



## Diary Dates

**Mon 26th Feb**

**Year 4,5,6  
Reconciliation  
with Fr Brian in  
school**

**Be Active  
multisports  
Yrs 1-3  
3-3.50pm**

**Lego club—Mrs  
Wassef Yrs 1-3  
3-3.50pm**

**Netball squad  
training  
Yrs 5 and 6  
3-4.10pm**

**Beginners chess  
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Tuition  
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3-3.50pm**

**Multisports with  
PSD (KS2)  
3-3.50pm**

**Irish Dancing  
school  
6pm-8pm**

St Catherine Catholic Primary School

# NEWSLETTER



Pupil attendance to date: 94.8%. -0.1% Target 97%

23rd February 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

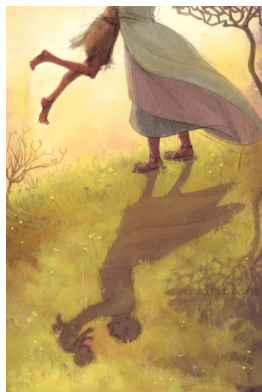
Last Sunday's Gospel reading marked the first Sunday of Lent and told the story of Jesus' temptation when he was in the desert for 40 days and nights.

Lent is a time of repentance (turning back to God) - symbolised by the colour purple. During Lent we **PREPARE** by **FASTING** (going without), **PRAYING** (talking to God) and **ALMSGIVING** (giving to others less fortunate than ourselves).

In the story of the Prodigal Son the son returns home after squandering his fortune only to find his father waiting. It's as if he has been there the whole time. This is what God is like. He wants us to turn back to him and he will be waiting for us. I showed the children this painting by Kristi Valiant. It is called 'prodigal son'. See if they can explain its meaning.

Have a lovely weekend.

Mr Doherty



## Attendance Cup

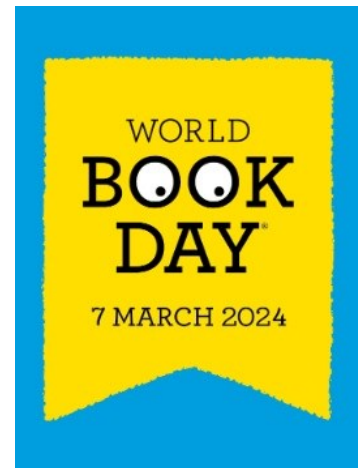
Well done to Year 6 who won the attendance trophy before half term with 97.7% attendance!

Whole school attendance to date is 94.8% - 0.1% from the previous week.



## World Book Day coming soon!

This year we will be celebrating World Book Day on **7th March**. Start thinking about costumes if you haven't already!





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## TCS Mini London Marathon 2024



**Congratulations, you're in!** 🎉



I am delighted to announce that we have been invited to participate in the TSC London Mini Marathon on Saturday 20th April. The event is open to any child from Reception to Year 6 and we have been allocated 50 places. Our Mini Vinnies will decide on a charity to fund raise for as I am hoping all entrants will get sponsorship.

TCS have kindly agreed to give £10 for every child who completes the mile so that will be £500 for the school! The children will also receive a medal. I would initially like to see who would be interested. You were all sent a google form via Parentpay today. Simply complete and return by the end of next week. If we get more than 50 children we will draw names from a hat. Thank you in advance for your support. Mr Doherty



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## Emailing teachers

Please email through the office email—[office@stcatherine.co.uk](mailto:office@stcatherine.co.uk) if you wish to communicate with teachers. Teachers **will not** respond to emails sent to their work email addresses.

Alternatively you can speak to teachers after you have collected your child and the teacher has dismissed their class.

## A very heartfelt thank you



Thank you to all of the children who sang so beautifully at last Sundays 11am Mass. This was a very special Mass for my family and I and you made it so. I will never forget it. As your Head of School you made me very proud.



## World Book Day Costume donation

World Book Day is fast approaching. Buying new costumes is expensive and we are a school that would like to encourage the children to reuse in order to care for creation (part of Catholic Social Teaching).

If you have any World Book Day costumes that you can donate please place them in the collection box that will be left on the school playground every morning and afternoon. If you would like to take one of the donated costumes for your child please do so. Thanking you in advance.







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## Library visits

During April and May each class from Reception to Year 6 will be visiting West Drayton library (dates to be confirmed and shared).

