

# St John Vianney Catholic Primary School

## NEWSLETTER

Friday 7th March 2025



Dear Parents,

It is with great sadness that I must inform you that one of our parents passed away on Sunday. Mr Kevin Shakespeare was a dedicated leader of Corpus Christi Catholic School. He was a compassionate, kind and caring leader who also had a great sense of humour and was passionate about sport. Many of you know Kevin personally and we will feel his loss in our school community. I ask you to keep the Shakespeare family in your thoughts and prayers at this very sad time. Should you wish to make a donation to Myton Hospice, please put your money in any envelop and hand to the office.

***“Lent is a time for drawing near to Christ by listening to the word of God and celebrating the sacraments.” Pope Francis***

This week we started Lent by receiving our Ashes on Wednesday. The children were reverent and reflective thinking about the ways in which over the next 40 days we can Pray, Fast and Share. Fr Des thought the singing in church was superb and Year 6 read so well. They buried the Alleluia in church – we will not use the word during Lent but will rejoice on Easter Sunday when we celebrate the resurrection of Our Lord.

### DO YOU WANT TO FAST THIS LENT?

Pope Francis tells us How:

- Fast from hurting words and say kind words
- Fast from sadness and be filled with gratitude.
- Fast from anger and be filled with patience
- Fast from pessimism and be filled with hope.
- Fast from worried and have trust in God.
- Fast from complaints; contemplate simplicity.
- Fast from pressures and be prayerful
- Fast from bitterness; fill your hearts with joy.
- Fast from selfishness and be Compassionate.
- Fast from grudges and be reconciled
- Fast from words; be silent and listen

Congratulations to Year2 who led a beautiful assembly on World Book Day and the our most important book the Bible. The children remembered their lines so well and spoke clearly. Their singing as ever was amazing, and I loved watching the practises this week. Well Done Year 2 and a big thank you to Mrs Littlewood, Mrs Evans and Miss Cook for all their hard work behind the scenes.

World Book Day was a big success in school. We put the focus on reading for enjoyment and the pleasure we get from reading. Many children brought in a book from home to swap which was a great way to develop our reading and all for free. The teachers had logged onto some great online resources including live interviews with famous authors, book quizzes and developing writing through our reading. In this time of austerity, it was good to celebrate the real purpose of world book day which is books and a love of reading. Each year we try to do something new or novel and have tried to move away from dressing up as it causes anxiety for both parents and pupils who may not have the most up to date character attire and then the boys just tend to come in football kits and link it to any football book. We have made sure that the children have heard lots of great stories today and had fun making things and playing games that are linked to reading.



# World Book Day

SJV @sjohnvianney · 4h



It is a joy to share our favourite books - all kinds of books from information books to poetry and even Christmas in Spring!! We love it when the reader gets into character. Thank you for sharing your books Year 2.



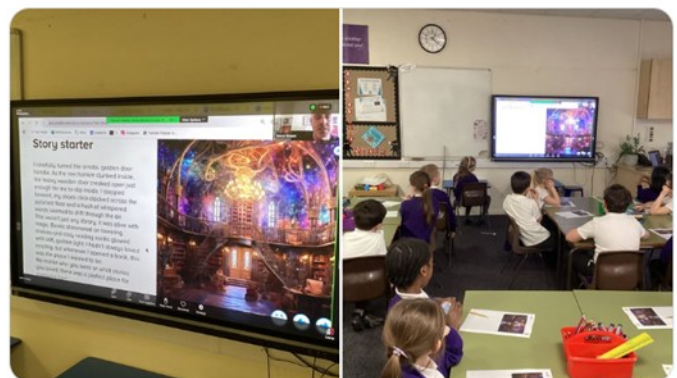
Today in year 1 we celebrated WBD by reading 'The Gingerbread man' and decorating our own gingerbreads. We also created finger puppets to go with our story and we swapped our books! 🍪👉



World Book Day! #sjvnursery #readingtree #snuggleupwithbook



Year 3 are ready to write with Pobble this afternoon - celebrating books and writing. The Magic Library sounds like a place we want to go!



