

Jesus: in our hearts, in our minds, in our living, in our learning.



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Our Eisteddfod was a great success today! Thank you for all your support with the home competitions!

7th March 2025

Message from Mrs Taylor

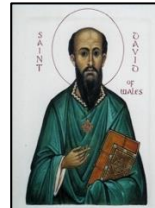
Dydd Gwyl Dewi Hapus! What a great day we have had today celebrating our Welsh culture and heritage. All the children looked fabulous in their Welsh traditional costume, Welsh sports jerseys and red clothing and they performed wonderfully in our Eisteddfod. Congratulations to all our competition winners and to everyone for taking part so well. We will share the winners and photographs from today in next week's newsletter.

Thank you to everyone who has taken part in Martha's Dancing Heart Sponsored Challenge over the past couple of weeks and has brought their sponsorship money to school. Your generosity and enthusiasm have made a real difference, bringing us even closer to Martha's charity goal and helping to support children with heart conditions. We are so proud of our school community for coming together in such a meaningful way—thank you for your kindness, effort, and support! If you have any sponsorship money at home or you would like to make a donation, please bring what you can to school on Monday.

On Wednesday we marked the start of the Church's season of Lent with an Ash Wednesday Liturgy led by our Chaplaincy Government Group. Lent lasts for 40 days and 40 nights and is a time of penance, reflection and fasting which prepares us for Christ's Resurrection on Easter Sunday. Fasting, almsgiving (charitable works) and prayer are the three traditional practices during Lent. In school we are providing enriching activities to help pupils to encounter God during Lent. To support families to encounter God during Lent we will continue to send home our prayer bags which will have a Lent focus this half term. At the end of the newsletter, you will also find a Lent calendar created by Mission Together, which you could use at home.

Please read the articles below regarding our World Book Day celebrations next Friday 14th March and a home clothes day asking for donations of toiletries for the elderly in our local community on Friday 21st March.
Take care and God Bless – Mrs Taylor

Prayer of the Week



Today, we celebrated the Feast of St David with a wonderful Eisteddfod celebration. St David is the Patron Saint of Wales. Say this prayer together:

Dear God,
Thank you for St David,
and for all the special people down through the ages who have given us examples of how to live.
Help us to do the little things in life which make a big difference.
Help us to be kind and caring,
to be honest and sharing.
Help us to be joyful and keep the faith.
For Dewi our patron saint... Diolch i ti, O Dduw.
Amen

Be joyful! Keep the Faith!

St Joseph's Pupil Profile Virtues



This half term we will be focussing on the virtues of 'grateful and generous' as part of our on-going work to develop the St Joseph's Pupil Profile.

Pupils in St Joseph's RC Primary School are growing to be **Grateful** and **Generous**

To be **GRATEFUL** is to always appreciate the gifts and blessings we have been given.

To be **GENEROUS** is to give something to someone else, to share with someone else, willingly and happily, without expecting anything in return.

Attendance



This week's attendance figures for each class are:

Class	Attendance
Reception	89.2%
Year 1	88.8%
Year 2	96.7%
Year 3	93.8%
Year 4	93.5%
Year 5	88.1%
Year 6	88.3%

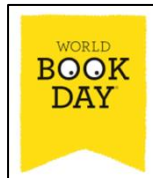
Well done to year 2 who achieved the highest attendance this week and to all families who arrived at school on time.

Food Waste Week – Success!



After investigating how much food waste was being thrown away at lunchtimes, the Eco Ministry helped to lead Food Waste Week. Eco Ministry raised awareness to the rest of the school by leading an assembly and thought about how they could encourage the rest of the pupils to reduce their food waste. The pupils were given stickers or house points by the Eco Ministry and dinner supervisors, if they had shown they had eaten all or most of their food. It was a very successful week, and as school, we managed to reduce our food waste by a huge 38%, down from 59kgs of food waste to 36kgs! The Eco Ministry would like to thank all the children and adults who helped to make this a successful week.

