



# ST JOHN VIANNEY CATHOLIC PRIMARY



WEEKLY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER – Friday 24th April 2026

Dear parents,

**“It is for each of us to learn the path by which Jesus requires us to follow him, and to follow in that path.”**

**St Katharine Drexel**

**This Sunday is traditionally known as ‘Good Shepherd Sunday’.**

**Jesus is the Good Shepherd who leads us into the joys of eternal life.**

**Part of a shepherd’s job is to look after the sheep and help them to stay safe.**

**When we let Jesus lead us, just as a shepherd leads his sheep, he helps us to make the right choices and fills our lives with goodness and holiness. All we need to do is to follow him.**

## FUTURE DATES

- 9<sup>th</sup> May – Y3 FHC Mass – 11.30am
- 11<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup> May – SATS week
- 21<sup>st</sup> May – Reception Class Assembly – 9am
- 21<sup>st</sup> May – Y6 Confirmation Mass – 6pm
- 22<sup>nd</sup> May – May Procession – 9am
- 22<sup>nd</sup> May – Last day of term
- 5<sup>th</sup> Jun – Y1 & Y2 Twycross Zoo
- 14<sup>th</sup> Jun – Children’s Mile
- 19<sup>th</sup> Jun – KS2 Twycross Zoo
- 22<sup>nd</sup> Jun – N and R Twycross Zoo

## OUR MISSION THIS WEEK

**CHOOSE TO BE CLOSE TO THE GOOD SHEPHERD. FIND A QUIET PLACE, TURN OFF YOUR DEVICES, SIT COMFORTABLY AND CLOSE YOUR EYES. IN THE QUIET, ENJOY BEING CLOSE TO JESUS. YOU CAN SPEAK WITH HIM, LISTEN TO HIS VOICE OR SIMPLY REST IN HIS LOVING PRESENCE.**





**Next Thursday, 30th April, we are delighted to welcome cricket coaches into school. All children from Reception to Year 6 will take part in a cricket coaching session.**

**Please ensure that all children come to school wearing their P.E. kit on this day**

**Please keep Year 5 in your prayers on Monday as they go on pilgrimage to Alton Castle. We hope the sun shines brightly and that they have a fabulous experience.**

**Please do follow us on X (formerly Twitter), where you will be able to see all the amazing activities taking place.**

*Thank you!*

**This week, Year 6 led an Inspire workshop in preparation for their Confirmation. The workshop was very well attended by parents and family members, and we thank you for your continued support. We are also grateful to Mrs Holmes and Mrs Cook for leading the session.**

**Thank you to St George's House Captains for leading both an assembly and Mass this week. They also helped to raise money for Mary's Meals.**

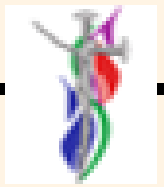
**We would also like to thank Fr Alex, who visited the school to share his knowledge about his favourite saint, St Carlo Acutis. He recently travelled to Assisi to visit the tomb of St Carlo and kindly brought back an icon of St Carlo Acutis for us, for which we are very grateful.**



**This week each class learnt about caring for the environment through Oracy Earth Day and shared our learning with other Catholic Schools in Coventry.**



# ST JOHN VIANNEY CATHOLIC PRIMARY










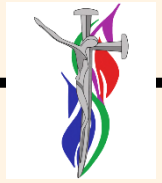
## Well done to the Stars of the week

Nursery	Ethan & Finn
Reception	Millie & Tommy
Year 1	Robyn B & Yllon
Year 2	Meara & Matilda
Year 3	Eva & Ella
Year 4	Laura & Macie
Year 5	Ambroz & Grace
Year 6	Charlotte & Holly
Sports	Ivy (R) & Alice (Y5)



## ATTENDANCE SJV

EYFS and KS1		KS2	
Class Name	Weekly Attendance	Class Name	Weekly Attendance
Nursery	86.52%	Year 3	97.78% 
Reception	97.78% 	Year 4	99.65% 
Year 1	98.22% 	Year 5	95.93% 
Year 2	98.89% 	Year 6	98.61% 



## WEEKLY DIARY

Date's may be subject to change – please check your emails regularly

### **Monday 27th April 2026**

Y5 Alton Castle

Choir – KS2 – Lunchtime

Dance – KS2 – 3.15pm-4.00pm

Netball Training – Yr 5 & 6 – 3.15pm-4.15pm - **NO SESSION**

### **Tuesday 28th April 2026**

Reception Music – Lunchtime

Recorder Club KS2 – 3.15-4.00 p.m.

Boys Football Training – 3.15-4.15pm - **NO SESSION**

Boy's Football Match against Parkgate – (Away)

### **Wednesday 29th April 2026**

Running Club Key Stage 2 – 8.00 – 8.30 a.m.