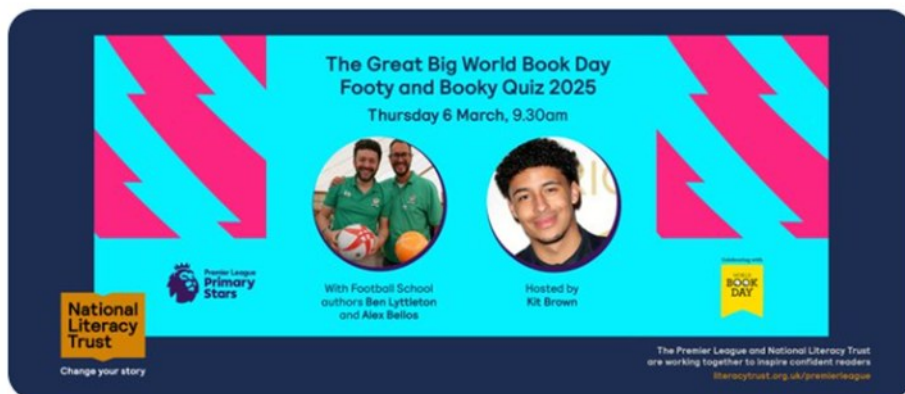
Great book swap. I thank you year 5 and 6 😊



We are celebrating World Book Day 🇬🇧 📖 😊 a great morning in Y4 so far!



Year 3 are loving the footy and booky quiz this morning! We love football and books!



Congratulations to Bethany who won the Year 6 category for writing. Coventry Building society held a competition for all schools in Coventry and several year groups so this is a big honour and we are so proud of Bethany. Hopefully we will have an author of the future. Bethany attributes much of her talent to her love of reading and you will often see Bethany with her nose in a book.



### Reminders

Please bring in any clothing for recycling on Monday.

Don't forget to collect crisp packets and batteries.

Tins for food bank required on Thursday.

## Save the Date!

St Patrick's Day Celebrations on  
Friday 14<sup>th</sup> March.

Please bring cakes, scones and soda bread.



## **Parking**

Please be courteous when parking- think of others and think of the safety of the children.

Please use the Church car park.

Please park in a side street and walk for a short way.

Please do not park right by the school and mount the pavement as people can not get by.

Please do not block residents driveways.

Please do not double park especially on the bend.



**The Archdiocese currently has vacancies for the following positions:**

Operations Director

IT Manager

Finance Manager

Gift Aid Officer

For more information and to apply, please visit the link below.

[Jobs & Volunteering Opportunities | Birmingham Diocesan Trust](#)

**We currently have a vacancy for an Owls Club Worker.**

For more information and to apply, please visit the link below.

[Before and After School Club Worker at St John Vianney Catholic Primary School, Coventry, West](#)

[Midlands | MyNewTerm](#)

## Attendance

Yr R - 95.5%

Yr 1 - 98.5%

Yr 2 - 97.9%

Yr 3 - 98.2%

Yr 4 - 96.7%

Yr 5 - 100%

Yr 6 - 94.6%



## ★ Star of the week

- ★ Nursery - Sadie, Edison
- ★ Yr R - Cian, Clara
- ★ Yr 1– Hugo, Tess
- ★ Yr 2 - The whole class
- ★ Yr 3 - Oliver, Thomas, Archie, Joshua
- ★ Yr 4 - Amelia, Jack
- ★ Yr 5 - Joshua, Kenza
- ★ Yr 6 - Petros, Jazz



# 10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators USING TECHNOLOGY TO BOOST READING SKILLS

The way we engage with text has changed dramatically over the years. Whether reading captions on social media, instructions in a video game or an e-book on a digital device, technology plays a major role in modern literacy. While traditional books remain invaluable, digital tools can enhance reading skills by making text more accessible, interactive and engaging.

## 1 CHOOSING THE RIGHT TYPE OF TEXT

Before integrating technology, consider the types of text that a child engages with. If they need help on occasion, digital reading pens can assist by scanning and reciting words or sentences. These tools are especially useful for students with reading difficulties, and can even be used in exams if they're part of their routine learning process. Proper training and practice are required, but they can be a great help when tackling printed text.

## 2 READING ON SCREEN

Many devices now allow users to customise text for better readability. Adjusting font type, size and background colour can significantly enhance comprehension. For many readers, white text on a black background is the easiest to see, whereas other styles – such as dyslexia-friendly fonts – are designed to help those who are struggling. Teaching children how to personalise text settings on their devices empowers them to read more comfortably and with greater confidence.

