



Newsletter



Issue 25 20th March 2026

St Catherine's Catholic Primary School, S4 7BX

0114 3030381

Mission Statement

Our mission is to behave in the way that Jesus taught us:
that we are all equal and that we should behave kindly and humbly towards each other.



What week is it for school dinners on Monday 23rd March?

Parent Information | School Meals

Please see the Packed Lunch Policy on the school website

Look at the website for the new Spring/Summer menu which starts on Monday 30th March!

1

WEEK ONE	FAVOURITES MONDAY	WORLD TUESDAY	ROAST WEDNESDAY	PIZZA PARTY THURSDAY	FISH FRIDAY
Main Meal Option	Red Tractor Pork Sausage Roll & Home-baked Potato Wedges	Beef Taco with Corn Tortilla, Tomato Sauce & Sunny Rice 	Roast Chicken with Gravy, Stuffing & Mashed Potato	Wholemeal Tomato & Cheese Pizza & Home-baked Potato Wedges 	Fish Fingers & Chips
Vegetarian Meal Option	Macaroni Cheese	Italian Quorn Meatballs served with Pasta ^{VG} 	Quorn Grill, Gravy, Stuffing & Mash Potato 	Vegetable Sausage in a Bun with Home-baked Potato Wedges ^{VG} 	Vegetable Fingers & Chips with Ketchup ^{VG}
Vegetables	Baked Beans & Sweetcorn 	Mixed Salad or Broccoli 	Seasonal Greens & Carrots 	British Red Tractor Garden Peas, Sweetcorn 	British Red Tractor Garden Peas, Baked Beans 
Sandwiches	Cheese	Tuna Mayo	Cheese	Tuna Mayo	Cheese
Wraps	Tuna Mayo Wrap	Cheese Wrap	Tuna Mayo Wrap	Cheese Wrap	Tuna Mayo Wrap
Baked Jacket Potatoes	Jacket Potato with Cheesy Beans, Tuna Mayo or Cheese or Beans 	Jacket Potato with Cheesy Beans, Tuna Mayo or Cheese or Beans 	Jacket Potato with Cheesy Beans, Tuna Mayo or Cheese or Beans 	Jacket Potato with Cheesy Beans, Tuna Mayo or Cheese or Beans 	Jacket Potato with Cheesy Beans, Tuna Mayo, Cheese, Salmon Mayo, or Beans 
Dessert	Vanilla Shortbread ^{VG} & Chocolate Sauce 	Flapjack with Fruit 	Strawberry Jelly ^{VG}	Oaty Cookie with Fruit 	Vanilla Ice Cream



*If you are celebrating Eid with your friends and family this weekend,
we wish you peace, joy and endless blessings!*

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Prayer of the Month – March – Come Holy Spirit

V. Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful.

R. *And kindle in them the fire of your love.*

V. Send forth your Spirit and they shall be created.

R. *And you will renew the face of the earth.*

Let us pray

*O God, who by the light of the Holy Spirit,
did instruct the hearts of your faithful,
grant that by that same Holy Spirit,
we may be truly wise, and ever rejoice in your consolation,
Through Christ our Lord.*

Amen



Dates to Remember and Other Important Things!

New information is highlighted

Monday 23 rd March 2026	Nursery Stay and Learn – Number	8:45am in Nursery, come and join us! 12345 67890
Tuesday 24 th March 2026	Last chance to sign up for the CAFOD family fast!	We will be shopping today, so please sign up before 12 noon!
Wednesday 25 th March 2026	Family Fast CAFOD A better world needs all of us https://cafod.org.uk/	Year 1 to Year 6 children can choose to have a simple lunch of tomato soup, bread roll and a yoghurt, all money will be donated to CAFOD to help them to create a better world for all of us! Please sign up on 
Wednesday 25 th March 2025	Raffle tickets on sale at the school office from today	Sale of tickets starts today for the Easter Raffle, to be drawn 2 nd April!