Guitar Tuition

Nursery Prayer Service – 2pm

Return from Alton Castle

Dance Year 1 and 2 – 3.15-4.00 p.m.

Girls Football Training – 3.15 -4.15 p.m.

### **Thursday 30th April 2026**

R – Y6 – Come to school in P.E kit

Mini-Tennis - Year 5 & 6 - 7.45 to 8.30 a.m.

Y3 Inspire Workshop – 9am

Piano Tuition

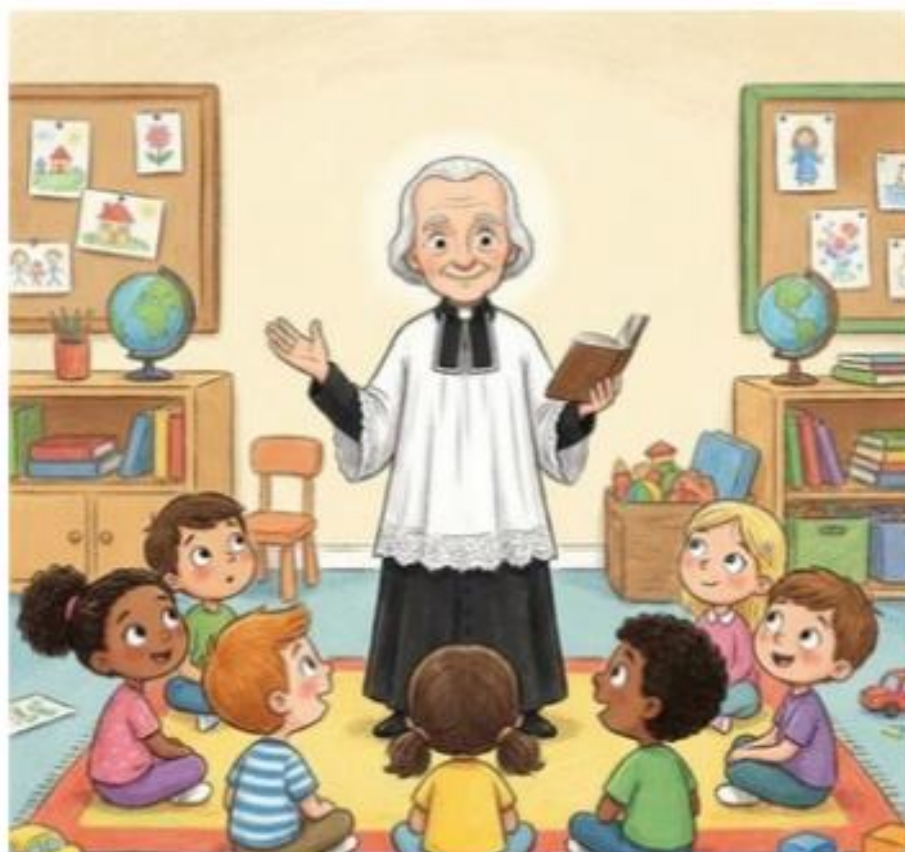
Creative Flair Dance Year 1 - 4 – Lunchtime

Cricket – 3.15-4.15p.m

### **Friday 1<sup>st</sup> May 2026**

Wear Blue for Coventry City

# ST. JOHN VIANNEY CHILDREN'S LITURGY



FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

**SATURDAY 25<sup>TH</sup> APRIL**

**6.00PM**

Saint John Vianney Church, Coventry

Next Friday, we will be celebrating the success of Coventry City Football Club by inviting children to wear Coventry City shirts or blue clothing.

We will be marking the occasion with a visit from the ice cream van, as well as enjoying lots of football and Coventry-themed games throughout the day.

# COVENTRY CITY

## PROMOTED TO THE PREMIER LEAGUE!

**WE ARE BACK**

**LET'S CELEBRATE THIS MASSIVE ACHIEVEMENT!**

 **FRIDAY 1ST MAY** |  **ST JOHN VIANNEY** | 

**CHILDREN ARE ASKED TO WEAR A SHADE OF BLUE OR A FOOTBALL SHIRT TO SHOW YOUR SUPPORT FOR COVENTRY CITY'S AMAZING ACHIEVEMENT!**

# What Parents & Educators Need to Know about SCHOOL AVOIDANCE

Emotionally Based School Avoidance is a term used to refer to reduced attendance or non-attendance at school by a child or young person. It's often rooted in emotional, mental health or wellbeing issues. The rate of children who miss school more than 10% of the time in England has more than doubled since before the pandemic: rising from 10.9% in 2018-19, to 22.3% in 2022-23.

## UNDERSTANDING SCHOOL AVOIDANCE

### REASONS FOR ABSENCE

School avoidance is sometimes underpinned by several factors rather than one single cause. This could include something going on for the child or young person within the family or at school. A child may have caring responsibilities at home, for instance, or a change in family dynamics; bullying and friendship difficulties at school; pressure to achieve in schoolwork and exams; or moving from primary school to secondary school.

