



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.

23
January
2026

Class 6 Assembly

Parents of pupils in Year 6 are invited to attend their pupil-led assembly on Wednesday 4 February at 9.15am.

Homework Grids

We have been amazed by the pupils' response to the homework challenges set this half term. The standard of work has been fantastic, and the enthusiasm they have shown has been wonderful to see. Every pupil who completes at least five pieces of homework will receive a mug of hot chocolate and a cookie as a reward for their impressive efforts. If your child has not brought home their homework grid, or if it has been misplaced, please let us know and we will happily send out another copy.

Face to Face Consultations with Class Teachers Monday 23 March – Thursday 26 March

We are very much looking forward to welcoming you into school to share your child's work, celebrate their achievements, and discuss the progress they are making. This will also be a valuable opportunity to explore ways you can support their learning at home.

This term, to allow parents to see their child's work, consultations with teachers will be held face-to-face, in school. Appointments must be booked using our online booking system; an easy way for you to book a convenient time to speak with your child's teacher. Next week, you will receive an email with a link to the online booking system. Click on the link and type in your full name and then your child's first name (if you have more than one child, any of their first names will work). Click 'Please Choose' to be shown a list of available times that you can click to book. Then click 'Book this Slot' to complete your booking. When the button has turned green you know your booking has been made. Please note: the booking system will close on Wednesday 18 March – if you need to change your booking after this time, please call the school office.

For the evenings to run smoothly, each appointment is scheduled for 10 minutes- if you or the class teacher feels longer is needed, another appointment can be made at a later date.

If for any reason you are unable to meet with your child's teacher on these dates, please contact the school office or class teacher directly.

Please note that there will no after school activities/clubs during this week.

Pupils to share their work with Parents / Carers

For the last 2 years, we've given parents the opportunity, during the school day, to look at their child's books with their child present. Feedback has been very positive from both parents and pupils, so this term we are offering this opportunity to you again. The sessions are listed below and will take place before the upcoming parent-teacher consultations. For families with more than one child in school we will try to accommodate a time when you can see your children's work in one visit, if this would be helpful for you.

Date	Time	Class
Mon. 9 March	9.05-10am	Rec. and Class 1
Tues. 10 March	9.05-10am	Class 2
Wed. 11 March	2.15-3pm	Class 6
Thurs. 12 March	9.05-10am	Class 5
Thurs. 12 March	2.15-3pm	Class 3
Mon. 16 March	2.15-3pm	Class 4

School Eisteddfod

Our school Eisteddfod will take place during the morning of Friday 27th February. Unfortunately, due to space, this is for pupils only – but we will take photographs and videos. All children will perform a competition as part of a house team. To help us celebrate in true Welsh style, pupils are invited to come to school dressed in traditional Welsh costumes, house colours, or Welsh team clothing. In addition, pupils are invited to take part in an Eisteddfod homework challenge which can be completed over the half term break. Further information will be sent home in the near future. We cannot wait to see all pupils participating and enjoying the competitions.

World Book Day

We are excited to celebrate World Book Day on **Thursday 5th March**. Pupils are invited to come to school dressed as their favourite character or, if they prefer, in their own comfortable clothes so they can fully enjoy a day immersed in stories and literature. Throughout the day pupils will take part in a range of activities designed to spark imagination and promote a lifelong love of reading. We will also be holding a special character parade.

Friendly Attendance and Punctuality Competition.

We have launched our popular Attendance and Punctuality Competition once again. Each week, the classes with the highest attendance and the best punctuality earn a token. At the end of the Spring Term, all tokens will be counted and the winning class will

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enjoy a special treat of hot chocolate, marshmallows, and cookies. At present, Class 2 are steaming ahead in the attendance race, while class 4 are leading the way with punctuality. Well done to both classes- and good luck to everyone as the competition continues!

Year 5 to watch Oliver

Year 5 pupils have been invited to watch a production of Oliver at St. Alban's High School during the morning of Monday 9 February. Pupils will walk to and from the High School. Pupils may bring £1-£2 to buy something from the tuck shop.

Update on 'The Nursery'

County Childcare Padre Pio is now taking enquiries about Flying Start places (for children aged 2 to 3 years) - email: admin@countychildcare.co.uk for more information.

We're awaiting CIW registration for Nursery Childcare (for children aged 3 to 4 years) and will update you as soon as this is received. County Childcare Padre Pio will manage the nursery childcare and parents will register directly with them for a place. Please note that, if you're eligible to apply for the Childcare Offer for Wales, nursery childcare is free (if you're not eligible, you would need to pay the childcare provider).

Meeting regarding Abernant Trip (Year 6)

You're invited to a meeting regarding the Year 6 trip on Wednesday 4 February at 3.10pm in school (class 6). Staff who have been on the trip in previous years will be available to answer any questions that you may have and to go through what a typical day and evening at the residential centre looks like.

Fruit Snack and Water

We remind you that the only drink your child should bring to school is water (ideally in a refillable water bottle) and, if your child wants a break-time snack, they're asked to have a piece of fruit – they will be asked to take any other snacks home. Break time only lasts 15 minutes and we also want your child to socialise and play outside. Your co-operation is greatly appreciated.

School Orchard

Next Wednesday afternoon, pupils in class 1 and class 6 will be planting fruit trees and creating our new school orchard. Pupils in both classes are asked to bring to school wellies/boots, old clothes and a coat. Our sincere thanks to Keep Wales Tidy for providing (and helping to plant) fruit trees and spring bulbs, a water butt and 2 picnic benches.

Thank You for Spreading the Word!

We would like to say a big thank you to all our families who have shared our social media posts about our open days, and to everyone who has spoken so positively about our school to potential new families.

Your support has made a real difference. We have had an amazing response this year, with an incredible number of applications, and we cannot wait to welcome our new children and their families into our school community. Diolch yn fawr!

DATES FOR THE DIARY

16.02.26	Half Term
23.02.26	INSET 5
24.02.26	1st day back for pupils after half term
27.02.26	School Eisteddfod
05.03.26	World Book Day
Wk Beg:	Parent Book Look with child
09.03.26	
Wk Beg:	
23.03.26	Parent Consultations
30.03.26	Easter Holidays (2 weeks)
17.07.26	Last day of term for all pupils
20.07.26	INSET 6

Over to our Learners

Let's read directly from some of our wonderful learners about what they have particularly enjoyed this week.

"I liked making a card with Mrs Harris" **Millie, Dosbarth Derbyn**

"I enjoyed PE and dancing like an animal in the jungle" **Mia, Class 1**

"I loved making snowflakes- painting was great fun. I couldn't stop making paper ones!" **Kaleb, Class 2**

"I liked Maths because we made 3D shapes" **Bodhi, Class 3**

"I loved writing about Mr Stink because he was fun! We also watched the DVD" **Nia, Class 4**

"I loved working with Newport County because I found out how to keep my body healthy" **Cole, Class 5**

"I loved simplifying Algebra because it just clicked into my brain" **Jayla, Class 6**

And finally

As we come to the end of another busy and joyful week, we want to wish all our families a lovely, restful weekend. Thank you to our pupils for their continued hard work, enthusiasm, and kindness- and especially for living out this half terms virtues of being curious and active in their learning and in the way they care for one another. We are so proud of each and every one of them.

Have a wonderful weekend, however you choose to spend it, we look forward to welcoming you all back to school next week.

Best wishes,
Mrs McGinty