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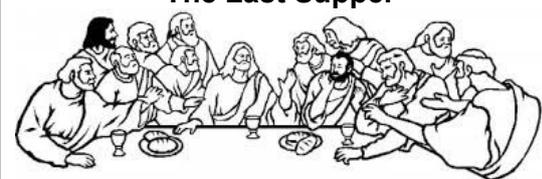
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Wednesday 25 th March 2026	F2 Vision Screening	Nurses will be in school to see the Reception children!
Thursday 26 th March 2026	Nursery Stay and Learn – Number	8:45am in Nursery, come and join us! 12345 67890
Sunday 29 th March 2026	Palm Sunday Procession and Mass	9:00am at St Catherine's Church 11:00am at St Patrick's Church
Monday 30 th March 2026	Lent Celebration of the Word Y3MS "Palm Sunday" 	Parents and family members are welcome to join us, the assembly starts at 9:15am in the school hall (not CCC), sorry but we are not able to admit latecomers as this will distract the children. Please enter through the staff car park to the KS2 building (near Y4 gate).
Tuesday 31 st March 2026	Lent Celebration of the Word Y3JN "The Last Supper" 	Parents and family members are welcome to join us, the assembly starts at 9:15am in the school hall (not CCC), sorry but we are not able to admit latecomers as this will distract the children. Please enter through the staff car park to the KS2 building (near Y4 gate).
Tuesday 31 st March 2026	Year 3 Parent Meeting Residential Trip "Whirlow Farm"	3:15 to 4:00pm, please enter by the school office. Look out for more information nearer the time, this meeting is for parents of those children who have booked a place on the residential trip!
Wednesday 1 st April 2026	Mass of the Chrism	11:00am St Marie's Cathedral
Wednesday 1 st April 2026	Lent Celebration of the Word Y5EH "The Garden of Gethsemane" 	Parents and family members are welcome to join us, the assembly starts at 9:15am in the school hall (not CCC), sorry but we are not able to admit latecomers as this will distract the children. Please enter through the staff car park to the KS2 building (near Y4 gate).

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Thursday 2 nd April 2026	Holy Thursday Mass	7:00pm at St Catherine's Church 7:00pm at St Patrick's Church
Thursday 2 nd April 2026	Lent Celebration of the Word Y5OW "The Stations of the Cross" 	Parents and family members are welcome to join us, the assembly starts at 9:15am in the school hall (not CCC), sorry but we are not able to admit latecomers as this will distract the children. Please enter through the staff car park to the KS2 building (near Y4 gate).
Thursday 2 nd April 2026	Easter Raffle 	In the afternoon, we will draw the Easter Raffle, tickets cost 20p each and you can buy them from the school office. Thank you for your support!
Friday 3 rd April 2026	Stations of the Cross	10:00am at St Catherine's Church
Friday 3 rd April 2026	Service of Our Lord's Passion	3:00pm at St Catherine's Church 3:00pm at St Patrick's Church
Friday 3 rd April 2026	Good Friday – Bank Holiday – school is closed	
Saturday 4 th April 2026	Easter Vigil	7:30pm at St Catherine's Church 7:30pm at St Patrick's Church
Sunday 5 th April 2026	Easter Sunday Mass	9:00am at St Catherine's Church 11:00am at St Patrick's Church
Monday 6 th April 2026	Easter Monday – Bank Holiday – school is closed	
Tuesday 7 th to Friday 17 th April	Easter holidays – school is closed	
Friday 17 th April 2026	Closing date for Nursery applications for September 2026	
Monday 20 th April 2026	Back to school for Summer 1 half term	
Wednesday 22 nd April 2026	First Reconciliation Service for First Holy Communion children	6pm at St Catherine's Church, more information to follow



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Stewardship: Caring for Our Community

