. School will re-open on Monday 13 April.

### After School Activities/Clubs

A new list of clubs will be included in the first newsletter after Easter (note: no after school clubs the first week after Easter).

**Advanced notice – Due to staff training after school, there will be no after school clubs the week beginning 1<sup>st</sup> June 2026**

### Newport County in the Community

Next term (the first half of summer term), our Reception class and class 3 will enjoy football/games lessons on Wednesday mornings with the team from County in the Community.

### Class Music Projects

Reception and Class 4 will enjoy whole class music projects during the summer term - 10 weeks of lessons, followed by an assembly where they will share their musical talent with parents.

### Eco Quiz – 21 April

Pontypool Community Council has invited teams from local schools to compete in their annual Eco Quiz, to be held at Griffithstown Primary. Good luck to the Class 6 pupils who have been selected to take part.

### Class 5 Mass – 30 April

Class 5 Mass will be held on **Thursday 30 April**, 9.30am in St. Alban's Church. Parents and carers are very welcome to attend.

### Class 4 and 2 Assemblies

Parents and families are invited to join **Class 4** for their assembly on **Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> April** at **9.15am** and **Class 2** on **Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> May** at **2.30pm**

### Class 6 –Cricket Festival – 21 May

Class 6 pupils will take part in a Festival of Cricket, organised by St. Alban's High for cluster schools, on Thursday 21st May at Panteg Cricket Club. More details will follow.

### Easter Bonnet Parade

Thank you to all the families who joined us for our Easter bonnet parade yesterday. The bonnets on display were absolutely spectacular, and it was wonderful to see so many happy, smiling children parading and singing with such pride. I'm very glad I didn't have to judge the hat competition- the standard was incredibly high!

Well done to all pupils in Classes 3-6 who entered the craft competition. Your creativity and effort were clear to see, and we are very proud of you.

### Collection for a Local Foodbank

Thank you to all the families who so kindly and generously donated to our food bank collection. Your support makes a real difference to local families, and we are incredibly grateful for your continued kindness and community spirit. The donations were taken to Canon Paul this morning to help local families.

### DATES FOR THE DIARY

<b>30.03.26</b>	<b>Easter Holidays (2 weeks)</b>
<b>04.05.26</b>	<b>May Day Bank Holiday</b>
<b>19.05.26</b>	<b>PhotoMan - class photos</b>
<b>17.07.26</b>	<b>Last day of term for all pupils</b>
<b>20.07.26</b>	<b>INSET 6</b>

### Homework Challenge

Well done to the 64 pupils that completed 5 pieces of homework or more this half term – we are all very proud of you. We hope that you enjoyed your treat today to celebrate your efforts and achievements.

### Class 6 Residential – Abernant

Well done to Class 6 for their outstanding behaviour, attitude, and teamwork during our recent residential trip. Every single child was superb. They represented our school beautifully and were an absolute pleasure to spend time with in a different environment. Their maturity, kindness, and enthusiasm shone through from start to finish. We were so lucky with the weather, which made the whole experience even more enjoyable and helped the children make the most of every activity. A heartfelt thank you to Mr Tucker and Mr Francis for giving up their own time to accompany the pupils- it is very much appreciated.

We are incredibly proud of Class 6- what a fantastic way to make lasting memories together.

### Dance Festival Success

A huge well done to all the pupils who took part in last week's dance festival at Pontypool Leisure Centre. You performed with such confidence, enthusiasm, and team spirit. It was wonderful to see your hard work come to life on the dance floor, and we were so impressed with each and every one of you. A special thank you goes to Mrs Williams for preparing the group

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so brilliantly and for accompanying them on the day. Thank you also to the families who supported the event.

### **Our Class Holy Week Assemblies**

This week, our older pupils have led us through the Easter story and events of Holy Week in the most moving and memorable way. Classes 3 to 6 brought each moment to life with such reverence, creativity, and confidence. Their storytelling, singing, and reflections helped us all pause and remember the true meaning of this sacred time in our Christian calendar. A heartfelt thank you to every pupil and staff member involved. Your hard work, preparation, and sense of purpose shone through in every assembly and you made us incredibly proud.

We are also grateful to the parents, carers, and family members who were able to join us. Your presence always means so much to the pupils.

### **Attendance and punctuality winners**

Each term, we celebrate the classes with the best attendance and punctuality. This is always a very friendly – and very competitive – challenge among our pupils and staff!

The winning classes this term are Reception for best attendance and Class 4 for best punctuality. A huge well done to both classes, who enjoyed a well-deserved treat today; a mug of hot chocolate and cookies. Good luck to all classes next term – the competition starts again soon, and we can't wait to see who takes the top spots!

### **Parent Consultations**

A sincere thank you to all the parents and carers who made an appointment for our parent consultations this week. We truly value the time you take to meet with us and to work in partnership to support your child's learning and wellbeing. Please remember, you never need to wait for these planned evenings if you have a question, concern, or simply want to check in about your child's progress. Our doors are always open, and we are here to help at any point throughout the year.

### **Family Mass**

Thank you to all the pupils and families who attended our Family Mass last week. Your presence and participation are always appreciated, and it was wonderful to see our school community coming together in faith and celebration. A special thank you to Miss Way, who prepared the readers so fantastically. The pupils read with confidence, clarity, and reverence.

### **Music Projects and Class Assemblies**

Well done to the classes that have taken part in the Gwent Music Projects this term and have entertained us with their wonderful musical talents over the last couple of weeks. The pupils showcased their rhythm brilliantly, playing their instruments with such confidence, enthusiasm, and joy. It has been a pleasure to see their hard work and practice shine through in the end of project assemblies. After half term, we look forward to seeing our Reception and Class 4 pupils begin their own musical journeys as

they learn to play their instruments. Thank you to everyone who came to watch one of our Music assemblies.

### **Over to our Learners**

Let's read what some of our learners have to say about events that have happened this half term.

"I dressed up as Anna and we showed everyone our costumes" – Thea from Reception – World Book Day

"I liked playing all the different notes and playing the glockenspiel all in the right order" – Logan from Class 1- Music Project and assembly

"I liked singing the Welsh song "Adeiladu Ty Bach" and my team came 2<sup>nd</sup>!" – Kaleb from Class 2- Eisteddfod

"I love the warm up games, especially the Number game" – Amenadiel from Class 3- Newport County

"I was one of Jesus' Disciples and I liked it when Jesus pretended to wash our feet" – Bridie from Class 4- Holy week assembly

"I enjoyed going into the canal in a canoe and having an extra long break that lasted a very long time!!"- Ollie from Class 5- Canal visit

"I loved the rifle shooting activity the best and also the rock climbing. The food was also good!!" – Theo from Class 6- Abernant Residential

### **And finally:**

**It's almost unbelievable to think about everything the pupils have packed into the last five weeks, such as assemblies, class visits, Eisteddfod and World Book Day- each one has played its part in strengthening our wonderful school community. This term we have also been delighted to welcome several new pupils and their families to our school. We are so pleased you have joined our school community, and we hope you already feel very much at home. Looking ahead to next term, we already have a busy and exciting calendar planned, including a school talent show that parents are warmly invited to join in too!!**

**On behalf of all the staff, thank you for your continued support, kindness, and partnership. We wish you a very happy, restful, and peaceful Easter, and we look forward to welcoming the pupils back on April 13<sup>th</sup>.**

**Happy Easter to you all- Pasg Hapus!**