World Book Day



Next **Friday 14th March**, St Joseph's will be celebrating World Book Day to promote a love of literature within our school and to immerse pupils in a range of activities to inspire and encourage them to read for pleasure both in school and at home. We would be grateful if you could help us in making our World Book Day a success by supporting your child(ren) to participate in the following:

- **Costume Dress Up:** Children to dress up as their favourite book character ready for a parade on World Book Day. If they can bring in the book too – even better! If it is not possible for your child to dress up, home clothes can be worn.
- **Pre-Loved Book Swap:** Children to bring in a pre-loved book they no longer need in order to swap it at school with a classmate for something they are more interested in.
- **Story Den Photos:** This is a competition designed by the Curriculum Government Group. Children are invited to take a photo of themselves reading in the most unusual ~(but safe) place that they can. Places could include up a tree, the top of a mountain, in the sea, at the supermarket etc. These photos will be put into a video to be shown at Good News Assembly on the Friday. Please upload photos to Seesaw by Wednesday 12th March.

Ash Wednesday



On Wednesday, 5th March, our school community gathered for a special Ash Wednesday Liturgy, marking the beginning of Lent—a time for prayer, reflection, and renewal. Through scripture, prayer, and song, our Chaplaincy Government Group reminded us to turn away from sin and follow the Gospel. The Gospel reading from Luke encouraged us to love, forgive, and be merciful. Pupils reflected on how they can live out these values in daily life. Ashes were distributed as a symbol of repentance and commitment to grow closer to God. Each child was invited to make a Lenten promise to help them become better followers of Jesus. We encourage families to support their children's Lenten journey through prayer, kindness, and reflection at home. Thank you for your support in nurturing their faith.

Toiletries for the Elderly



As part of our Lenten journey, we are encouraging pupils to take action by helping those in need. On **Friday 21st March**, we will hold a home-clothes day and ask pupils to donate a toiletries item such as shower gel, hand cream, face cream, tissues, toothpaste, hand soap, or shampoo. These will be given to elderly people in the local hospital and nursing homes. This initiative is being led by our Chaplaincy Government Group in partnership with the St Vincent de Paul Society, based in our parish church. It is a wonderful way for our children to put their faith into action by showing compassion and care for others during this season of giving.

We appreciate your support in helping our pupils live out the message of Lent through kindness and generosity.

Dates for the Diary



March

- 10th – Animal Zone (Nursery/ Reception/ Y1/ Y6)
- 12th – Year 2 Educational Visit to Penarth Pier
- 14th – World Book Day – please see article above.
- 19th – Feast of St Joseph Mass at 2.45pm. All are welcome
- 21st – Year 2 Kerbcraft workshops
- 25th – 28th – Year 6 cycling
- 24th – 28th – Big Walk and Wheel
- 26th – Chaplaincy Team to visit Hazelhurst care home
- 31st – Parent Teacher Consultations 4pm – 6pm - rescheduled

April

- 28th – First Day of Summer Term
- 29th – Colorfoto Class Photographs

May

- 5th – Bank Holiday
- 6th – INSET day
- 9th – Year 6 Crucial Crew
- 15th – Year 5 to Dinas Powys Music Festival
- 21st – May Procession and Picnic

April

- 1st – Parent Teacher Consultations 4pm – 6pm - rescheduled
- 1st – Years 3 and 5 pBuzz and Vocal Celebration
- 2nd – Reconciliation Liturgy 9.30am
- 2nd – St Richard Gwyn Cluster Lent Service (St Helen's Catholic Church, Barry) 2pm
- 3rd – St Richard Gwyn Cluster Lent Service (St Joseph's RC Church, Penarth) 6pm
- 7th – Termly St Joseph's 100 Club Draw
- 11th – Final Day of Spring Term

June

- 2nd – 4th – Year 5 Llangrannog
- 6th – F&F Colour Run
- 9th – 13th – Healthy and Confident Week
- 10th – Years 1 – 6 Sports Day
- 17th – Nursery and Reception Sports Day
- 20th – F&F Big Top Circus Workshops
- 20th – 22nd – Year 6 Manor Adventure
- 25th – Infant Celebration of Music and Dance 10am
- 26th – Infant Celebration of Music and Dance 10am
- 27th June – F&F Summer Fair

14th – 25th April - Easter Holidays

July

- 8th and 9th – Years 5 and 6 Summer Production 6pm
- 18th – Final Day of school for pupils
- 21st – INSET day

Please check the Dates for the Diary every week.