We teach our children to be stewards of the earth ... to care for the gifts of God's creation ... as parents and school staff, we work together to teach our children ... this week, our challenge is to **PARK SAFELY AND CAREFULLY WITH CONSIDERATION FOR OUR NEIGHBOURS. PLEASE DON'T PARK ON THE PAVEMENT BECAUSE IT BLOCKS THE WAY FOR PRAMS AND WHEELCHAIRS!**



This is what it says in the Highway Code:

Rule 244

You **MUST NOT** park partially or wholly on the pavement in London or Scotland. Exceptions are allowed in limited circumstances. You should not park partially or wholly on the pavement elsewhere unless signs permit it. Parking on the pavement can obstruct and seriously inconvenience pedestrians, people in wheelchairs or with visual impairments and people with prams or pushchairs.



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Attendance and Punctuality 20th March

The highest attendance in school this week was **97.7%**

Well done to the following class for the highest attendance:

Y5EH

You'll be having a little treat for the highest attendance!

The best punctuality this week was
Y1AM and Y3JN!

Well done to your children and their families!

Overall school attendance for last week was:

92.6%

Class	Teacher	Lates	% Attendance
F2AS	Mrs Atkinson and Miss Sweeney	4	86.7
F2WS	Mrs Wood and Mrs Stables	7	95.0
Y1AM	Miss Morris	2	94.3
Y1LF	Miss Franks	3	94.3
Y2DH	Mr Hawksworth	11	93.3
Y2NR	Miss Rodgers	9	94.0
Y3JN	Miss Ng	2	92.7
Y3MS	Miss Suleiman	3	94.7
Y4EB	Miss Brian	11	90.0
Y4IF	Miss Frost	14	89.6
Y5EH	Miss Huddleston	5	97.7
Y5OW	Miss Willis	14	92.6
Y6ED	Miss Drinkhill	9	87.6
Y6RR	Mrs Ralph	4	94.2



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A Culture of Safeguarding at St Catherine's

As of 2026, all forms of physical chastisement of children are illegal across the UK.

Legal Status

Physical chastisement, including smacking, spanking, or hitting a child, is now completely prohibited in the UK. Historically, parents could rely on a common law defence of "reasonable punishment" under Section 58 of the Children Act 2004, which allowed mild physical discipline in certain circumstances. However, this defence has been abolished in all parts of the UK, following reforms influenced by the Children (Scotland) Act 2019 and subsequent parliamentary discussions in England and Wales, culminating in a full ban by 2026.

Scope of the Law

- Parents and carers: Any physical punishment, even a single smack, can be considered unlawful if it leaves a mark, involves a closed fist, or uses an object.
- Schools and childcare providers: It is illegal for teachers, nursery staff, or other childcare workers to physically punish children under any circumstances.
- Legal consequences: Violating the ban can result in criminal charges, fines, mandatory parenting courses, and involvement of social services, which may affect child custody arrangements.

Historical Context

Before the 2026 reforms, England and Wales allowed "reasonable chastisement" as a defence against assault claims, while Scotland banned smacking in 2020 and Wales followed in 2022. The shift reflects growing recognition of children's rights and the importance of protecting them from violence and abuse.



Help and support

Domestic Abuse, Recovering Together (DART™)

- DART is a therapeutic service for mothers and children who have experienced domestic abuse.
- Email DARTenquiries@nspcc.org.uk to check if the service is delivered in your area.



Childline

- Confidential support for children and young adults [available online 24/7](#) or by calling 0800 1111 for free.
- Childline has advice about [domestic abuse](#), including why it happens and what they can do.

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MERIT WINNERS – well done to all of you!

