



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.

05
December
2025

Prayers for Charlie Williams and his family

Many of you will be aware that one of our past pupils, Charlie, is currently very unwell in hospital. Charlie was a very popular and much-loved member of our reception class two years ago and he brightened our classroom everyday with his beautiful smile and wonderful personality. I had the privilege of speaking to his parents this week, and together we reflected on the many happy memories we shared during his time with us. Charlie brought so much joy to our school community. Please keep Charlie and his family in your thoughts and prayers during this incredibly difficult and heartbreaking time. Thank you for your kindness and support.

Bravo, Classes 2 and 6!

Well done to classes 2 and 6, who confidently showcased their musical talents during their concert this week. It is truly remarkable to think that they have learnt to play their instruments in just 10 hours over a 10-week period – what an achievement!

A big thank you to the families who joined us, and especially to those who joined in so enthusiastically with our rendition of Jingle Bells! Your support and participation made the concert even more joyful.

Family Bingo Night

What a fantastic turnout for our first social event of the year- Bingo! Thank you to everyone who joined us, and to the staff who kindly stayed behind to help make the evening run so smoothly. It was wonderful to see everyone having such a great time, with plenty of laughter and some brilliant prizes won along the way.

A special thank you and well done to our amazing hosts and bingo callers-Jayla, Gwenni, and Caleb- you did a fabulous job and kept the fun going all evening!

We are delighted to share that the event made a profit of £220, which will go towards supporting our school community.

We look forward to welcoming you to our next social event in the Spring Term.

Church Raffle – thank you for your support

Thank you to all the families who supported the St. Alban's Church raffle this year. We are delighted to share that we raised £242, which has been passed on to Canon Paul, who was extremely grateful for your generosity.

Good luck to everyone for the prize draw taking place on 14th December!

School Concerts Next Week!

We are so excited to watch our wonderful children perform in their concerts next week! Their hard work and enthusiasm are sure to make these events truly special.

Families are welcome to take photographs and videos during the performances. However, we kindly ask that you do not share images or recordings of other children on social media, to respect everyone's privacy.

Thank you for all your support in organising costumes- the children look fantastic. We really hope you can join us to celebrate the talents of our children. It promises to be a joyful and memorable set of concerts!

Christmas Concert arrangements

We ask that all children are dropped off at their classrooms 25 minutes before the concert begins, and doors will open for entry 20 minutes before the start.

We are proud to be one of the very few schools that do not charge entry for our concerts. To help support our events, we will be selling raffle tickets during each performance. It would be wonderful if you could support us by buying some tickets- fingers crossed you all win some great prizes!

Concerts are as follows:

Classes 1 and 2 – Monday 8th December 1.30pm and Tuesday 9th December 5pm

Classes 3, 4 and 5- Wednesday 10th December 6pm and Thursday 11th December 1.30pm

Reception – Friday 12th December 9.30am

Good luck to everyone involved!

Collecting your Child/ren from School

Recently, we have noticed an increasing number of parents collecting their child/ren before the end of the school day. This can be disruptive for the class as a whole and may mean that your child misses valuable learning time. Unless it is urgent or unavoidable, we kindly ask that you collect your child from their classroom door at 3.05pm.

Thank you for your co-operation.

Update on 'The Nursery'

Building work is to be completed by Christmas, and we're awaiting CIW registration for Nursery Childcare and Flying Start. We're hoping that childcare provider, Pontymoile Out of School Clubs, will be using the room for Flying Start and Nursery Childcare by February or March 2026. Parents will register for places by contacting the childcare provider directly. The register is not open yet so please wait for further details before

contacting the childcare provider or school. We promise to keep you updated.

No After School Clubs

This week is the last week for autumn term after school activities (concerts and discos in weeks up to Christmas). Clubs will resume on the week commencing 19 January – a new list of clubs will be on the January newsletter. Thank you to all the children who have attended clubs this term, and a very special thank you to staff who have freely volunteered their time to ensure our children have these wonderful opportunities.

Christmas Discos with DJ Tucker! – 15 December

Reception class teacher, Mr Tucker, has kindly offered to DJ for the afternoon/evening of Monday 15 December!

Children in our reception, class, 1 and 2 classes can attend at 4pm until 5pm.

Children in classes 3, 4, 5 and 6 can attend from 5.15pm until 6.30pm.

These discos are, of course voluntary and children do not need to attend. As they take place after school, there will be no quiet rooms available. Please explain this to your child/ren before the event, as last year some children asked if they could go to their classrooms as the music was loud.

We hope that many of our children will join DJ Tucker on our dance floor!

Christmas Lunch – 17 December

Christmas lunch will be served on 17th December- no booking is required. Due to the busyness of the day, no alternative lunch option will be available. Children may, of course, bring a packed lunch if they prefer.

Children are invited to wear Christmas jumpers/own clothes to school. In addition, our canteen staff are running a Christmas hat competition- children are welcome to make a festive hat at home and bring it in.

Christmas Jumper Day – 17 December

As mentioned above, children can wear a Christmas top/jumper on Wednesday 17 December. We ask for 50p per child donation to charity which will be chosen by our school council.

Class Parties – 18 December

Each class will hold a class party. Children can wear party clothes (non-uniform) and bring a small plate of party/treat foods for themselves to enjoy – due to a range of allergies, children will not be able to share party food. On this date, children will still have a school dinner or packed lunch.

Whole School Mass – 19 December

You're very welcome to join us for our Advent Mass at St. Alban's Church, 9.30am on Friday 19 December.

Thank you also to our families and pupils who joined us last Sunday for Family Mass. It was amazing to see our church full. A special thank you to our readers,

offertory bearers and choir, and to the staff who prepared our children so well.

Toy Day – 19 December

Children can wear non-uniform clothes and can bring a toy or game to school. No electronic devices (no access to WIFI). Items brought into school are not school's responsibility; please do not allow your child to bring valuable items to school.

Our new school Facebook page

Thank you to all the families who are following our new Facebook page. For now, we will mainly use this page to keep families updated with information and upcoming events. In the future, we may consider opening up the page for comments, but at present it will be a space for sharing news with you. If you have not done so yet, please find us on Facebook, follow our page and give us a like to stay connected. If anyone has any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to speak to me directly, thank you.

Birthday Cakes

We love celebrating everyone's birthdays at school! We kindly ask that if your child/ren would like to bring cake to share, it is either individual cupcakes or a cake that has already been sliced.

Over to our Leaners

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

"I have enjoyed being Mary in our Christmas concert practice", Diana, Dosbarth Derbyn/Reception Class

"I have enjoyed making my calendar for my family"

Mia, Dosbarth 1

"I enjoyed writing about a time when I had post and we had some special post in Class 2" Iori-Wyn, Dosbarth 2

"I enjoyed decorating the class. It's one of my favourite things to do at Christmas time", Isaac, Dosbarth 3

"I have enjoyed doing my project on Mary 1. Her nickname was Bloody Mary because she bathed in blood!", Maggie Dosbarth 4

"I have loved practising Mr Humbug because it's lots of fun and I get to make people laugh" Cienna, Dosbarth 5

"I was surprised how well I was reading our Welsh book about the Second World War", Caleb, Dosbarth 6

And Mr Sefton, Dosbarth 6 said:

"My highlight of my week was watching the music concert performed by Years 6 and 2 on Tuesday. I was so proud of them all!"

And finally...

Wishing all our families a joyful and restful weekend as we head into the festive season. We cannot wait to see our children stepping even further into the joy that Christmas brings.

Best wishes,
Mrs N. McGinty