



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
November
2025

INSET/staff training Days

School will be closed to pupils on the following dates:
Monday 5 January 2026
Monday 23 February 2026
Monday 20 July 2026

Tesco Stronger Starts/Groundwork Grant

Great news - we will receive £1,500 from Tesco following the recent in-store vote! Thank you for your support to help us win the prize. The money means we can extend our traversing wall/play trail in our playground. Thank you to Mrs Lewis for co-ordinating the project.

Parent Consultations

Thank you to all the parents/carers who booked an appointment with class teachers before half term- teachers have told me that it was pleasure to share positive news with you. There will be another opportunity to meet with teachers after Christmas and to look at your child's books. However, if you ever want to know about progress or have a question about learning, you do not need to wait until organised parent consultations- please approach your child's class teacher at the start or end of the day or message via email or class dojo. I am also available to discuss any questions.

Odd Socks Day/Anti- bullying Week- Monday 10th November

Next week is anti-bullying week, a week where schools are asked to raise awareness of bullying, highlight ways to prevent it, and encourage people to stand up against bullying. The week is an opportunity to promote themes like kindness, respect for differences, and taking positive action.

To celebrate that we are all different, unique and special, we are participating in a national event where we encourage all children to come to school **on Monday wearing odd/different socks** – the whackier the better! To raise awareness of this, our Rights Respecting Ambassadors will be talking to the pupils throughout the week on issues relating to bullying and respect.

If you or your child/ren are ever concerned about bullying, please do not hesitate to speak to me or any member of staff, thank you.

Remembrance Day Assembly

We will be holding a **Remembrance Day Assembly on Tuesday** for all pupils. This will be a time for our school community to come together to reflect and remember those who have served and sacrificed for our country.

Pupils will take part in age-appropriate activities and observe a two-minute silence to show their respect. Thank you to all the pupils who have bought poppies from our school office – they will continue to be on sale at the start of next week.

SAVE THE DATES!

Coffee Afternoon and Fun “No prize” Bingo!! – Friday 28th November at 2pm

Come to our school hall for chance to meet other parents/carers/grandparents over a cup of coffee or tea and have a good chat! We will also play a free game of bingo too. We hope to see you there- everyone is invited.

Rugby Tournament – Friday 21st November

Selected pupils have received information. Good luck/pob lwc to everyone involved.

Family Prize Bingo - Monday 24th November- 6pm

Everyone is welcome to our Family Fun Prize bingo night in our school hall at 6pm. It is always a very enjoyable evening. There will be refreshments on sale and bingo tickets. Please arrive from 5.40pm.

Family Mass Invitation – Sunday 30th November- 11am

All families are warmly invited to join **Canon Paul and the staff at St Alban's Church, Pontypool, on Sunday 30th November at 11: 00am**. We hold three Family Masses each year, and they are a wonderful opportunity for our pupils to feel part of our parish community. We would love as many families as possible to join us, although we understand that family commitments can sometimes make attendance difficult. This year, we are offering families the option to **drop children off at school at 10:40am**, where staff will **walk them to church and bring them back to school after Mass (approximately 12:20pm)**. If you would like your child to take part in this way, please let **myself or Mrs Lewis** know by **Friday 21st November**. If you have any questions, please contact school.

Thank you for your continued support.

Padre Pio RC School, Conway Road, Pontypool, Torfaen NP4 6HL

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Final Open Evening for new parents – Monday 1st December-6pm

Are you considering applying for a place in our reception class September 2026? Please come along to our open evening on 1st December at 6pm. Please let other families who maybe interested know about this date, thank you.

Christmas Concerts

It is that time of year already to be thinking about Christmas! We have set the dates for this year's concerts (you do not need a ticket).

Classes 1 and class 2 concert – **Monday 8th December** 1.30pm and **Tuesday 9th December** 5pm
Classes 3, 4 and 5 concert – **Wednesday 10th** 6pm and **Thursday 11th** 1.30pm
Reception – **Friday 12th** 9.30am

Music Assembly – Tuesday 2nd December at 2.15pm

Parents of pupils in **Class 2** and **Class 6** are warmly invited to attend our **Music Assembly** on **Tuesday 2nd December at 2:15pm**. The pupils will be showcasing the musical skills they have been developing and perfecting over the past few weeks. We look forward to welcoming you and celebrating their hard work and talent!

Christmas Lunch – Wednesday 17th December

FYI only, you do not need to order in advance.

A reminder about morning arrivals

Thank you for your continued support in ensuring that your child/ren arrive at school by **8:55am**. Please note that the **school gates will be locked at 9:00am**. Any children arriving after this time will be **marked as late**. We really appreciate your help in making sure the school day starts smoothly for all our pupils.

Building Work – Our Future Nursery

Thank you to everyone for taking extra care on the playground this week, both before and after school – especially with all the rain we've had! We really appreciate your patience and understanding while the work is taking place. Hopefully, everything will be completed **before we break up for Christmas**.

Thank you once again for your support.

2025/2026 School Term and Holiday Dates

Term	Term Begins	Half Term Begins	Half Term Ends	Term Ends
Autumn	Monday 01.09.25	Monday 27.10.25	Friday 31.10.25	Friday 19.12.25
Spring	Monday 05.01.26	Monday 16.02.26	Friday 20.02.26	Friday 27.03.26
Summer	Monday 13.04.26	Monday 25.05.26	Friday 29.05.26	Monday 20.07.26

OVER TO OUR LEARNERS

Please read what some of our pupils have said they have loved learning about this week!

"I loved drawing with my best friend, Peter", Noah, Dosbarth Derbyn/Reception Class

"I enjoyed finding out about Guy Fawkes and bonfire night!" Huxley, Dosbarth 1

"I like school because I like Maths! We have been adding 3 numbers in one sentence", Lillie-May, Dosbarth 2

"I saw God's creation when we were in the garden. I enjoyed putting the weed matting down", Lili, Dosbarth 3

"I enjoyed using the calculators to check my addition answers", Harry L-J, Dosbarth 4

"I really liked writing my "James and the giant peach" paragraph", Harriet, Dosbarth 4

"I really enjoyed Friday's assembly – and I showed my piano certificate" Morgan, Dosbarth 5

"I loved the Remembrance Artwork. I did a sunset background with a soldier", Ruby, Dosbarth 6

And Mr Davies, Dosbarth 4 said:

"My highlight this week has been seeing the respect shown by all the children during our Remembrance Day work"

And finally...

As always, our pupils have truly amazed us this week with their positive attitudes towards each other and their learning. Our virtues this half term are **"Learned and Wise,"** and it's wonderful to see everyone living up to these values — using their learning for the common good. Wishing you all a lovely weekend — and hopefully some dry, fresh air to enjoy Saturday and Sunday outdoors! As always, please don't hesitate to reach out if you have any questions or concerns.

**Best wishes,
Mrs N. McGinty**

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