



# 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.

13  
February  
2026

### 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

### INSET 5 – SCHOOL CLOSED – 23 February

Please note that school will be closed on Monday 23 February and will reopen on Tuesday 24 February. We wish you and your families a happy half-term holiday.

### Class 6 Trip - Crucial Crew

Class 6 will visit Cwmbran TA Centre on **Tuesday 24 February** to learn about the role of 'crucial crews', e.g. fire service, in our community. Pupils will be transported to and from the venue by hired coach, and will return to school before lunch. Pupils may take £1-£2 to spend in the shop.

### School Eisteddfod

Our school Eisteddfod will take place during the morning of **Friday 27<sup>th</sup> 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. We cannot wait to see all pupils participating and enjoying the competitions.

### Eisteddfod Padre Pio 2026 Half Term Project

All of our wonderful Padre Pio pupils are invited to create a piece of 2D or 3D artwork to enter into this year's Eisteddfod! The theme is: "Proud to be Welsh" You can use any medium you like – paint, felt-tip, collage – to name just a few! You could make or draw a daffodil or leek, create a 3D rugby stadium, design a shield or a love spoon – there are so many ideas! Make sure that your artwork is clearly labelled with your name and class. All entries should be brought to school no later than 9am on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> February. Winning entries will win points for their house so remember – you have to be in it to win it!!  
Pob lwc bawb!

### World Book Day

We are excited to celebrate World Book Day on **Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> 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 during the day.

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### Class 3 Assembly

Parents of pupils in class 3 are invited to their assembly, Wednesday 11 March, 9.15am.

### NEW DATE - Rugby Tournament

The Pontypool and District Schools Under 11s Rugby Tournament, postponed last December, will be held on Friday 13 March at Pontypool RFC. The team was selected last year (and we still have trip consent slips completed by parents). Details are: 10am start, due to finish by 3pm, players must bring boots and shin pads (kit and socks provided by school), pupils need to bring lunch and drinks, warm coat, and asthma pump/medical supplies, if necessary.

### 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](mailto: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).

fantastic, and it was wonderful to see so many pupils completing a wide range of tasks! As a reward for reaching the target, over 80 pupils enjoyed hot chocolate and cookies today- da iawn bawb!

If you didn't quite reach the target this time, don't worry- there's always next half term. Keep trying, and you could be celebrating with us next time!

### Aylah's Prize Raffle!

Thank you so much to everyone who has supported Aylah in her quest to raise money to help fund her travel costs to complete in the World Dance Championships in July. She has raised over £100! Aylah has given up her break times to sell tickets, and we are incredibly proud of her determination and commitment.

The raffle was drawn today- congratulations to our lucky winners, Preah (Reception) and James (Year 6) who are now the proud owners of some very big cuddly toys!

### Over to our Learners

Let's hear from some of our wonderful learners about what they have particularly enjoyed this week and/or this half term.

"I have enjoyed learning odd and even numbers"  
**Paige, Dosbarth Derbyn**

"I enjoyed looking at the flowers and fruit trees that we planted with Year 6"  
**Daisy, Class 1**

"I really enjoyed learning about animals and painting a clown fish!"  
**Kaleb, Class 2**

"I enjoyed learning about the parables in RE. Parables are stories Jesus told to help us understand the Kingdom of God."  
**Ella, Class 3**

"I loved going to Mass and learning the hymns"  
**Nia, Class 4**

"We have read the Iron Man- it is probably the best book I have ever read! I am grateful that we got to work with Newport County- we were learning about the best food to eat and physical activity- it was really good fun!"  
**Phemelo, Class 5**

"I've had fun learning about birds when making my bird box"

**Enzo, Class 6**

### And finally

I think everyone-including staff! - will agree that this has been an extremely busy half term, and the break is very well deserved! Our virtues this week have been "Curious and active, and all pupils have fully embraced these values in every aspect of school life. Our whole school topic, "I Wonder!", has inspired each class to explore a range of exciting and engaging themes through their learning.

We wish everyone a very happy half term next week and look forward to welcoming all of our pupils and families back to school on **Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> February**. Thank you, as always, for your continued support and partnership- it makes a real difference to our school community.

**With best wishes,  
Mrs McGinty**

### DATES FOR THE DIARY

16.02.26	Half Term
23.02.26	INSET 5
24.02.26	1 <sup>st</sup> day back for pupils after half term
27.02.26	School Eisteddfod
05.03.26	World Book Day
w/c 09.03.26	Parent Book Look with child
w/c 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

### Attendance and Punctuality Update

As you may know, each week in our celebration assembly we announce the weekly winning classes for overall best attendance and punctuality. At the end of each term, the winning class for both are rewarded with hot chocolate and cookies- and the competition can get quite fierce! At the moment, the race is very close. Currently Reception is leading for attendance and Class 5 is leading for punctuality. However, this can all change next half term, so keep working hard!

We are also delighted to share that our overall attendance and punctuality record is higher than the Torfaen average. Let's keep up the fantastic effort and aim to become the best school in Torfaen for attendance and punctuality!

### Homework Challenge Rewards

This half term, we challenged every pupil to complete at least five pieces of homework. The response was

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