



Prayer

This week is the fifth week of Lent and leads us into the final week- Holy Week.

Dear Jesus,

As we finish our fifth week of Lent, we are almost at the end of our special journey. Thank you for helping us to keep our promises to be kind, to share, and to pray. As we get ready for Holy Week, help us to be strong like you and to remember how much you love us.



This Week's Mission

Do one act of love each day without being asked. Some ideas below:

- Monday: Help at home (tidy your room, set the table, or help cook).
- Tuesday: Be extra kind (include someone who is left out).
- Wednesday: Say something nice to 3 people.
- Thursday: Pray for someone who is sad or sick.
- Friday: Give something up (a treat, screen time) and offer it to Jesus.
- Saturday: Write or draw a thank-you note for someone you love.
- Sunday: Spend time with family and thank God for them.

Headteacher's Message

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we come to the final week of our Lenten term before the Easter holidays, it has been wonderful to reflect on the many opportunities our pupils have had to learn, perform and grow together.

Our Year 6 pupils took part in the safety workshop delivered by SCiB (Safeguarding Children in Banbury). These sessions are always incredibly valuable in helping children understand how to keep themselves safe and make positive choices.

We were also delighted to welcome families into school for several special events this week. Our Year 3 and Year 4 pupils performed their fantastic Easter production, *Resurrection Rocks*. The children sang with great enthusiasm and confidence, reminding us all of the true meaning of Easter. Thank you to everyone who came along to support them.

Sporting success continued with our Year 2 taking part in Shooting Stars football, where they demonstrated great teamwork and determination.

It was lovely to see so many parents and carers join us for our Easter craft afternoon, followed by the colourful and creative Easter bonnet parade. The effort that went into the bonnets was amazing and it was a joyful way to celebrate together.

Our Year 6 pupils also enjoyed a visit to BGN School to watch the performance of *Born for This*, which was an inspiring experience for them.

Finally, we completed our Lenten Walk, which provided a wonderful opportunity for reflection as a school community during this special season.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. We wish all our families a peaceful and joyful Easter and look forward to welcoming the children back next term.

Mrs McGeehan

Catholic Life



Our Parish

Main Times for the Easter Triduum and Easter:

Holy Thursday

7.00pm: Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper at St John's followed by The Watch until Midnight

Good Friday

10.15am: Children's Stations of the Cross at St John's.

3.00pm: Liturgy of the Passion at St John's

7.00pm: Stations of the Cross at St Joseph's

8.00pm: Stations of the Cross at St John's

Holy Saturday

8.30pm: The Easter Vigil and First Mass of Easter

Easter Sunday

8.30am: Mass at St John's

10.00am: Mass at St Joseph's

11.30am: Mass at St John's

Virtues and Values

Values for this half term are Intentional and Prophetic.



Intentional: Planning our actions and choosing to live how God wants us to. Every action we make has an impact on other people and the world around us. We think about the choices we make and care for God's creation.

Prophetic: Spreading the word of God through how we live our lives. As we choose to act intentionally and make good decisions, we encourage others to do the same. We set a good example and try to be role models for others.

Resurrection Rock!

Year 3 and Year 4 have worked tirelessly in preparation for their wonderful Paschal Play, *Resurrection Rock*. Their performance was both beautiful and thoughtful, offering a meaningful reflection as we prepare to enter Holy Week. The children demonstrated great dedication, confidence and teamwork, bringing the story to life in a truly special way. A heartfelt thank you to all the staff and pupils involved for creating such a memorable and uplifting performance.





Big Lent Walk

We are delighted to share that we have now completed our Big Lent Walk in support of CAFOD—what an amazing achievement!

The children have shown fantastic teamwork, enthusiasm and determination throughout the challenge, and we are so proud of their efforts.

We would like to say a heartfelt thank you to all our families for your continued encouragement and support along the way.

Although we have now completed our walking challenge, there is still time to support our fundraising. If you would like to donate, please use the link on ParentHub.

Every contribution, no matter how small, will help support CAFOD's incredible work around the world.   Thank you once again for being part of our journey!