All the children from Year 1 up should have their library cards from last year as everybody who wanted to have one was issued with a card. New starters and Reception will be issued with a card with a completed library card form which we will forward to you in due course. Please dig out those cards if you haven't been using them regularly!



## Football news

Laurel Lane 2 v St Catherines 7

Well done to the school football team who ran out 7-2 winners over Laurel Lane on Wednesday afternoon. Captain Oliver opened the scoring with a thunderous shot and Rocco was awarded player of the match for grabbing his first two goals for the team.

We are now two games away from potentially winning the League and remain unbeaten with 6 wins and 1 draw. Keep it up boys. Nearly there!

Team: David D, Theo, Sovereign, Jace, Oliver ©, Zion, Mitchell, Rocco (PoM), Riley





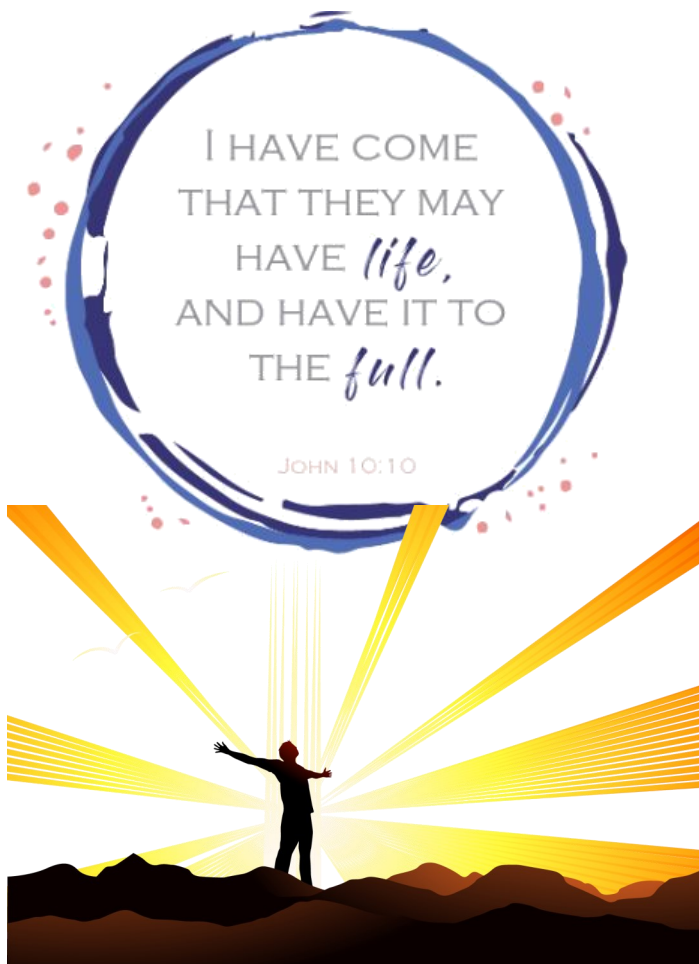
## Half term creative homework

Please remember to hand in your children's creative homework from half term. I have asked them to design a stained glass window with the title 'Living life in all its fullness'.

We have already had some incredible entries. I have put some on the next page in the newsletter. Love seems to be a recurring theme which fills me with happiness as this, ultimately, is the message of the Bible.

The deadline for entries is the end of next week (**Friday 1st March**)

Remember to keep the designs simple and bold. The winning design will get to have their artwork made into a stained glass window.







