

THE WEEKLY BULLETIN

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR THE WEEK AHEAD

DATE: FRIDAY 23RD JANUARY 2026



Good morning,

We hope you have had a wonderful week. It's certainly been busy in school, and we're amazed at how quickly this half term is flying by. Years 1 and 2 had their workshops this week and Years 3 and 4 started their swimming lessons. Please be reminded that Years 3 and 4 continue swimming next week too, and we look forward to hearing their progress.

Next week sees the turn of Nursery and Reception for their workshops. We would urge you to make time in your diary to attend the workshop as it will talk you through how Maths is taught to your children.

You will have seen, last week, the figures relating to homework. Sadly, whilst they have improved slightly, many of our children are still not completing their daily Maths or reading at home. We would kindly ask for your support, particularly if your child is in the younger classes as this daily practise will help them as they move through the school.

And finally... in a week when the Government are addressing issues surrounding Social Media for under 16s, we have added more information about AI and how this could impact your child. Please take time to read it and add our Cyber Café date to your diary.

A message from your teachers

Class	Teachers	Message from your teachers
Nursery	Mrs Khan & Mrs Muhsen	Well done, Nursery! We have had a wonderful week. A reminder to all parents that Forest School takes place on Thursdays. Please ensure your child comes dressed in clothes you don't mind getting muddy and bring their wellington boots in a bag.
Reception	Mrs Shaw & Miss Humphries Miss Vassel & Ms Sobiecka	Yesterday, the children had great fun learning outside in Forest school! They are already looking forward to their next session on Thursday. In Maths we have been counting and representing the numbers 9 and 10. In Understanding of the World this week the children had great fun making their own cars using wooden dowels and wheels. On Wednesday morning at 8.45 in the school hall, I will be speaking to you about Big Maths. Please come along and find out ways that you can support your child with their Numeracy skills.
Year 1	Miss Mapother & Mrs Jones Mrs Kalsi	Well done on a great week in Year 1, you have worked hard in our writing and art units. Please make sure to keep doing numbots and reading every night on boom reader for your homework as this is a requirement. Have a lovely weekend!
Year 2	Miss Elliot & Mrs Barnett	Year 2 have had a great week writing leaflets about how to keep safe around dragons in Writing, continuing their work on fractions in Maths, and learning dances to <i>Penguin Small</i> in PE. They also really enjoyed the parent workshop on Wednesday - thank you again to everyone who attended. We hope you have a peaceful and restful weekend.
Year 3	Mr Galligan & Mrs Deocades Mrs Kalsi	The year 3 class have been working super hard in their first week of swimming, and we have some super swimmers! Please can you make sure you are consistently doing 10 minutes of times table rock stars and 10 minutes of boom reader. Now this week, we still only have about a third of the class who are doing this. Have a fantastic weekend and any questions, please let me know.
Year 4	Mrs Mohan, Mrs Hickman Mrs Finnegan & Mrs Baxter	Well done for your hard work during our swimming lessons this week. A reminder that we have one more week of swimming next week. Please remember to bring all items needed for swimming every day next week! We really want to see everyone completing our weekly homework in Year 4. A reminder that both TTRS and reading need to be completed 5x a week. Have a lovely weekend. Thank you! 😊
Year 5	Mrs Hensman, Mrs Edgington & Miss Plant	A wonderful week in Year 5 and they are delighted to be learning about Astronomy in Science and the Transatlantic Slave Trade in History. They are such an inquisitive class that sometimes, it's hard to stop them asking questions. Well done Year 5!
Year 6	Mr McNamara, Mr Clewer Mr Lahert & Mrs Baxter	Well done to year 6 on another fantastic week. This week foundation focus has allowed the children to explore the amazing world of Lego Spike; giving them the toll they need to problem solve and work together as a team. Keep up the great work!
After School Clubs	Mr Read	Even though the weather wasn't the most inspiring this week, it was a pleasure to see the children showing such positivity and resilience throughout Active 15 and the sports after-school clubs. Well done, everyone!

