

**ST. JOHN'S CATHEDRAL CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL  
(WITH NURSERY)**  
Cottage View  
Landport  
PORTSMOUTH  
PO1 1PX



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23rd January 2025

Dear Parents/Carers,

### **Thank you**

A belated thank you for your kind words, cards and gifts to staff for Christmas. We are always overwhelmed with the love and kindness that you show us.

Thank you also for your support with our collection of chocolates for seafarers. We passed on the donations and had a lovely thank you with photos of how our tins of chocolates were passed on to grateful seafarers who often spend many months away from their families.

### **We Are on Instagram!**

We are excited to announce that our school now has an Instagram account! Follow us at [@stjohnscathedralprimaryschool](https://www.instagram.com/stjohnscathedralprimaryschool) for updates, news, and a glimpse into daily school life. Stay connected and support our wonderful community!

### **Reception**

Please join our school community in praying for Mrs Brown who is unwell at the moment. She will hopefully be back with us very shortly. In the meantime, Reception are being very well looked after by Mrs Coyle and Mrs Bailey.

### **Congratulations**

I am sure that you will join me in sending Miss Turner and her family huge congratulations on the birth of her baby daughter.

### **Jubilee Year**

As you may know, Pope Francis has declared this a Jubilee Year with the theme – Pilgrims of Hope. We will be launching this with our children tomorrow as Year 5 lead us in our jubilee Mass. Children in all year groups are invited to wear a bright coloured shirt or jumper to school tomorrow as part of our celebrations. They should wear their usual school trouser/skirts and shoes.

## **School dinners**

If your child hasn't tried school dinners before or if you would like to know more about what we offer, Caterlink are holding a Parent taster session at 3pm on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> March. Do feel free to pop along and sample the menu.

Please remember to order your child's school dinners in advance. The kitchen only cook the number of meals ordered and so it becomes very difficult when children arrive in the hall expecting a dinner that hasn't been booked.

## **Punctuality**

Thank you to all those who consistently get their children to school on time and collect them on time.

For those who are regularly late, please try to help us and your child by being on time. It is very disruptive to a child and their class when children are coming in late. It is also not fair to children or staff when children are not collected on time. If your child is in KS 1, they must be collected at 3.20pm and if they are in KS 2, they must be collected by 3.30pm.

If your child is at a club, it is also important to collect them on time as staff are regularly having to wait 20 or 30 minutes after the end of a club for children to be collected.

## **Absence**

Please remember that children should be at school everyday unless they are unwell or have been approved for absence due to exceptional circumstances.

We are getting a significant number of requests for absence due to routine or pre-booked medical appointments abroad which require several days away from school. Please ensure that these appointments are booked for school holidays as we will not be authorising these absences in future.

## **Nursery Applications**

If you have a child who is due to start Nursery in September 2025, please return your application form by Friday 31<sup>st</sup> January. Offers for places will be sent out in the middle of March.

## **End of term assembly**

End of term assembly for Reception, Year 1 and 2 is on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> April at 9am.  
For Years 3-6 it is on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> April at 2.30pm.

## **INSET Days**

Friday 27<sup>th</sup> June 2025

Thank you once again for all your support.  
Yours sincerely,

L. Park  
Head Teacher

## DIARY DATES

### Jan

Friday 24<sup>th</sup> Year 5 Mass – 9.15am in the hall  
Friday 31<sup>st</sup> Years 4 and 6 Mass – 9.30am at the cathedral

### Feb

Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> 3pm Yr 4-6 Parent meeting on relationship education  
Friday 7<sup>th</sup> Yr 3 celebration of the Word  
Tues-Thurs 11<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup> Parents Evening  
Friday 14<sup>th</sup> Year 2 Celebration of the Word  
Break Up for Half Term

Half Term: Monday 17<sup>th</sup> February – Friday 21<sup>st</sup> February

Monday 24<sup>th</sup> Back to School  
Friday 28<sup>th</sup> Reception and Year 1 Celebration of the Word

### March

Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> Ash Wednesday  
Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> World Book Day

### April

Monday 1<sup>st</sup> 3.30pm KS 1 and EYFS Book Sharing  
Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> 3.30pm KS 2 Book Sharing  
Friday 4<sup>th</sup> 1.30pm Break Up for Easter

Easter Holidays: Monday 7<sup>th</sup> April – Monday 21<sup>st</sup> April

Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> Back to School

### May

Monday 12<sup>th</sup> Yr 6 SATS Week  
Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> KS 1 and EYFS Sports Day  
Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> KS 2 Sports Day

Half Term: Monday 26<sup>th</sup> May – Friday 30<sup>th</sup> May

### June

Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> Back to School  
Yr 4 Multiplication Check starts  
Monday 9<sup>th</sup> Yr 1 Phonics Screening starts  
Friday 27<sup>th</sup> INSET Day  
Monday 30<sup>th</sup> Transition Day

### July

Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> Transition Day  
Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> Yr 6 Show  
Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> 1.30pm Break Up for Summer