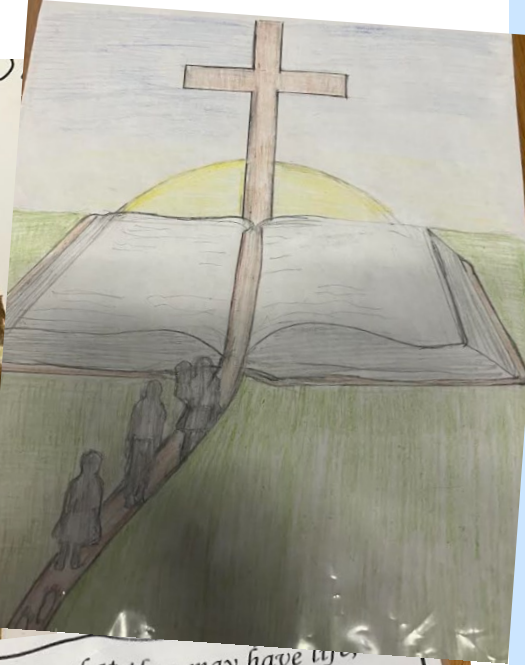
St Catherine Catholic Primary School

# NEWSLETTER

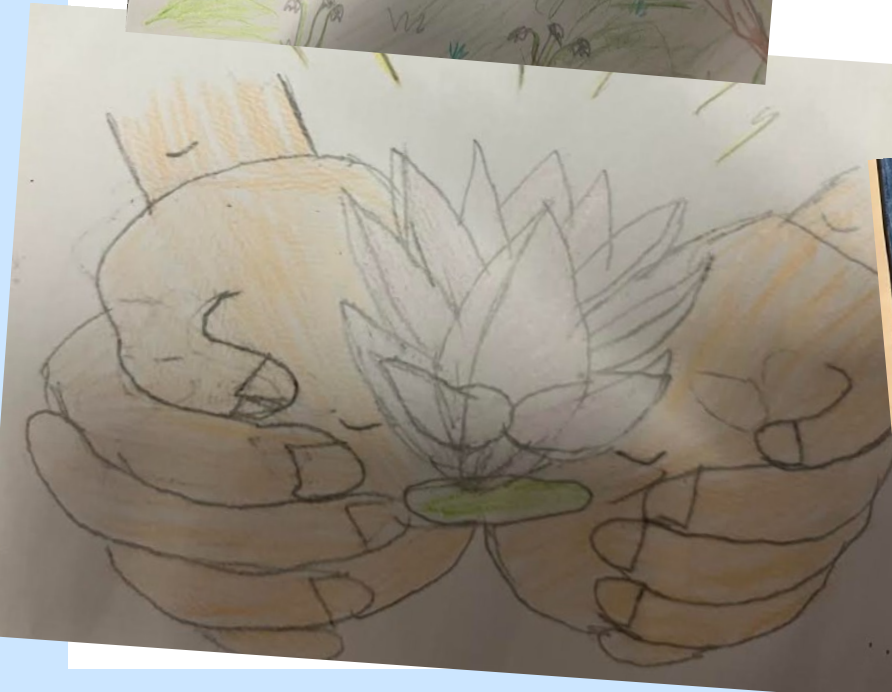


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'I have come that they may have life and have it to the full'. John 10:10







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## Lenten crown of thorns

Thank you to Leo in Year 6 who created this years Lenten crown of thorns. In assembly next week we will begin our Lent tradition where we remove the thorns (which represent the things we do that hurt God) from Jesus' crown through doing good deeds.

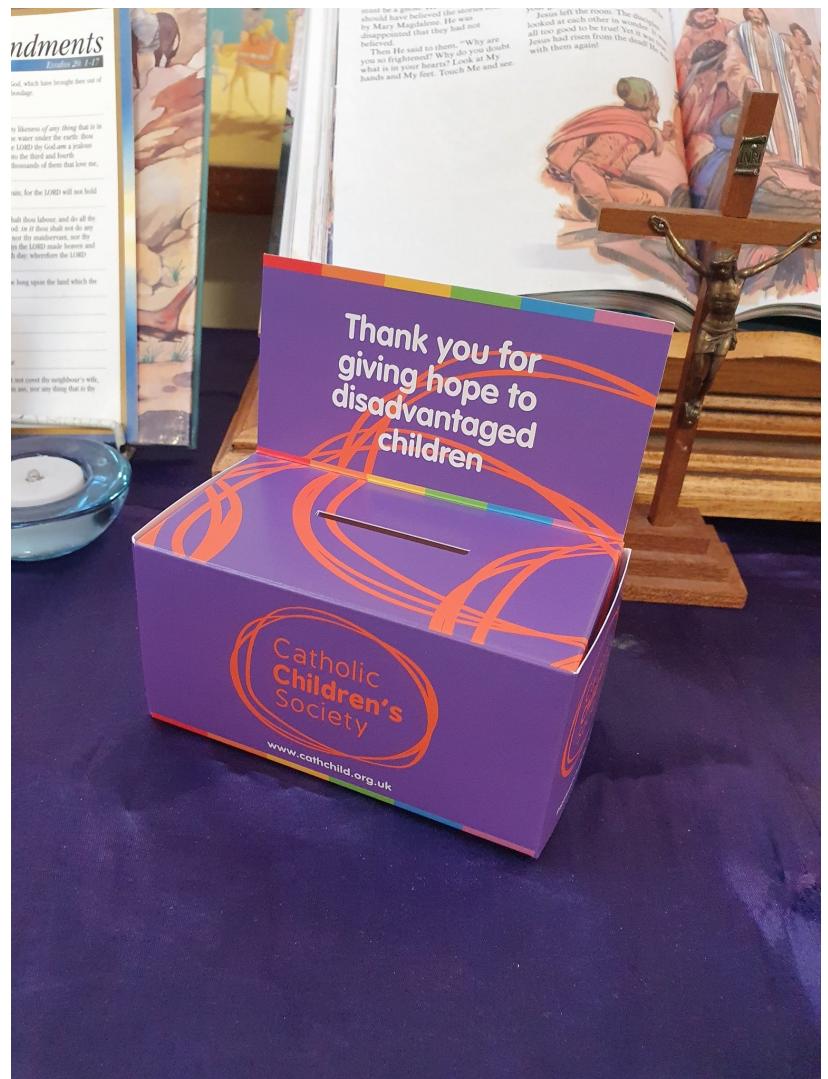
Teachers will be choosing children to take a thorn out when they have done simple acts of kindness for others. We are hoping that by Easter all of the thorns will have been removed. If you would like to nominate your child please communicate their good deed to their class teacher via google classroom or just write it down on a post it note and send it in with your child or hand to me on the gate in the morning.