Important information for the week ahead

Monday 26th January	Tuesday 27th January	Wednesday 28th January	Thursday 29th Jan	Friday 30th Jan
Years 3 and 4 swimming all week				
		Reception Parent Workshop 8.45am in the hall Whole School Mass 10.00am in the Church	Nursery Parent Workshop 8.45am in the hall	Celebration Assembly 8.45am in the hall
	Book Fair for EYFS & KS1 Children 3.30 – 4.00pm	Book Fair for Year 3 & 4 Children 3.30 – 4.00pm	Book Fair for Year 5 & 6 Children 3.30 – 4.00pm	

Stars of the Week



This week, the children had their chance to vote for their Mission Statement Luminary of the half term. During this time, we ask them to look carefully at the whole class and think about who is learning, living and loving together in Christ. It is always heartwarming to read their responses and shows the level of respect and care they have for each other. Here are this half term's Mission Statement Luminaries.

Nursery	Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Angelo	Joshua	Freya	Jaida	Pebblez	Evelina	Valentina	Gia

The Book Fair is coming to St Rose

This book fair is arriving at St Rose on Tuesday 27th January, and you are all warmly invited to come and see the amazing books that they have available for you to buy.

The book fair has always been a successful event, and the children love seeing the wide ranges of books available to buy.

Remember, when buying books from the book fair, you are also helping the school to provide new books for your children.

Please note, this is a cashless event, and payment must be made by card.



Timetable for visiting the book fair in the hall

Tuesday 27th January (3.30pm – 4.00pm)
 Children in Nursery, Reception, Years 1 & 2

Wednesday 28th January (3.30pm – 4.00pm)
 Children in Years 3 & 4

Thursday 29th January (3.30pm – 4.00pm)
 Children in Years 5 & 6

Catholic Life at St Rose

Catholic virtues for Spring 1

This half term, our Catholic Virtues are: **Curious and Active**

To be **curious**, means wanting to learn more about God, others and the world.

We want our children to ask thoughtful questions, show an interest in other people's lives and want to learn more about how they can be like Jesus in their own lives.

Being **active** means putting their faith and values into action.

We want our children to help others without being asked, stand up for others by making kind and brave choices whilst also taking part in prayer enthusiastically.

These virtues are what makes children at St Rose so special.

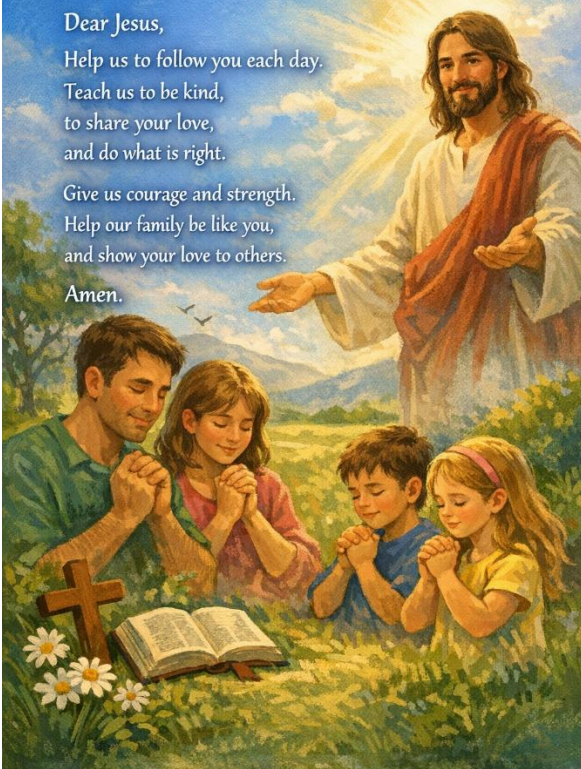


Wednesday Word

The Wednesday Word is available for you to access below. Click on the image to access this week's copy.

A Prayer to Be Good Disciples

Dear Jesus,
 Help us to follow you each day.
 Teach us to be kind,
 to share your love,
 and do what is right.
 Give us courage and strength.
 Help our family be like you,
 and show your love to others.
 Amen.



Our Lady & St Rose of Lima Parish Church News



Saturday Meetings for parents and children preparing for the sacraments

Unfortunately the snow meant we couldn't meet last weekend. We meet instead
17th January,
7th February
10 am at St Peters



Sunday Mass Times

8.45am: Mass at St Peters **11.30am:** Mass at St Rose

Parish Newsletter

[Click here for the full parish newsletter](#)

Attendance at St Rose

Well done to Year 5 for having the highest attendance last week!

Here is the attendance for Spring 1 Week 2

Nursery	Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
91.8%	94.9%	94%	97.6%	94.7%	96.6%	98%	92.9%

Every day matters

For your child to make the progress they deserve, they need to be in school.

