

'Where charity and love are, God is there'

Newsletter 07.03.25– Term 4 -Week 2

Reflection: Ash Wednesday

This week in school we celebrated Ash Wednesday, the first day of Lent. This is the day when Catholics throughout the world come together to celebrate Mass and receive ashes on their foreheads to mark the beginning of the Lenten Season. We joined Fr Richard at church for our Ash Wednesday Mass. We are called to renew our lives and turn back to God, who is full of compassion. We are invited to be living signs of Christ's compassionate love, given for all. During the mass, we thought about how can we show mercy and love to others

The season of Lent reminds us of Jesus' 40 days of fasting and prayer in the wilderness, where he grew stronger through resisting various temptations. In this Sunday's Gospel, the tempter makes three suggestions in an effort to divert Jesus from his true mission.

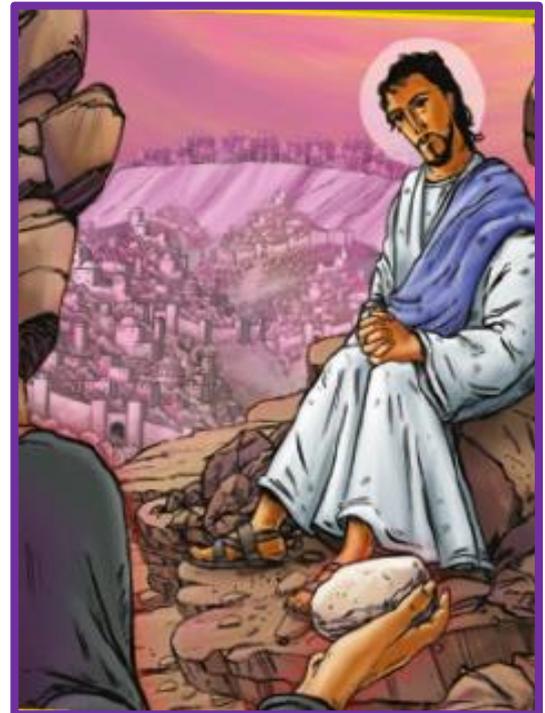
Jesus rejects the temptations, one after another – each time with a word from Scripture, which is the Word of God. It is part of the human condition to face temptations in life. But the more familiar we become with the Word of God, the more we too can be strengthened to resist temptations and be filled with new life. Enjoy your week and help spread God's love, through LENT.

"Lent is a 'powerful' season, a turning point that can foster change in each of us. Let us deny ourselves something every day to help others."
Pope Francis

Lent is a great opportunity to be strengthened. In the same way that bread feeds our body, we also need prayer and God's word to feed and strengthen our mind.

How can we strengthen ourselves to keep our Lenten promises? Perhaps we can: set aside a few minutes each day to pray; read God's word in the Bible or go to Church together.

**Dear Lord Jesus,
please help me and
my family to grow in
love and
strength during Lent
through keeping our
Lenten promises.
Amen.**



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Diamond class visit Slimbridge

On Tuesday, Diamond Class went on their first school trip to Slimbridge WWT. They started the day with a walk around the lake to see all of the wonderful swans, geese, ducks and flamingos, then it was time for a visit to meet Ava the Osprey. Ava encouraged everyone to become Guardians of the Wild by completing lots of different nature tasks, what a wonderful way to live out our Catholic Social Teaching of Care for God's Creation. They listened to different bird calls, found a willow tree and hunted for grass snakes. After a lunch break in the sunshine, Diamond Class enjoyed the adventure playground and the toad exhibits before returning to school. They represented St Nicks fantastically on their first trip.



Year 6 – Drugs workshop

On Monday, y6 welcomed a visitor to the class to inform them about drugs that they may have heard of and how they may affect people's lives. They explored the issues through drama, quizzes and stories. They ended the workshop well-equipped to make informed choices.



Class Assemblies

Our next round of Class Assemblies begin this term. Please join us to celebrate the learning taking place in each class. All assemblies begin at 9am.

Friday 14th March – Sapphire Class – Year 5
Friday 21st March – Amethyst Class – Year 4
Friday 28th March – Ruby Class – Year 2 and 3

Family Prayer and Liturgy

We invite you to join your child's class for Prayer and Liturgy, this will be run by the children. Prayer and Liturgy takes place each Tuesday morning and is a time for reflection and prayer. Please join us from 09.05am

Tuesday 25th March – Emerald Class
Prayer and Liturgy – Year 1 and 2
Tuesday 1st April – Ruby Class Prayer and
Liturgy – Year 2 and Year 3
Tuesday 29th April – Amethyst Class
Prayer and Liturgy – Year 4
Tuesday 6th May – Sapphire Class Prayer
and Liturgy – Year 5

Year 6 will follow after SATs

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On Thursday the school was alive with reading. We had many wonderful costumes and comfy PJ's in school. Our sponsored read was a huge success with the children stopping and reading every time they heard the bell. Well done everyone on such a fantastic effort. We finished the week with a whole school trip to Foyles for the children to choose their own book, thank you to Miss McAllister for a wonderful experience.