Y1AM	Helen	For always making good choices, she is a joy to have in class – kind, respectful, helpful, shares with friends, and puts 100% effort into her work!
	Hannah A	For persistence in woodwork, it was tricky; hard work and perseverance have paid off and she has an incredible piece of work to show for it!
Y1LF	Everyone in the class!	 For making so much progress in RWI. Everyone has moved up one or two groups which is AMAZING! Miss Franks is SO proud of everyone!
Y2DH	Yosal	For impressing all the Lodge staff with his communication over the past few weeks!
	Sofia	For improvement in confidence and being a great friend!
Y2NR	Zahra	For always carrying out small acts of kindness within the classroom and not expecting recognition – but it is always recognised, thank you!
	Antoni	For a fabulous Analysis, he blew Miss Rodgers away with all of the knowledge he could share about his Geography learning, and giving his own opinions on deforestation!
Y3JN	Eliora	For really trying hard to apply spelling strategies when writing – it doesn't always come easy for her but she is making so much improvement!
	Betty	For being such a superstar always, she tries so hard, makes the right choices and is an absolute joy to have in class!
Y3MS	Ihechi	For amazing work in Geography, it's super impressive with how creative she has been with presenting her ideas!
	Alnata	For really great remembering of her lines during the practice we have been doing for our Lent assembly all about Palm Sunday!
Y4EB	Kanyima	For being a delight in class, she has helped other children with Maths, and has been working so hard on her River poem!
	Amen	For working so hard in Literacy, for his resilience in Maths, and for his 'happy to help' attitude which puts a smile on our faces!
Y4IF	Amos	For bravery and resilience at Cliffe House!
	Leo	For brilliant choices at Cliffe House, great knowledge of rivers, and helping others on activities!
Y5EH	Saron	For being positive and hard working role models, showing enthusiasm and making contributions to all lessons through sharing their thoughts, ideas and reflections!
	Irene	
Y5OW	Asaph	For always being a fabulous role model for our school; always being kind, helpful and respectful, and impressing the supply teachers this week!
	Nyah-Rae	For always putting 100% into everything she does, impressing Miss Glossop in PE with her stamina and perseverance!

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Y6ED	Sana	For working so hard in all of her assessments, and for impressing Miss Yousaf in Maths!
	Aisha	For a brilliant attitude to learning, and for trying hard in all her lessons!
Y6RR	Raheema	For amazing enthusiasm towards our DT project and making a fantastic earthquake-resistant structure!
	Nicholas	For fantastic effort and achievement in all of his assessments this week!

Wonders of the Week

To these children for acting as great ambassadors for our school in their everyday life by showing respect, saying a friendly hello when they see you, saying please and thank you, and just generally being a good role model, well done and thank you from the Lunchtime Staff:

Sara, Kal, Zephan – Year 6
Irene, Danat, Caleb – Year 5



These winners have been nominated by their class for living out the weekly missions – God bless you all	
Year 1	Serah and Eiden
Year 2	Grace and Heanos
Year 3	Mary and Alazar
Year 4	Bemenet and Aafiya
Year 5	Sarah and Dawit
Year 6	Nicholas, Taibah and Kal



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caritas

diocese of hallam
promoting care and social action



THE GOOD SHEPHERD APPEAL FOR SCHOOLS 2026

The Good Shepherd Appeal has a long-standing tradition in the Diocese of Hallam, and is the **key fundraising initiative for Caritas Hallam** (formerly known as Hallam Caring Services). Caritas Hallam is the *social action* arm of the Diocese of Hallam.

Although Caritas offers support to the many different social action projects around the Diocese, the **Good Shepherd Appeal** primarily fundraises for the provision of **Counselling Services in Schools**.

These services are used *in* schools *by* schools, to benefit:

- **the children** of those schools,
- **the families** of those children, and
- **the staff** working with the children.

The theme of this year's Good Shepherd appeal is:

Peace

Peace in the world begins with having peace in our hearts. One heart at a time, we can all help bring God's peace into the world. The Caritas Hallam team help people to find peace. They walk alongside individuals, families, schools and other communities to help them find some peace.