Mission Together Lenten Calendar 2025



Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
We will soon begin our Lenten journey to Easter. We pray that we may use this time to grow in faith, hope, and love.	4 Shrove Tuesday. Why do we eat pancakes the day before Lent starts? *	5 Ash Wednesday Why are ash crosses traced on our forehead today? *	6 Why does Lent last forty days? *	7 With your class, reflect and pray with the 1st and 2nd Stations of the Cross. +	8 Many years ago, Lent was a name for Spring. Capture both in Mission Together's Lent through a Lens challenge. *	9 Find a quiet place and ask God to help you pray and share more this Lent.
10 Yesterday's Sunday Gospel was Lk 4:1-13. What lessons can we learn from this reading? +	11 In Lent, we give things up to put God and others first. What could you give up today?	12 Jesus showed us how to be silent and still. Spend a minute being both now.	13 Find out what the word sacrifice means and why we practice this in Lent.	14 With your class reflect and pray with the 3rd & 4th Stations of the Cross. +	15 Tell your family about the Stations of the Cross and why we pray them in Lent.	16 Find a quiet place and spend a little time talking to Jesus, our God and our friend.
17 Yesterday's Sunday Gospel was Lk 9:28-36. What does it encourage us to do this week? +	18 Yesterday was the feast of St Patrick. Find out why he is the patron of Ireland. *	19 Hear God speak to you today through: *Loved ones *The Bible *Creation	20 In Lent, we listen to God and others more carefully. How can you listen well today?	21 With your class reflect and pray with the 5th & 6th Stations of the Cross. +	22 Tell a family member three things you have learnt about Lent this week.	23 Find a quiet place and pray the Our Father for all hungry children in the world.
24 Yesterday's Sunday Gospel was Lk 13:6-9. What lessons can we learn from this reading? +	25 Jesus taught us how to be hopeful. Where do we see signs of hope today?	26 In Lent we give more time to help others. Look for ways to help today.	27 During Lent we share more of what we have. Why is sharing important?	28 With your class reflect and pray with the 7th & 8th Stations of the Cross. +	29 Tell a family member why we pray more in Lent. Teach them your favourite prayer.	30 Mothering Sunday Ask God to bless mums and grandmas today.
31 Yesterday's Sunday Gospel was Lk 15:11-32. What does it teach us about God the Father? +	1 In Lent we reflect on God's mercy. Why is it important to be sorry and to forgive?	2 Write a Lent prayer. Include the words: mercy, pray, share, Jesus, God, Holy Spirit.	3 Pray the Our Father for people who are lost and for those who seek them.	4 With your class reflect and pray with the 9th, 10th, 11th Stations of the Cross. +	5 Tell a family member about God's love and mercy and why it is important to trust in both.	6 Lent is a time to say sorry and forgive. Ask God to help you and your family do both.
7 Yesterday's Sunday Gospel was Jn 8:1-11. What does it teach us about making judgments? +	8 Jesus taught us to respect and include everyone. Who can I invite to pray today?	9 Pray a Hail Mary for people who feel worried today. Ask Mary to pray with us for them.	10 We're coming closer to Holy Week. Why is it the most special week of the Church's year?	11 With your class reflect and pray with the 12th, 13th and 14th Stations of the Cross. +	12 Tomorrow is Palm Sunday. Tell a family member about the first Palm Sunday.	13 Palm Sunday Find a quiet place and thank God for sending Jesus to love and guide us.
14 Yesterday's Sunday Gospel was Lk 19:28-40. What does it teach us about who Jesus is? +	15 Holy Week Today we recall Judas' bad choice. Ask God to help you make good choices this week.	16 Today Jesus and his disciples planned the Last Supper. Thank God for the food you'll eat today.	17 Maundy Thursday Why do Priests wash the feet of others at Mass tonight?	18 Good Friday Sit quietly, be still, and thank Jesus for loving us all so much.	19 Holy Saturday Today we wait as Jesus lies in the tomb. Say a prayer for those who are grieving today.	20 Easter Sunday

Calendar symbols: + refers to scriptures and reflections found in Mission Together's Lenten Celebrations of the Word, also to our Stations of the Cross. The * symbol refers to Lenten activities or Five Fact Saints Assemblies. These and additional Lent resources are available at missiontogether.org.uk Missio's registered Charity No. 1056651



Please see below an advert for the Dinas Powys Rugby Minis & Juniors Team

PLAYERS WANTED



Dinas Powys RFC

Do you love rugby or want to give it a try?

We are looking to recruit players for age groups U7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12 and 13s, and we need

YOU!

What we can offer:

- Make new friends
- Develop your rugby skills
- Improve your fitness
- Be part of a team

All skill levels welcome. All you need is enthusiasm and a love for the game!

Interested? Contact Katherine Wing 07958122137