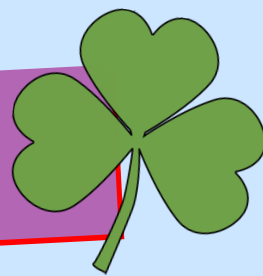


## Catholic Children's Society 'My Voice Matters' Lenten appeal

Make sure you are filling your Catholic Childrens Society boxes this Lent. I reminded the children that giving to those less fortunate than us is something we should try to do during Lent. I cannot tell you how wonderful the CCS and their work is and how they have helped families in our own school in the past. They are the worthiest of causes. If you fill your box please return to the office. Many thanks again.







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## Irish dancing Capital City Grades Feish

Well done to our Irish dancers who competed in the Capital City Grades Feish last weekend. Our girls (past and present) did us proud with Calley (Yr 2) finishing 2nd in an older age group, Annie Casey (Year 7) finishing 5th in the under 13's, Winnie Marie (Year 5) finishing 2nd in the under 13's, Kourtney (Year 7) finishing 4th in the under 13's and Ruby finishing 7th in the under 13's. This is all the more incredible as our dance school has only been running since October! Keep it up girls. We are VERY proud of you all. The hard work is paying off! Irish dancing is at 6pm on Tuesdays and Thursdays in the school hall. All welcome.







St Catherine Catholic Primary School

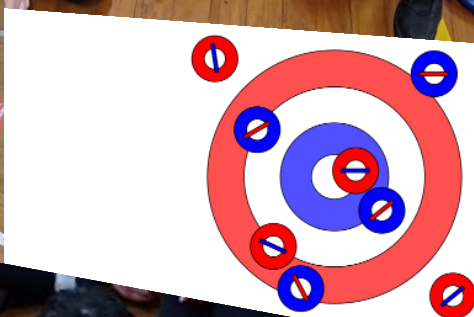
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## New Age Kurling

Well done to our New Age Kurling team who represented the school at the New Age Kurling festival in Pield Heath School on Friday 9th February. They had lots of fun competing against 10 other schools in Hillingdon and finished in 4th place overall. Well done to Mateo, Alexandra, Omorose, Deivi, Sienna and Anthony. Super effort!!!!







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## Art Easels Appeal

Thank you so much for donating art easels for Early Years area. We now have all that we need.

Once again you have all been wonderfully kind and your generosity will enrich the provision for our youngest children. Thank you again.



