



# St Patrick's Catholic Primary School

*The Catholic Diocese of Lancaster*

## **Newsletter** **September 2025**

### **Our Value for this month is:**

### **Respect**

### **Welcome back to all our school families**

It has been lovely to welcome back all our children after the summer break. We would also like to welcome all our new families and our new children in EYFS (Reception Class).

### **Beginning of Year Mass** **Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> September @ 10am**

There will be a Mass to start the school year on Tuesday (tomorrow) in school. We will be joined by members of the parish and parents and carers are welcome to attend.

### **Key Stage Meetings**

There will be two information meetings hosted in school in the coming weeks (see dates below) to share information about how our children learn, our new maths scheme and how our children learn to read. Information will also be shared about how our reading books work and when children are heard read etc. We would encourage all parents to attend so that you feel informed.

**EYFS, YEAR 1 & YEAR 2: Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2025 at 3:30pm**

**YEAR 3, 4, 5 & 6: Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> September 2025 at 3:30pm**

### **Reading at Home**



Reading at home with your child is the key to success at school and in later life. It is really important to try and hear your child read at home each night. (Please fill in their reading record.) We are continuing with our 'Reading Rainbow' initiative this year to drive the importance of reading and growing a love of books.

## Class Structure for 2025/2026

Class	Teacher
<b>EYFS</b>	Mrs Downing/Mrs Barska
<b>Year 1</b>	Miss Hunter
<b>Year 2</b>	Miss Jones
<b>Year 3</b>	Mrs Websdell (whilst Miss Francis is off)
<b>Year 4</b>	Miss Cook
<b>Year 5</b>	Mr Houghton/Miss Hall
<b>Year 6</b>	Miss Slater

### Year 6 parents

High school forms need to be filled in by **31<sup>st</sup> October 2025**. Please see below dates for our local high school's open evenings.

Please see below open days for year 7:

#### Open Evenings:

24/09/2025	Our Lady's Catholic College	5-8pm
16/09/2025	Bay Leadership Academy	6-8:30pm
18/09/2025	Morecambe Bay Academy	5-8pm
30/09/2025	Carnforth high School	Time to follow

If you need help with forms, please ask!

<https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/children-education-families/schools/apply-for-a-school-place/starting-secondary-school/>

### Attendance / Early Collection from School



Towards the end of last academic year, attendance at school for some children was poor. In this new academic year, we must make a determined effort to ensure that all of our children attend school regularly. Parents are asked **NOT** to book holidays during the school term as they will not be authorised and you risk a fine of £80 per parent. Parents who are not living with the family are also fined by Lancashire County Council. (Please see this year's term dates below).

Also, please could parents refrain from collecting children before home time (3:15pm) unless there is a genuine appointment which can be shown on an appointment card. Early pick-ups affect your child's learning and is disruptive to the

rest of the class. Once assembly has started on Friday, children will not be removed for early departure. Thank you.

### **Parent Governor**

The governors are looking to welcome a new parent governor onto our governing body. Being a governor gives you a good insight into how a school runs and enables you to make a contribution and have your say in:

- Monitoring the quality of educational provision and the outcomes that children within the school achieve
- A focus on safeguarding
- A focus on special educational needs and supporting the most disadvantaged children.
- Having an involvement in shaping the future development of school

Being a governor means attending 3 full governor meetings over the school year and if you choose to be on a committee, up to 3-6 further meetings over the school year. You do not need to have any specific qualifications to be a school governor, just a passion for school improvement and for being part of the business aspect of school.

If you wish to learn more or are interested in becoming a governor, please come in and speak to Miss Murphy or Miss Hunter or email on [j.murphy@st-patricks-pri.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:j.murphy@st-patricks-pri.lancs.sch.uk)

### **Parking outside school**



Please can we appeal to you when you are dropping off and picking up your children from school to be mindful of our staff and **DO NOT PARK in front of the gates**. Also be mindful of neighbours who need access to their drives to pick up their own children etc from school.

We have had a couple of complaints again this week about some parents who have been disrespectful to our neighbours when they have needed access to their properties.

We really don't want to ask the traffic warden to come down to school but if the problems persist, we will have no other option – thank you for your support with this matter!

### **School Website/APP/Facebook page**

In our bid to be environmentally friendly, we have reduced the number of paper letters that we send out. We would encourage all of our parents to access information, pictures of your children, letters etc via our school Facebook page/APP or the website <http://www.stpatricksheysham.com> We can also arrange for letters

or messages to be emailed out. Those of you who still wish to receive paper copies, please let us know. Please make sure that school has your email address. Thank you.

### **PE Kit**

Please could I remind all parents that your child **MUST** have a PE kit in school at ALL times. PE is not only part of the curriculum but also helps to promote health and wellbeing. All jewellery must be removed for PE. School is no longer allowed to put tape over earrings as the guidance from Lancashire has changed. PE kits can be purchased from the Uniform and Leisurewear Shop in Lancaster.