As a school, this is something we monitor closely and is a high priority for us each academic year. Whilst odd days off may not seem significant, they do impact your child's learning. Unless your child is really poorly, please ensure they are in school and ready to learn. This will give your child the best chance of achieving their full potential.

ATTENDANCE

Why is it so important?



Children are required by law to attend school 190 days per year. The government states that every child's attendance should be at least 95%.

HOW DO YOU MEASURE UP?

Attendance	Days Absent	Weeks Absent	Lessons Absent
95%	9 days	2 weeks	50 lessons
90%	19 days	4 weeks	100 lessons
85%	29 days	6 weeks	150 lessons
80%	38 days	8 weeks	200 lessons
75%	48 days	10 weeks	250 lessons
70%	57 days	11.5 weeks	290 lessons
65%	67 days	13.5 weeks	340 lessons

Punctuality

Being on time for school is crucial for your child!

If your child is late, this will affect their overall attendance and results in them missing some key tasks that will help them practise skills they have been taught in their lessons.

- Our school day starts at 8.30am.
- The registers are taken at 8.40am.
- Anyone arriving after 8.40am is classed as late.

If your child arrives after this time, they will already have missed some crucial work in the morning.

Please allow sufficient time to get to school so that your child can get the best start to their school day!



Don't be late like the White Rabbit - be on time each day!

Our school day

Gates open at 8.25am
School starts at 8.30am
Registers close at 8.40am

EYFS school day finishes at 3.20pm
All other children finish at 3.30pm
Friday - school finishes at 1.00pm

Daily Homework

Last week, the parent bulletin highlighted the daily homework that is set for the children at St Rose and the importance of doing this daily to help both their Maths skills and their reading fluency. As a reminder, here are the daily homework requirements for each year group and the reasons why these are important.

Daily practise of either Numbots (KS1) and TTRS (KS2) will help your children to be fluent in their number facts and times tables, essential tools for their Maths lessons.

Daily reading will not only help your child become a fluent reader, but it will also instil a love of reading that provides them with a wider range of vocabulary and a more vivid imagination.

Class Statistics

Here are the number of children who completed their Maths AND reading for a minimum of 3 days since Friday 16th January.

KS1 Numbots and reading logged daily on Boom Reader		KS2 TTRS and reading logged daily on Boom Reader	
Year 1	3 children	Year 3	5 children
		Year 4	1 child
Year 2	4 children	Year 5	27 children
		Year 6	4 children

What daily homework does my child have?

Nursery & Reception:



Years 1 & 2



Years 3, 4, 5 & 6



We need your help!

This homework amount to approximately 20 minutes each day, but that 20 minutes will really benefit your child.

For children in the lower classes, please help your child to complete their daily homework. For children in the upper classes, please remind them of what they need to do each day!

Internet Safety at St Rose



Wednesday
11th February

2.45pm - 3.30pm

As part of the Internet Safety Week, we will be hosting our first 'Cyber Café' in school. The café will take place from 2.45pm until 3.30pm in the school time.

This is the perfect opportunity for you to come to the hall to chat to myself, Mr Ingram or Mr Clewer about how to help make sure your children are safe online. Feel free to bring any devices you want to check or simply come and ask us questions about what apps are safe for your children to use.

We'll have some warm drinks for you, along with some helpful handouts and a listening ear.

Make a note in your diary, and we look forward to seeing you there!

After School Clubs - Spring 1



Our Spring 'After School Clubs' are now in full swing and the children are enjoying the range of clubs available to them.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

The Thursday Handball club will not take place on **Thursday 5th February** as some of the children will be taking part in a Handball tournament.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
KS2 Mixed Football	KS1 Gymnastics	KS1 & KS2 Ball Skills	Years 4, 5 and 6 Handball
	Lighthouse Group		Choir

Important Information

Years 3 and 4

Swimming

Swimming continues for the children in Years 3 and 4 for one more week.

The children will need to bring a swimming costume / shorts and a towel each day.

This is an essential part of the National Curriculum and is therefore not something you can opt out of.

Parent Workshops

This half term, the parent workshops focus on how we teach Maths in school. We focus heavily on the teaching of Big Maths in school, so this is an essential workshop for you to attend. Each workshop starts at 8.45am in the hall and lasts approximately 30 mins.

The dates are as follows:

Reception: Wednesday 28th January

Nursery: Thursday 29th January

Year 4: Wednesday 4th February*

***Please note to date change for Year 4**

School Trips

Year 1 will be visiting the Think Tank on Thursday as part of their enriching foundation curriculum. There are still a number of parents that have yet to make payment on ParentPay or complete the request for a packed lunch. Please can you ensure this is done ASAP so that we can finalise the arrangements for the children.

