



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.

08
January
2026

Welcome Back to School

Welcome Back! We hope that all families have had a wonderful Christmas and that this is going to be a very happy new year for everyone.
The children have arrived back keen and ready to learn. It is great to see them well-rested and ready for the new term.

DATES FOR THE DIARY

23.02.26
20.07.26

INSET 5
INSET 6

Spring Term After School Clubs

Where available, pupils can continue with clubs they joined last term, but please note the following changes:

- I.T. for year 3 and 4 has changed to Gardening Club;
- Cookery Club is for pupils in year 3 and 4 (not 5 and 6);
- Sports for year 3 and 4 is now Football Club;
- Art Club is for pupils in year 4 (not 6).

If you would like your child to join a club, please email susan.lewis@torfaen.gov.uk with your child's name, class, and chosen club(s). You do not need to email if your child is continuing to attend a club they joined last term.

Whole School Topic – "I Wonder!"

Over the next six weeks, our whole school will be exploring the exciting theme "I Wonder!" This topic will spark curiosity, encourage questioning, and inspire learners to investigate the world around them. Many of the planned activities will focus on **Science & Technology** and **Health & Well-Being**, giving pupils opportunities to explore, experiment, problem-solve, and reflect on their own learning and development. Please look out for a **class newsletter** coming soon, which will highlight the key skills and learning experiences taking place in each class.

Pontypool Community Council Grant

Our thanks to Pontypool Community Council for a £1,000 grant – the grant will be used to enhance our school and local environment. Richard Evans, Project Nestbox, will be working with pupils in class 4 and class 6 during the last 2 weeks of January, making bird boxes (1 per child, to be taken home), and teaching children the importance of looking after our environment.

Traversing Forest

Our thanks to Tesco/Groundwork for a £1,500 grant (following the in-store vote last year) – we have ordered a 'traversing forest' to join the traversing wall on the school field (should be installed before the summer holiday).

Being Curious and Active

This half term, our whole-school virtue focus is *Curious and Active*.

At our school, teaching virtues and values is central to everything we do, and it runs through all subjects and daily activities. Over the next six weeks, we will be encouraging pupils to be **curious** about the world around them—asking questions, exploring ideas, and developing a real desire to learn more. We will also support them in being **active** members of their school and wider community, taking positive steps to make a difference wherever they can. Pupils will have a range of opportunities to put these values into action both in and around school.

Class Music Project

Gwent Music will deliver a music project in class 1, class 3, and class 5 this term. After the 10-week projects, pupils will perform in an assembly (parents will be invited). We hope that all pupils enjoy the opportunity to play a musical instrument. School will pay for all projects.

AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS – SPRING TERM 2026 - CLUBS START W/C 19 JANUARY

Name	Club	Day	For Pupils in Year:
Mrs Taylor	Activities	Tuesday	1 and 2
Mrs Jones	Gardening *	Tuesday	3 and 4
Mrs McGinty	Drama	Tuesday	3,4,5,6
Mrs Kettle	Cookery*	Wednesday	3 and 4
Mr Francis and Mr Davies	Football	Tuesday	3 and 4
Mr Francis and Mr Davies	Football	Wednesday	5 and 6
Mrs Tennet	Art*	Wednesday	4
Mrs Williams	Dance Fusion	Wednesday	5 and 6
Miss Way	Welsh and Criw Cymraeg	Thursday	3,4,5,6
Mr Tucker	I.T. and Coding	Thursday	5 and 6
Mr Sefton	Choir	Friday	3,4,5,6

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

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