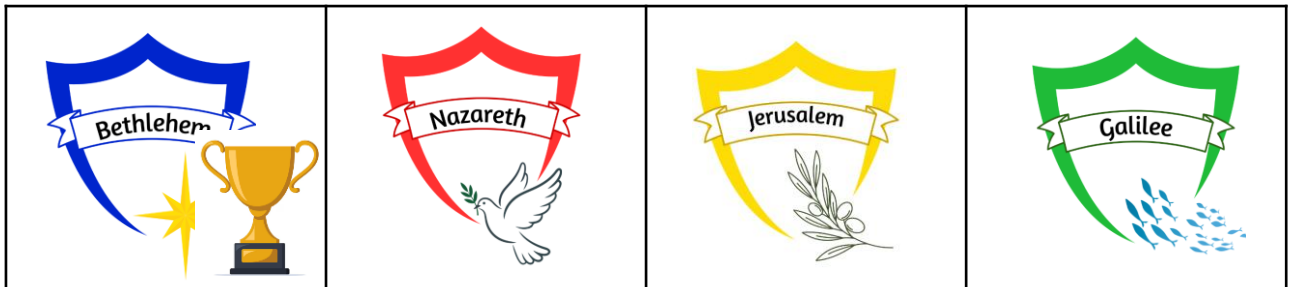
Celebrations



Certificates – this week includes Oracy and Handwriting awards too.

Nursery	Abel and Michael
Reception	Lionel and Andrei
Year 1	Kelo and Amu
Year 2	Miraya and Kenzo
Year 3	Jeron and the Whole Class
Year 4	Daelen and the Whole Class
Year 5	Ruva and Kiara
Year 6	Liliana and Rehen
Headteachers Award	Year 3 and Year 4
Attendance Award	Reception
Wrap Around	Freddie

House Points – The Winning House this TERM is....



Sports Report



Year 2 had the opportunity to attend Shooting Stars Football at BGN this week. The children took part in different football games linked to Disney. The activities involved mini football matches, passing skills and a lot of teamwork! The children participated extremely well! A huge thank you to Miss Maddison, Mrs Beech and Mrs Kerby who joined us for the morning - your help was very much appreciated! 🥰



A HUGE shout out to James in Year 5 who stepped up last minute and played brilliantly in goal!



A HUGE well done to our Year 6 boys who played their match against Bloxham fantastically and had an amazing result of 2-2.

Community Page



Lambing Open Afternoons



Come and see the newborn lambs and calves at the Warriner School Farm, Bloxham OX15 4LJ
Saturday 12th and Sunday 13th March 2022
2.00 - 5.00pm

This is a fundraising event - your support is vital to enable us to continue our work.
Refreshments subject to latest Covid guidelines.



Easter at Blenheim Palace

Friday 3rd - Monday 6th April 2026

Celebrate Easter in style at Blenheim Palace in 2026

Holiday & Activity Camps for ages 4-16

Banbury-Camp

Just Camps is an award winning holiday camp provider for children. If you are looking to keep your children entertained during the school holidays then look no further. We will be offering holiday camps at every half term and 6 full weeks over the summer holidays



HADSHAM FARM

Community Page continued...