### PATTERNS OF ABSENCE

You may notice patterns in regular absences or children regularly expressing that they don't want to attend school (particularly being reluctant to leave home on school days). If a child or young person is neurodiverse, there is some evidence to suggest there are more aspects of school life which can cause distress – such as changes in the environment, changes of routine and sensory stimuli.

### COMPLAINTS ABOUT PHYSICAL SYMPTOMS

There may be an increase in a child or young person's complaints about physical symptoms, particularly on school days or the evening before school. These could include complaining of a tummy ache, headache, or saying they feel ill when there doesn't appear to be a medical cause. Always check with the GP first to rule out medical causes or illness.

## IMPACT OF SCHOOL AVOIDANCE

### LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT

School refusal can negatively impact a young person's learning and development. Attending school on a regular basis not only supports academic attainment but is also important for the development of key life skills and the growth of children and young people as citizens.

### LONG-TERM OUTCOMES

The difficulties associated with school non-attendance can be far reaching and may have a negative impact on long-term outcomes. It may, for example, lead to reduced future aspirations, poor emotional regulation, mental health difficulties, limited academic progress and restricted employment opportunities.

### CYCLE OF ABSENCE

Consistent absences may contribute to sustained school avoidance over time. Further to this, the longer a pupil is out of education, the more likely it is that there is a rise in their ongoing need to avoid the activity which is making them anxious – increasing their desire to stay at home.

## Advice for Parents & Educators

### WORK TOGETHER

If there's a concern about a child's absence and emotional wellbeing, it's important that there is clear communication and a consistent approach between the child's parents and the school, so you can take a child-centred approach together towards a plan of support or reintegration. This ensures a consistency of approach from both home and school, creating better outcomes for the child.

### FOLLOW REGULAR ROUTINES

Children can benefit from a regular and consistent routine. This could be a morning routine, from waking up and having breakfast through to getting dressed, packing their bag and leaving the house. A consistent evening routine which is calm and limited time on screens can also give children much needed predictability and familiarity. Schools can help create a timetabled routine for the child's school day, if required.

### MANAGING OVERWHELMING FEELINGS

While there may be times you feel frustrated or angry, try to stay calm; acknowledge the child's worries, listen and discuss a range of coping strategies together to help them face the discomfort and overwhelming feelings. These could include mindfulness, deep breathing or going for a walk and practice the strategies in less overwhelming situations first.

### REDUCE STIMULATING ACTIVITIES AT HOME

If a child is avoiding school, reduce their access to more stimulating activities (such as watching television, playing games and spending time with friends) during school hours, where possible. This reduces the potential for the child having rewarding experiences at home, which could be interpreted as a positive aspect of avoiding school.

## Meet Our Expert

With 30 years' experience as a teacher, trainer, consultant and interim executive board member, Anna Bateman has a superb understanding of what works in pedagogy, school improvement and leadership. She has also advised the Department for Education on their mental health green paper.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

**Coventry Rugby Limited**  
The Nick Newbold Stadium  
Butts Parks  
The Butts  
Coventry  
CV1 3GE



16<sup>th</sup> April 2026

### **England Women's U21 VS Ireland U21 Rugby Invitation – 2<sup>nd</sup> May**

We are delighted to invite your pupils to take part in a truly special and memorable matchday experience at the Nick Newbold Stadium on Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> May.

This is a fantastic opportunity for students to get involved in a fun, active pre-match session led by our community coaches, with the exciting possibility of meeting some of our first team players. The day will be packed with energy, inspiration, and plenty of football!

#### **What's included:**

- A pre-match activity session from **12:00pm – 1:00pm**
- Interaction with our experienced community coaching team
- The chance to meet first team players (subject to availability)
- A once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to be the **Guard of Honour** as players walk out onto the pitch

Your pupils will play a key role in the matchday atmosphere as they line up to welcome the teams onto the field ahead of the **England Women's U21s vs Ireland U21s** fixture.

#### **Schedule for the day:**

- Arrival: **11:30am – 11:45am**
- Pre-match activities: **12:00pm – 1:00pm**
- Return for Guard of Honour: **2:45pm**

#### **Ticket prices:**

- Children: **£5**
- Adults: **£10**
- Family ticket (2 adults + 2 children U16): **£25**
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This is a brilliant opportunity to inspire young people through sport, giving them a behind-the-scenes matchday experience they won't forget.

If you would like to reserve places or require any further information, please don't hesitate to get in touch – [dponticelli@coventryrugby.co.uk](mailto:dponticelli@coventryrugby.co.uk)

**Please email before Monday 20<sup>th</sup> April if you are wanting tickets**

We would love to see your school represented on the day!

We look forward to welcoming you and your pupils for what promises to be an unforgettable experience.

Kind regards,