The next trip will be for Year 5 in Spring 2. They will be visiting the Black Country Museum and the payment details are now available on Parent Pay.

Stay and Pray Sessions

Our Stay and Pray sessions begin in the final two weeks of the half term. We would love to see more parents join us for these special moments of prayer. The dates for the remainder of this half term:

Thursday 5th February: Year 6

Thursday 12th February: Year 5



Have a wonderful weekend.
Mr Carroll & Mrs Hensman

Keeping your child safe online

At The National College, our WakeUpWednesday guides empower and equip parents, carers and educators with the confidence and practical skills to be able to have informed and age-appropriate conversations with children about online safety, mental health and wellbeing, and climate change. Formerly delivered by National Online Safety, these guides now address wider topics and themes. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit nationalcollege.com.

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about AI VIRTUAL FRIENDS

Artificial intelligence has seen significant development over the recent months, with companies releasing new AI-based software or adding an AI element to existing apps (such as Snapchat). One form of AI that has become especially popular has been the 'AI friend' or chatbot. There are now numerous 'virtual friend' apps available, with other successful platforms likely to adopt it soon.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

CONTENT AND ACCOUNTABILITY

AI chatbots may not always recognise when content is age inappropriate or harmful and should be filtered out. As a result, there's a possibility that children could be exposed to offensive language or explicit material while conversing with their virtual friend. The companies producing such AI solutions are also unlikely to take responsibility for any content that their algorithms generate.

REDUCED SOCIAL CONTACT

An excessive reliance on chatbots for social interaction could potentially cause a child to begin reducing the amount of face-to-face communication they have, leading to social isolation. If young people become dependent on chatbots to provide companionship, it could possibly hinder the development of their real-life social skills.

LACK OF SENSITIVITY

Chatbot software isn't always sophisticated enough to pick up on subtle emotional cues or recognise signs of distress in children, as most humans would. It might therefore fail to respond appropriately. AI misinterpreting what it's being told or replying insensitively to a young user who's already struggling could potentially impact a child's emotional wellbeing or exacerbate any existing emotional issues.

UNINTENTIONAL BIAS

AI companions are only as reliable as the information they've been programmed with. The algorithms they use, therefore, may unintentionally promote bias, stereotypes or discriminatory behaviour. As many chatbots originate from the USA or UK, for instance, they can display a distinctly western-centric worldview. This could lead to children developing skewed attitudes and behaviours if they interact with the AI consistently.

COGNITIVE LIMITATIONS

Although many are now undeniably advanced, AI-powered chatbots still have limitations in terms of understanding complex concepts, context and nuance. Depending heavily on chatbots to help with learning or solving problems may stunt the development of a child's own powers of critical thinking, their creativity and their ability to engage in open-ended discussions with other people.

PRNACY CONCERNS

Chatbots typically collect data about users, including personal information and conversations. This is ostensibly to improve their performance as they gradually learn about our behaviour – but many experts warn that there may be significant risks associated with how this information is stored and used (for instance, the possibility of potential breaches or misuse by third parties).

Advice for Parents & Carers

CHAT ABOUT CHATBOTS

If a child is already expressing an interest in AI apps, then a relaxed, natural chat should help you to discover which ones they're aware of and how they're using them (or are planning to). Discuss these options with children and perhaps do your own research to ensure that you think they're suitable. Once you're totally happy, you could sit and explore the range of AI chatbots together.

CREATE A SAFE ENVIRONMENT

If a child is keen to engage with AI chatbots, encourage them to do so in a safe environment: ideally in a shared space, so you can easily keep an eye and ear on their progress. Set up appropriate content filtering measures in advance – and gently remind them that you'll be close by and ready to help with any questions or concerns that may arise.

FIND A BALANCE

Work alongside children to establish the right balance in terms of how they might use AI-powered chatbots – and when it's appropriate. It's important to make sure that children still get plenty of opportunities to learn to solve problems for themselves, as well as building their interpersonal skills through face-to-face conversations with friends, family members and teachers.

TAKE CONTROL

As with any form of app or game, when it comes to AI chatbots we'd strongly recommend that you consider employing parental controls (either on the device being used or within the software itself) to manage which apps children can download and interact with. This is particularly important for younger children, who may be more at risk of being upset or frightened by inappropriate content.