For our 2026 Appeal, we are inviting schools to explore:

- God as the source of Peace:
- St Francis of Assisi, and his journey with Peace – and St Clare of Assisi too
- Becoming a Channel of Peace for others



This Lent, each class will be fundraising for the Good Shepherd Appeal. Each class will have a jar in their classroom and will be taking part in a '**penny fundraising appeal**' to see if they can fill a jar with 1p, 2p and 5p coins. Please donate to help this great cause if you are able to.



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March 2026

Ten Ten Resources Parent Newsletter

<https://new.express.adobe.com/webpage/QV3cadJGZL0fP/>

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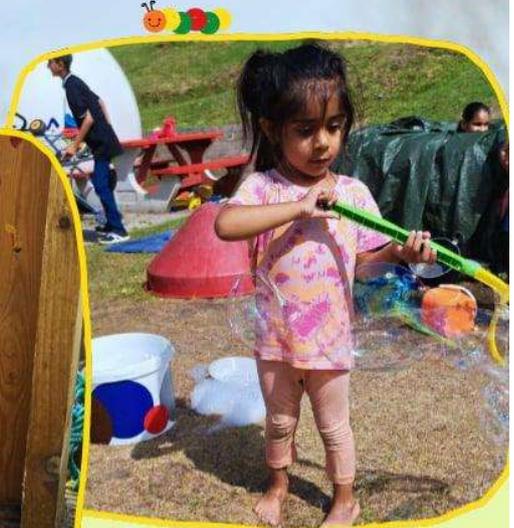
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PITSMOOR ADVENTURE TOTS

Thursdays 26 March, 23 April, 21 May,
18 June, 16 July. 10am – 11.30am.



Our new play session for toddlers and their grown-ups returns with outdoor nature play in all weathers and forest school activities.



Suitable for children up to 5 years. No booking required, just turn up! A small snack is provided for all children. Please wear suitable clothes and shoes for playing outdoors.



HOW TO FIND US



info@pitsmooradventure.org | 0114 273 7121 | Charity No. 1156611

Contact us: enquiries@stcatherines.academy or www.stcatherines.academy/contact



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AT FIRTH PARK ACADEMY

ACCESS VIA SPORTS ENTRANCE ON BELLHOUSE ROAD(S5 0RD)

STARTING WEDNESDAY 15TH APRIL 2026

(NEW PLAYERS CAN JOIN AT ANYTIME DURING THE YEAR(PROVIDING PLACES ARE AVAILABLE))



Group 1	5:00pm – 6:00pm	Ages 4 - 5
Group 2	6:00pm – 7:00pm	Ages 6 - 7
Group 3	7:00pm – 8:00pm	Ages 8 - 9
Group 4	8:00pm – 9:00pm	Ages 10 - 13

Dear Parents,

I am delighted to inform you that following the success of previous year's courses we are expanding the football coaching programme for the season. The course will run on a weekly basis **EVERY WEDNESDAY** during school term times.

All of our courses are run by F.A. **QUALIFIED COACHES INCLUDING EX-PROFESSIONAL PLAYERS**. All of our coaches have been **DBS/CRB POLICE CHECKED**. The course is open to boys and girls aged between 4 and 13. All abilities are catered for with total beginners introduced through **FUN** and confidence building practices. The course is tightly structured to ensure all aspects of football skills are developed.

At the end of the term(usually 10-15 weeks) every child will receive an engraved merit trophy and course certificate, with chances to win extra trophies including penalty shoot out, american shoot out and champions league competitions.

The cost of the course is £8 per week, which is payable every four weeks (£32) with the first payment due on week one. Parents are welcome to stay and watch however the club is fully supervised so children may be left in our care. **We have the use of excellent facilities with the course held indoors in the large sports hall.**

**TO BOOK A PLACE ON TO THE COURSE PLEASE TEXT
'FIRTH PARK' + CHILD'S NAME & AGE + GROUP TO;
07846 770 250**

Steven Nugent (Course Co-ordinator)

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