PLACES WHERE KIDS EAT FREE (OR FOR £1) EASTER HOLIDAYS 2026

moneysavingcentral.co.uk/kids-eat-free



ANGUS STEAKHOUSE

Kids under 8 eat FREE daily, 12pm to 5pm

ASDA

Kids eat for £1 daily, with no adult spend

ASK ITALIAN

2 Kids eat free from 27th March - 19th April 2026

BELLA ITALIA

Children eat free Sunday - Thursday

BEEFEATER & BREWERS FAYRE

2 Kids Eat Free Breakfast with one paying adult

BILLS

Kids eat free Mon 30th March - Fri 10th April

BREWDOG

Kids eat free 28th March - 12th April 2026

CAFE ROUGE

Kids Eat FREE 12-4pm every day of the week

COCONUT TREE

Kids eat free Mon 30th March - Sun 19th April

CHIQUITO

Kids eat free during all school holidays

DOBBIES GARDEN CENTRES

Kids eat for £1 with an adult breakfast or lunch

FARMHOUSE INNS

Kids eat FREE weekdays 30th March - 17th April

FRANKIE & BENNY'S

Kids eat FREE daily from 30th March - 17th April

FUTURE INNS

Under 5s eat for free with any adult meal

GORDON RAMSEY RESTAURANTS

Kids under 10 eat FREE all day, every day

IKEA

Kids get a meal from 95p daily from 11am

LAS IGUANAS

Kids under 12 eat FREE with 'My Las Iguanas' App

MORRISONS

Kids Eat FREE all day, every day with a £5 spend

MARCO PIERRE WHITE

Kids under 12 Eat FREE daily with an adult spend

PAUSA CAFE @ DUNELM

Kids eat FREE with every £4 spend all day

PIZZA HUT

Kids Eat Free Every Day after 3pm

PREMIER INN

2 kids eat for free with 1 adult breakfast

PRETO

Kids up to age 10 eat free with 1 paying adult

PUREZZA

Kids under 10 get free pizza with every adult meal

SA BRAINS PUBS

Kids eat for £1 on Wednesdays

SUBWAY

Kids eat Free from the 6th - 13th April

SIZZLING PUBS

Kids eat for £1, Every Monday to Friday, 3 - 7pm

TABLE TABLE

2 Kids Eat free breakfast daily with 1 paying adult

TGI FRIDAYS

Kids Eat Free with any adult meal (Via App)

THE REAL GREEK

Kids under 12 eat FREE Sundays with £10 spend

TRAVELODGE

2 kids eat for free with 1 adult breakfast

TURTLE BAY

Kids eat free with every £15 adult spend

WHITBREAD INNS

2 kids eat for FREE with 1 adult breakfast

YO! SUSHI

Kids eat free all day (weekdays) in school holidays

Safeguarding

Year 5 and Year 6 pupils took part in a fantastic workshop led by SCiB (Safeguarding Children in Banbury) – a community initiative supported by Thames Valley Police and local schools that helps children learn how to stay safe and make positive choices both online and in the wider world. The session focused on Internet Safety, using drama and art to bring the topic to life. Together, the children explored the reasons we go online - for fun, learning and connection - and the reasons it can be healthy to take time offline too.



SEND



Autism in Children

The Cromwell Lodge, Banbury
Thursday 16th April from
10am – 2pm

Join for professional talks about things to know about autism and connect in person. Join us for talks about Autism delivered by a paediatrician, psychologist, dietician and Speech and Language therapist.

Attendance



This week, our whole school attendance stands at **94%**, which is slightly below our target of **96%**. As we come to the end of a busy term, we understand that everyone is feeling ready for a well-earned break.

Consistent attendance builds routines, fosters friendships, and provides a strong sense of community, all of which support positive mental well-being. We also know that pupils with attendance above **95%** are nearly twice as likely to reach expected standards in reading, writing, and maths compared to those with attendance between **90–95%**. Looking ahead to the summer term, we encourage all pupils to return **rested, refreshed, and ready to learn**, arriving on time and attending school every day.

A big well done to **Reception**, our winning class this week, with an excellent **98% attendance**—fantastic effort!

Thank you, as always, for your continued support.




Dates for the Diary

Below is an overview of the events planned for the Spring and Summer terms. Please note that events may be subject to change, so we encourage you to check our communications regularly for any updates. If changes are necessary, we will always aim to give as much notice as possible.

Our Celebration Assembly takes place every Friday morning at 9:10am. Parents and carers of children who have achieved a certificate are warmly invited to attend. You will be notified in advance if your child is receiving an award.

YN	YR	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6	All
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Date	Overview	Information
March		
Friday 27 th March	Break up for the Easter Holidays	
April		
Monday 13 th April	School re-opens after the Easter Holidays-start of Summer term	
Wednesday 15 th April	Y6 Girls Football Match	
Thursday 16 th April	St. George's Day and Shakespeare's Birthday 	
Monday 20 th April	Y2 Class Assembly	School hall 9:10am
Thursday 23 rd April	Y5 Banbury Allotment Visit	
Thursday 23 rd April	Y6 Football Match	
Monday 27 th April	Y3 First Confessions	
Monday 27 th April	Parent Workshop - English	School hall 2:30pm
Wednesday 29 th April	Y5 Class Saint Day – St. Therese of Lisieux	
Thursday 30 th April	Y2 Cricket Festival	
Thursday 30 th April	Whole School Easter Mass	School hall 9:30am