RECOGNISE THE RISKS

It's unlikely that most children will have even considered the potential risks attached to having a virtual companion. So it's probably wise to explain some of the possible hazards and challenges of AI chatbots to them. Emphasise that AI isn't a real person (however much it might sound like one) and may occasionally tell them something inaccurate or skewed by bias.

Meet Our Expert

A Certified Information Systems Security Professional (CISSP), Gary Henderson is the Director of IT at a large boarding school in the UK, having previously taught in schools and colleges in Britain and the Middle East. With a particular interest in digital citizenship and cyber security, he believes it is essential that we become more aware of the risks around technology, as well as the benefits.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College



Spring Term Key Dates

January

Tuesday 6th January

- Children return to school at 8.30am

Wednesday 7th January

- Year 6 Parent Workshop

Thursday 8th January

- Year 5 Parent Workshop

Thursday 15th January

- Year 3 Parent Workshop

Wednesday 21st January

- Year 2 Parent Workshop

Thursday 22nd January

- Year 1 Parent Workshop

Wednesday 28th January

- Reception Parent Workshop

Thursday 29th January

- Year 1 Trip to the Think Tank Museum
- Nursery Parent Workshop

February

Wednesday 4th February

- Year 4 Parent Workshop

Thursday 5th February

- Year 6 Stay and Pray

Thursday 12th February

- Year 5 Stay and Pray

Friday 13th February

- Children break up at 1pm

Monday 23rd February

- Children return to school at 8.30am

Tuesday 24th February

- One Life Retreat Day

Thursday 26th February

- Year 4 Stay and Pray

Years 3 & 4 Swimming

Monday 19th - 22nd January AND

Monday 26th - 29th January



March

Thursday 5th March

- World Book Day

Thursday 12th March

- Year 3 Stay and Pray

Wednesday 11th March

- Parent Consultation Afternoon

Wednesday 18th March

- Year 5 Trip to Black Country Living Museum

Thursday 19th March

- Year 2 Stay and Pray

Thursday 26th March

- Year 1 Stay and Pray

Friday 27th March

- Children break up at 1pm

World Book Day

For World Book Day this year, EVERY child will need to bring in a **cheap** plain white t-shirt!

WORLD
BOOK
DAY





Summer Term Key Dates

April

Tuesday 14th April

- Children return to school at 8.30am

Thursday 16th April

- Year 2 Trip to Mount Pleasant Farm
- Year 6 Stay and Pray

Thursday 23rd April

- Reception Trip to Tamworth Castle
- Year 5 Stay and Pray

Thursday 30th April

- Year 4 Stay and Pray

Test Dates

- KS2 SATs: 11th - 14th May
- KS1 SATs: Throughout May
- Year 1 Phonics: w/c 8th June
- Year 4 Multiplication: w/c 1st June

Years 1 & 2 Swimming



Monday 13th - Friday 17th April AND
Monday 20th - Friday 24th April

May

Monday 4th May

- Bank Holiday - SCHOOL CLOSED

Thursday 7th May

- Election Day - SCHOOL CLOSED

Thursday 14th May

- Year 4 Trip to Botanical Gardens
- Year 3 Stay and Pray

Tuesday 19th May

- Year 3 Trip to Warwick Castle

Thursday 21st May

- Year 2 Stay and Pray

Friday 22nd May

- Children break up at 1pm

Summer Fair



Thursday 9th July
ADVANCE NOTICE

School will close at 3pm to
allow all the staff to run stalls
at the Summer Fair

June

Monday 1st June

- Children return to school at 8.30am

Tuesday 2nd June

- KS2 Sports Day (TBC)

Monday 8th - Wednesday 10th June

- Year 5 & 6 Residential to Alton Castle

Thursday 11th June

- Year 1 Stay and Pray

Thursday 18th June

- Nursery Trip to Ash End Farm
- Reception Stay and Pray

July

Wednesday 1st July

- Transition Day

Thursday 2nd July

- Nursery Stay and Pray

Monday 6th - Friday 10th July

- Healthy Living Week

Wednesday 8th July

- Charity Day

Thursday 9th July

- EYFS Sports Day 9.00 - 10.00am
- KS1 Sports Day 10.30 - 11.30am
- Summer Fair 3.00 - 4.30pm

Wednesday 15th July

- Year 6 Leaver's Mass (TBC)

Thursday 16th July

- Year 6 Leaver's Performance 2.00pm

Friday 17th July

- Children break up at 1pm