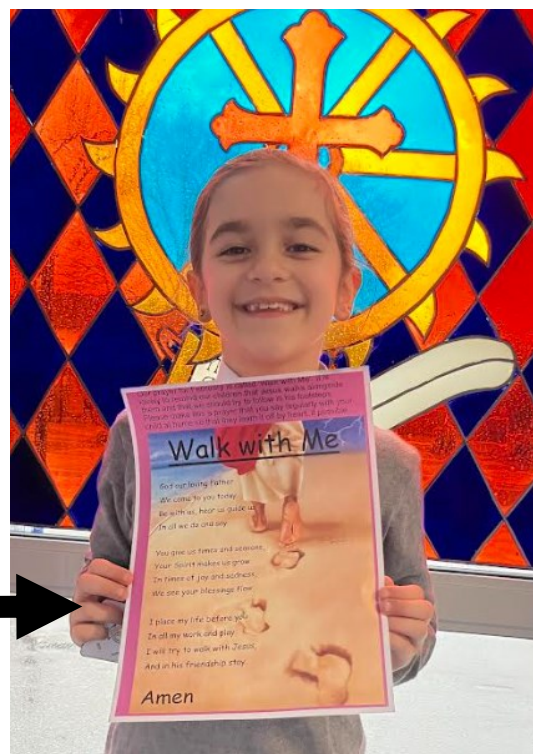
## Chess players of the week



Well done to Martyna in Year 3 and Luana in Year 4 who were voted players of the week in chess club. Martyna and Luana really impressed Mr Hughes (our chess coach) with their tactical play. Well done both of you!

## 'Walk with me'—prayer of the month recital.

I had the loveliest of visits this week from Mary Claire in Year 3 who was able to recite the 'Walk with me prayer' for February off by heart. Well done Mary Claire!





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### Year 3 superstars!

Well done to Erin and Clyde who both achieved wonderful things in the half term break. Erin won a skiing competition in Italy against children aged 11! And Clyde won an award from B-Active for being so well behaved all week in our half term holiday camp! Fantastic news!

### Netball Rally—Saturday

Good luck to our all conquering girls netball team who are competing in the Hillingdon Netball Rally on Saturday at Ryefield School Ryefield Ave, Uxbridge UB10 9DE

The event starts at 9am.

Please come along and support the team if you can.







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## Community Stay and Play morning

Our next Stay and Play morning will be held on Saturday 16th March. Please see attached poster for more information. We look forward to seeing you there.

St Catherine Catholic Primary  
School and Nursery



We would like to invite you to our next pre-school (aged 2-4) community stay and play morning.



**Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> March**  
**10am-12 noon**

Please contact our school office if you wish to attend with your child/children so we have an idea of numbers attending in advance. We look forward to seeing you.

[office@stcatherine.co.uk](mailto:office@stcatherine.co.uk)

Telephone: 01895442839

## British Heart Foundation fundraiser

Thank you all very much for your donations to the British Heart Foundation today. We raised £168.99

I am sure this money will be put to the best of uses.



## Year 4,5,6 Reconciliation

Lent is a time for self reflection and turning back to God. Next week (Monday and Wednesday) Year 4,5 and 6 children, who have received Holy Communion, will be able to receive Reconciliation with Father Brian in school.





*St Catherine Catholic Primary School*

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Our next Stay and Play Community morning will be held on Saturday 16th March. Please share this with friends and families. We will be holding a Signalong workshop as part of the morning. Children in our current Reception and Nursery classes are welcome to attend, as are older siblings. If you are able to volunteer to support on the day please let the EYFS team know. We look forward to seeing you.

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Please see the attached flyer for the Young Artists' Summer Show. This is a free competition/ exhibition open to children aged 4 and above. The school has signed up so you can submit work whenever you wish. As a school we will be entering pieces of work over the coming term but you can also submit artwork completed at home. Work must be submitted by 27th March. I look forward to seeing the children's entries.

The website address is:



## Young Artists' Summer Show 2024

The Young Artists' Summer Show is a free, open submission exhibition for young artists aged 4–19 years and studying in the UK.

Students can submit one artwork for consideration which will be judged by a panel of artists and arts professionals. Selected artworks will be displayed online and on-site at the Royal Academy of Arts. Prizes will be awarded to inspiring artworks across each key stage.

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### How to enter

From 8 January 2024, teachers will be able to register their school. Next, students, their parents/guardians or their teachers can submit artworks via the RA website until 27 March 2024.

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### Important dates

**8 January – 27 March 2024**  
Registration and submission open

**May 2024**  
Judging

**16 July 2024**  
Online exhibition opens

**16 July – 11 August 2024**  
Display at the RA open

**RA** Royal Academy of Arts

Sign up and find out more  
[royalacademy.org.uk/youngartists](https://royalacademy.org.uk/youngartists)  
#RAYoungArtists

Made possible by Robin Hambro





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Please see the attached poster for a fantastic new support project. This are parent/carer drop in's run by Stronger Families Key Working and Brilliant Parents.


These sessions are an informal general advice drop in.



## Parent Carer Support

Raising children doesn't come with a handbook, and sometimes knowing who to reach out to for support or advice is tricky.

