



# 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.

17  
April  
2026

### Welcome back!

We hope all our families enjoyed a happy and restful Easter holiday. It has been wonderful to welcome the pupils back this week, refreshed and ready for the busy and exciting term ahead. As the weather (hopefully) begins to warm up, summer uniform is now acceptable. A gentle reminder that shorts should be smart grey school shorts (no sports-branded shorts) and footwear should still be plain black. Thank you for your continued support in helping pupils look smart and ready for learning.

### Rugby Tournament

Our rugby team took part in the Pontypool and District Schools Under 11s Rugby Tournament on Tuesday at Pontypool RFC – well done to the team for an excellent performance, finishing in 3<sup>rd</sup> place. Thank you also to Mr Hale and Mr Clegg for coaching our team so well and for giving up your time every week to train our pupils, your commitment really makes a difference. Thank you also to Mr Francis for co-ordinating this.

### After School Clubs – Start w/c 27 April

Please see the new list of clubs for summer term. Please email [susan.lewis@torfaen.gov.uk](mailto:susan.lewis@torfaen.gov.uk) if your child wants to join a club (no need to email if your child is continuing with a club they were in last term).

**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

This 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. Please make sure they have their kits at school each week, thank you.

### 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 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.

### Class 4 and 2 Assemblies

Parents and families are invited to join **Class 4** for their assembly on **Wednesday 29 April at 9.15am** and **Class 2** on **Wednesday 20 May at 2.30pm**. We hope that you can join us.

### Homework grids and curriculum overviews

Every pupil should have received a new homework grid and curriculum overview today. It is recommended that each pupil completes a minimum of six activities (one per week). There will be a special treat before half term for all pupils that achieve this, good luck! Over the next couple of weeks, we will be asking all pupils, parents and staff for their views on the homework grids as we prepare for next year- we look forward to your honest opinions.

### Whole School topic this half term

Each half term, all classes learn new skills and knowledge based around a whole-school theme or topic. This half term, the theme is *Back to the Future / Tomorrow's World* for all classes except Class 1. Class 1 will explore this topic after half term and are currently focusing on *The Great Outdoors*. Pupils will be developing their Science, Technology and Humanities skills throughout this work. We cannot wait to see what they discover and create.

### Our Whole school Pupil Virtues

As part of the Catholic Life of our school, we focus on developing two key virtues each half term that helps pupils to grow in the understanding of their faith and support the development of the whole child. This half term we are focusing on supporting pupils to be:

**GRATEFUL** for their own gifts, for the gifts of other people and for the blessings of each day

**GENEROUS** with their gifts for themselves and for the good of others.

### Whole school RE themes

Over the next few weeks, pupils will be exploring the Resurrection, the Ascension, the Coming of the Holy Spirit and the growth of the early church in engaging and age-appropriate ways. In particular, our Reception, Year 1 and 2 pupils will look at Easter time surprises, joy and the continuing story of Jesus. Our Year 3 and 4 pupils will be remembering Easter, the significance of the cross and the story of Pentecost and finally, our Year 5 and 6 pupils will be introduced to the profound meaning of the Resurrection for Christians, the power of the Holy Spirit and the message of hope. These themes aim to help pupils make connections between the Easter story and daily life.

### Developing nature around our school grounds

Yesterday, a group of our keen eco-warriors from Classes 5 and 6 worked with Oliver from the Community Nature Scheme to explore ways we can increase biodiversity around our school grounds. Together, they looked at what we could add or adapt to encourage more wildlife and support healthy plant growth. Oliver will return next week, and our pupils will continue developing the project over the coming months as they put their ideas into action. Thank you to Mrs Taylor for co-ordinating this.

Franklin said "It was kind of great. We get to search wildlife but sadly we did find a dead slug!"

Euan said "It was fun because we got to look at plants and we used cool things like electric metre sticks and we found insects."

### Using Welsh on the playground

Our **Criw Cymraeg** pupils had a fantastic session with **Elin from the Urdd** this week, exploring fun and practical ways to introduce more Welsh language into playtime. They learned a variety of new games that they will be teaching and playing with other pupils throughout the term, helping everyone to use more Welsh during breaktimes and lunchtimes. Diolch to Miss Way for co-ordinating this.

**Pob Lwc Bawb — Good luck everyone!**

**\*Art, Cookery, and Gardening limited to 10 places. Clubs run from 3.05pm to 4pm.**

Name	Club	Day	For Pupils in Year:
Mrs Taylor	Activities	Tuesday	1 and 2
Mrs Jones	Gardening *	Tuesday	2, 3 and 4
Mrs McGinty	Drama	Tuesday	3,4,5,6
Mrs Kettle	Cookery* FULL (same list of pupils)	Wednesday	3 and 4
Mr Francis and Mr Davies	Cricket	Wednesday	3,4,5,6
Mrs Tennet	Art*	Wednesday	4, 5 and 6
Mrs Williams	Dance Fusion FULL (same list of pupils)	Wednesday	5 and 6
Miss Way	Welsh and Criw Cymraeg	Thursday	3,4,5,6
Mr Tucker	Rounders	Thursday	3,4,5,6
Mr Sefton	Choir	Friday	3,4,5,6

### Family Social Events – Save the Dates!

We're delighted to share that we have **two exciting family events** taking place this term:

Family Quiz Night

 Monday 18th May  6:00pm  School Hall

Padre Pio Talent Show

 Monday 29th June  6:00pm  School Hall

This year's show will also include a special adult competition for our talented grown-ups!

*Any money raised from these events will help subsidise our end-of-year trips, which will be funded by the school.*

### Free Coffee Afternoon

We will also be hosting a FREE coffee afternoon for parents on:

 Friday 15th May  2:15pm  School Hall

This is a lovely chance to meet other parents and families, and enjoy a relaxed afternoon together.

### DATES FOR THE DIARY

<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>

### And finally:

Wishing all families a happy, restful, and enjoyable weekend. Take time to unwind and make the most of it together and hopefully we will get to enjoy the lovely sunshine again!

Best Wishes,  
Mrs McGinty.