YN	YR	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6	All
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Date	Overview	Information
May		
Friday 8 th May	Class Photos	
Monday 11 th May	Y6 SATS Week begins	
Tuesday 12 th May	EYFS to Warriner Farm	
Wednesday 13 th May	SEND Coffee and Connect Parent Meeting	School hall 2:30pm
Thursday 14 th May	Ascension Mass	
Friday 15 th May	Non-school uniform day	Children to bring a BOTTLE donation for our Summer Fete
Monday 18 th May	KS1 Optional SATS Week	
Monday 18 th May	Y4 Class Assembly	School hall 9:10am
Monday 18 th May	May Procession 1:30pm	
Wednesday 20 th May	Parent Open Afternoon	Parents and Carers are invited to classrooms at 3:00pm
Thursday 21 st - Friday 22 nd May	Y4 Youlbury Residential	
Friday 22 nd May	End of Term 5	
June		
Monday 1 st June	Y4 Multiplication Checks begin	
Monday 9 th June	Y1 Phonics Screening Week	
Monday 15 th June	Y6 Class Assembly	School hall 9:10am
Monday 15 th June	Y1 trip to St. John's Museum	
Monday 15 th June	Multi-Faith Fortnight begins	
Wednesday 17 th June	Reception New Parents morning – Stay and Play session	
Friday 19 th June	Share a story afternoon (Father's Day)	Parents are Carers are invited to classrooms at 2:50pm

Date	Overview	Information
June		
Saturday 20 th June	Y3 First Holy Communion at St. John's Church	
Monday 22 nd June	EYFS Father's Day Assembly	
Tuesday 23 rd June	Whole School SPORTS DAY!	
Wednesday 24 th June	Rabbi Visit and Workshops for KS2	
Friday 26 th June	Year 2 Cotswold Man made Beach Visit	
Monday 29 th June	Y6 Transition Week to BGN	
Tuesday 30 th June	SPORTS DAY – back up date	
July		
Friday 3 rd July	St. John's Summer Fete (PTFA)	4pm – 6pm.
Wednesday 8 th July	End of Year Reports out to Parents	
Monday 13 th July	Y6 End of Year Play to school (dress rehearsal)	
Tuesday 14 th July	Y6 End of Year Play to Parents	School hall 5:30pm
Thursday 16 th July	Leavers Mass	School hall 9:30pm
Friday 17 th July	Y6 Leavers Assembly	School hall 9:05am

Well done to the winners of both the Art competition and the PTFA Pick a Chick! We hope you enjoy your prizes!



Our Week in Photos



Year 1 have been exploring the story of Palm Sunday during their RE lesson and Stay and Pray session. Here, the children are bringing the story to life as they re-enact it using palm leaves.

During Year 2's RSHE lesson, they learnt some important first aid skills! Miss Copp mentioned that the children used role play fantastically to showcase how to keep safe 🥰



Our EYFS and Year 1 classes are thoroughly enjoying Forest School. The children have learnt how to create a fire using flint and steel. Afterwards, they even enjoyed a delicious snack cooked over the fire!



Across the school, the children have been busy making creations for Easter. Our Reception children have created these beautiful collages to commemorate the terrible sadness of Good Friday when Jesus died on the cross

Oracy Question of the Week 🗨️

Would you rather be invisible or be able to read minds?

Easter Fun at St. John's! 🐣



On Thursday, we invited parents and carers into school for our Easter craft afternoon, where the children created their own Easter gardens. They also got the opportunity to watch the children parade proudly in their Easter bonnets. There were some magnificent creations 🐣 🌸 .

✚ It was incredibly joyful celebration and our hearts felt very full! ✚



PTFA

As we approach the end of term, I would like to extend my sincere thanks to our wonderful PTFA for their continued support and generosity. Their organisation of Easter gifts for all of our children has been greatly appreciated and brought much joy across the school.

I would also like to recognise the fantastic effort behind our 'Adopt a Chick' Easter competition. The enthusiasm and dedication of parents leading events have ensured their success.

We would like to say a huge thank you to all of the parent volunteers who have given their time to organise this evening's school disco. Your effort, enthusiasm and willingness to help make such a difference to our school community. The children have been talking about it all week and are really looking forward to an evening of fun, music and dancing with their friends. Events like this create wonderful memories for them and would not be possible without your support. Thank you once again for helping to make it happen. We hope everyone has a fantastic evening.

Events such as these truly make a difference to our school community. They not only help to foster a strong sense of togetherness but also raise valuable funds that directly support our children's education and experiences.

Thank you once again to everyone involved.

Thank you! 😊