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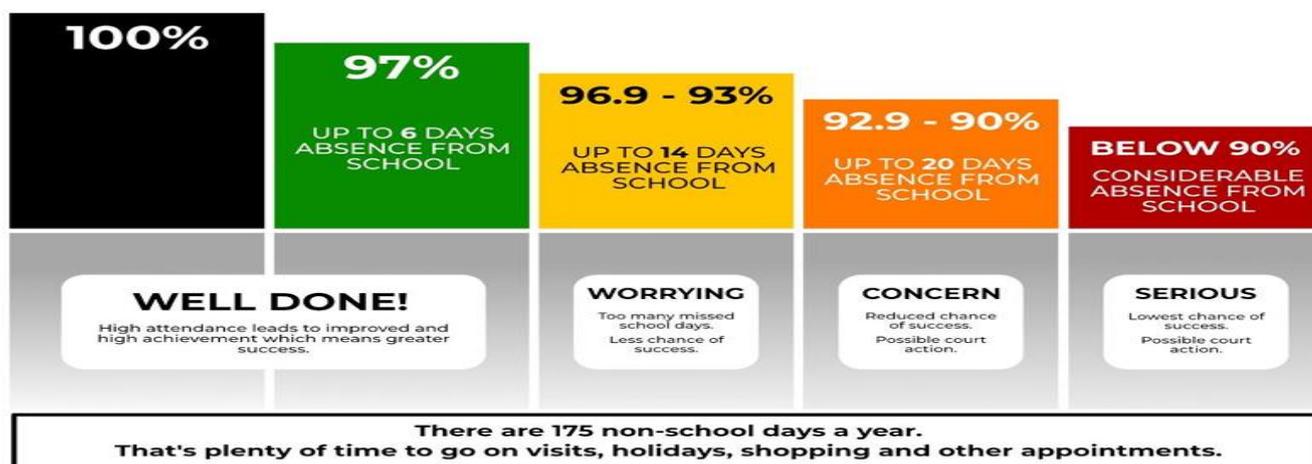
Attendance

Thank you to those children who attend school regularly and on time. We will continue to monitor closely, if attendance continues to be a concern, we will send out an earlier letter than the end of term. The target for all pupils is set at **96.1%** and any figure below is a concern.

Any classes who achieve a 100% attendance for the week will be able to have a non-school uniform day the following week.

Class	Yearly Attendance	This week's attendance	Late sessions this week
Diamond Class	87.23%	90%	90%
Emerald Class	94.22%	91.97%	91.97%
Ruby Class	93.32%	89.58%	89.58%
Amethyst Class	95.44%	92.38%	92.38%
Sapphire Class	94.91%	96.92%	96.92%
Topaz Class	93.27%	90.36%	90.36%
Total	93.14%	91.64%	91.87%

WHAT IS YOUR ATTENDANCE?



Thank you to those who attend regularly. Please remember to phone the school office if your child is going to be absent. If we do not hear from you, we will ring you and then may also make a home visit if we are unable to contact you. Thank you to those who arrive on time. Remember, children can go straight to class from 8:40am or attend breakfast club from 8am if necessary. There is also access to the walking bus if required. If your child is constantly late to school this can affect their self-esteem and they could be missing out on valuable reading, phonics or Maths activities and interventions.



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Term 4 Dates

Date	Event
Monday 10 th March	British Science Week Begins
Wednesday 12 th March	Year 5 and Year 6 Visit Trinity Centre for Science Workshops
Friday 14 th March	9am Sapphire Year 5 Class Assembly
Monday 17 th March	Wear Green for St Patrick's Day
Monday 17 th March – Wednesday 19 th March	Year 6 Camp
Friday 21 st March	9am Amethyst Year 4 Class Assembly
Friday 28 th March	9am Ruby Year 2/3 Class Assembly
Wednesday 2 nd April	World Autism Day
Thursday 3 rd April	Last day of Term 4
Friday 4 th April	School Closed INSET day
Tuesday 22 nd April	Term 5 Starts

Thank you for your continued support

Mrs R James