Brilliant Parents and the Stronger Families Key Working team are offering a friendly and informal drop-in for parents/carers of 0-18 year olds and 0-25 year olds for those with SEND.



We'll be there for a chat, to share advice, support and a range of information in relation to parenting, and mental and emotional wellbeing for all the family.

2024	Harefield Children's Centre High Street, Harefield UB9 6BT	Uxbridge Family Hub Civic Centre, High Street, Uxbridge UB8 1UW	Hayes Family Hub College Way, Hayes UB3 3BB
	Wednesdays 1-3pm	Fridays 5-7pm	Fridays 10am - 12pm
March	6th	8th	15th
April	3rd	12th	19th
May	1st	10th	17th
June	5th	14th	21st
July	3rd	12th	19th
August	7th	16th	23rd
September	4th	13th	20th

For more information contact Sarah on:

07495 024 449 or

[sarah.rust@brilliantparents.org](mailto:sarah.rust@brilliantparents.org)

Our goal is to empower parents to feel safe, strong and healthy, whilst building resilience and confidence in your parenting decisions, with the support of a community network.





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What's  
on...

at West Drayton  
Library

## Irish Dancing Performance



By the ACS Hillingdon  
International School



Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> March  
2.15pm – 3pm

Booking Essential.  
To book your place, please phone  
01895 558195 or email  
[westdrayton-library@hillington.gov.uk](mailto:westdrayton-library@hillington.gov.uk)







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Thank you to everyone who attended our Saint Valentines disco. We raised a massive £ 728.04!!!!



Hope you all had as much fun as we did!! It was also great to see everyone dressed in RED.

Our next FSCS meeting is on Thursday 29th February , please join us to discuss future events, ideas and other ways we can enrich our children's educational experiences.

\*DATES FOR THE DIARY\*



FSCS Meeting - Thursday 29th February

Easter Egg Hunt- Monday 25th March



Bingo Night- Saturday 18th May

Summer fayre - Sunday 7th July





Our prayer for February is called 'Walk with Me'. It is lovely to remind our children that Jesus walks alongside them and that we should try to follow in his footsteps. Please make this a prayer that you say regularly with your child at home so that they learn it off by heart, if possible.

# Walk with Me



God our loving Father  
We come to you today.  
Be with us, hear us guide us  
In all we do and say.

You give us times and seasons,  
Your Spirit makes us grow.  
In times of joy and sadness,  
We see your blessings flow.

I place my life before you  
In all my work and play.  
I will try to walk with Jesus,  
And in his friendship stay.

## Amen

# Important future diary dates

Saturday 24th February—Girls netball rally at Ryefield 9am

Thursday 29th February—FSCS meeting at 7pm in school

Wednesday 6th March - Year 6 Junior Citizens event at Brunel

Thursday 7th March—World Book Day (please dress as a book character)

Saturday 16th March—Stay and Play morning

Monday 25th March—FSCS Easter Egg hunt in school

Tuesday 26th March—End of Term Mass in Church at 9.30am

Thursday 28th March—Year 6 Passion Play at 9am in school.  
Year 6 parents/carers and families welcome

Thursday 28th March—Accessorize day

Thursday 28th March—Last day of term (finish at 2pm)

Friday 29th March—Friday 12th April - Easter holiday

Monday 15th April—Start of Summer term

Tuesday 23rd April—Start of term Mass at 9.30am in Church

Tuesday 30th April—Year 4 Class Mass at 2pm in classroom (parents and family welcome).

Thursday 9th May—Ascension Thursday - School Mass in Church at 9.30am

Friday 24th June—Staff training day

Sunday 9th June - Holy Communion at St Catherines Church

Mon 13th—Thurs 16th May—KS2 SATS week

Saturday 18th May—FSCS Bingo Night in Parish Hall (5-7pm)

Friday 14th June - Year 2 trip to Windsor castle

Sunday 16th June—Holy Communion at St Catherines Church

Tuesday 18th June—Year 3 class Mass at 2pm (in classroom)

Wednesday 19th June - Life of Christ at Wintershall (Year 5)

Sunday 7th July—School Summer Fayre 12-3pm

Friday 12th July—School reports sent home

Tuesday 16th July—Optional Parents Evening (3-5pm)

Tuesday 23rd July—Year 6 Leavers Mass in Church at 9.30am

Tuesday 23rd July—End of term—finish at 1.30pm

Wednesday 24th July—Staff training day