### **School Uniform**

Already in school we have had children misplace new school jumpers and cardigans. We realise that school uniform is not cheap and cannot constantly be replaced. PLEASE can I appeal to you to write your child's name in the label so we can return uniform. We have lots build up over the year that we cannot return because we do not know who owns them.

### **Tuck Shop**

Tuck shop is available for healthy snacks during every morning playtime. All items are 20p.

### **Breakfast and After School Club**

Breakfast Club is available to parents from 7:40am in school. The cost per child is £3.50

After School Club runs from 3:15- 5:50pm every day at a cost of £7.00 per child.

All places can be booked via the school app or at the school office. Payments **must** be made upfront before the child attends.

### **Swimming**

Our children in Key Stage Two (Y3-6) will take part in swimming lessons this year. Swimming is such an important life skill and we expect ALL children to participate as part of their PE curriculum. The timetable will be as follows:

Monday 10:10am - Year 5

Wednesday 10:30am - Year 4

Thursday 10:30am - Year 6

Year 3 will swim after Christmas replacing Year 6 who will then stop.

### **School Clubs**

Afterschool Sports Clubs to begin week commencing **Monday 15<sup>th</sup> September 2025**.

- **Monday – Board games for Years 3/4/5/6**
- **Tuesday – Mixed Football for Years 4/5/6**

- **Wednesday – Dodgeball for Years 3/4/5/6**
- **Thursday – Gardening Club for Years 3/4/5/6**

If your child wishes to attend any of these clubs, a permission letter must be signed.

### **First Holy Communion**



Catholic children in Year 3 and above are invited to make their First Holy Communion and First Confession (Reconciliation). If you wish your child to receive these sacraments, please speak to Fr Darren at Mass.

### **What's happening in school this month?**

Day	Date	Time	Event
Monday	Week beginning: 09/09/2025		Swimming starts
Monday	15/09/2025	3:15-4:30pm	Mr Fagan's clubs start
Tuesday	16/09/2025	10am	Beginning of Year Mass
Monday	22/09/2025	3:30pm	KS1 Meet the teacher
Thursday	25/09/2025	9:30am-11:30am	PE event
Thursday	25/09/2025	3:30pm	KS2 Meet the teacher
Friday	26/09/2025	10am	Mini Vinnie's Commissioning Mass

### **School & Citizens Advice worker**

Jeni Meadows continues to be available for support with Housing, DLA forms, benefits, jobs, debt etc. Jeni is contactable on: **07942 391188** or by email:

[jenim@northlancashirecab.org.uk](mailto:jenim@northlancashirecab.org.uk)

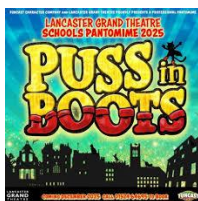
### **Advance notices**

#### **Year 6 SATs WEEK Dates**

This year's SATs week for Year 6 is the week of **11<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup> May 2025**.

**All Year 6 children must be in school.**

## Christmas Pantomime



We have booked to take the children to the pantomime at the Grand Theatre in December to see Puss in Boots. The date of the trip is Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> December (more details to follow).

## School Term Dates

### St Patrick's Catholic Primary School Heysham SCHOOL TERM AND HOLIDAYS 2025/2026



#### **AUTUMN TERM 2025**

Staff Training Day	Monday 1st September 2025
Staff Training Day	Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> September 2025
School re-opens	Wednesday 3rd September 2025
School closes after school	Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> October 2025
Half Term closure	Mon 27 <sup>th</sup> Oct – Fri 31 <sup>st</sup> October 2025 (inclusive)
School re-opens	Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> November 2025
School Closes after School	Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> December 2025

#### **SPRING TERM 2026**

Staff Training Day	Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> January 2026
School re-opens	Tuesday 6 <sup>th</sup> January 2026
School closes after school	Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> February 2026
Half Term closure	Mon 16 <sup>th</sup> Feb – Fri 20 <sup>th</sup> February 2026 (inclusive)
School re-opens	Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup> February 2026
School Closes after school	Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> April 2026

#### **SUMMER TERM 2026**

Staff Training Day	Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> April 2026
School re-opens	Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> April 2026
May Day closure	Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> May 2026
School closes after school	Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> May 2026
Half Term closure	Mon 25 <sup>th</sup> May – Fri 29 <sup>th</sup> May 2026 (inclusive)
School re-opens	Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> June 2026
School closes after school	Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> July 2026
Staff Training Day	Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> July 2026

#### **Inset Days**

TOTAL NUMBER OF OPENINGS 190 PUPIL DAYS + 5 TRAINING DAYS  
(195 DAYS)