## 3 ACCESSIBILITY TOOLS

Most modern devices include built-in tools designed to support readers. These features can be found in Settings under Accessibility and may include text-to-speech, speech-to-text and screen magnification functions. Enabling these tools can make digital reading more user friendly, especially for children with learning difficulties or visual impairments, who might have an easier time with spoken language than the written word, or who might simply require a closer look at the text.

## 4 INTERACTIVE READING PROGRAMMES

Many digital reading devices, such as Kindle and other e-readers, offer features like word highlighting, adjustable text speed and built-in dictionaries. These tools help learners to break down complex words and phrases while maintaining an appropriate reading pace. Some programmes even allow users to track their progress, making reading a more structured and motivating experience.

## 5 VIDEO GAMES AND READING SKILLS

Many video games require players to read instructions, character dialogues and mission objectives, making them an unexpected but effective literacy tool. Games that involve storytelling, puzzles or problem-solving often include large amounts of text – encouraging children to read these texts aloud or discuss them can improve their comprehension and vocabulary in a fun, engaging way.

## 6 SUBTITLES AND CLOSED CAPTIONS

Watching videos with subtitles or closed captions is an effective way to enhance reading skills. As children watch their favourite shows or online videos, they can follow along with the text, gaining a better understanding of how written words sound when spoken aloud. This is particularly beneficial for reluctant readers, as it exposes them to words in a familiar, engaging context. Repeatedly watching content with subtitles reinforces word recognition and comprehension.

## 7 USING AUDIOBOOKS

Audiobooks are an excellent way to develop listening and reading skills simultaneously. Children can follow along with the text while listening to a narrator, reinforcing word recognition and fluency. For struggling readers, listening to an audiobook before attempting to read the text independently can boost their confidence and comprehension.

## 9 TEXT-TO-VOICE TECHNOLOGY

Text-to-voice software reads digital text aloud, making it easier for learners to follow along. Most smartphones, tablets and computers come with this function built in. When enabled, users can highlight a passage or sentence and press Play to hear it read aloud. This tool is particularly helpful for auditory learners and those who struggle with decoding written words.

## 8 VOICE-TO-TEXT FOR WRITING AND READING

Voice-to-text tools allow users to dictate words, which are then transcribed into text. This feature helps children see the connection between spoken and written language. By using text-to-voice to have their dictated words read back to them, learners can identify mistakes and improve their reading and writing skills simultaneously.

## 10 SOCIAL MEDIA AND PARENTAL CONTROLS

While social media provides opportunities for reading, most platforms have age restrictions of 13–16 years old, making parental guidance essential. Many social media videos include captions and comments that can encourage reading. However, it's important to use the platform's parental controls (such as time limits and content filters) to create a safe and educational online environment for children. Encouraging responsible social media use can ensure a balanced and productive approach to digital literacy.

## Meet Our Expert

Catrina Lowri is a qualified special needs teacher and experienced SENCO. She recently launched her own site, [Neuroteachers](http://Neuroteachers.com), which offers a library of short, 'how-to' and explanation videos for educators. Catrina also writes and delivers online training and events for multi-academy trusts, businesses, schools and training organisations.



The National College

**When dropping off or collecting from Owls Club, please phone the school telephone - 02476 464088 - and press option 3.**

**To keep your child safe when collecting, please make sure you stand at the school gate so the staff can clearly see you.**

**Please do not wait in cars.**

### **SJV Owls Club**

SJV Owls Club which provides before and after school care for the children of St John Vianney School. The charges for Owls Club are as follows:

Morning session - 7.30 to 8.30 a.m. - £5.50 (includes a light breakfast)

Afternoon session - 3.15 to 4.15 p.m. - £5.50 (includes a snack)

Late afternoon session - 3.15 to 5.30 p.m. - £8.00 (includes a snack)

If you are interested in your child attending Owls Club and would like more information please email [sjv\\_owls@hccmac.co.uk](mailto:sjv_owls@hccmac.co.uk) or phone the school office.



Please note, Owls Club is currently full every afternoon except Fridays.

We do have spaces every morning for Breakfast Club.



**If your child attends any after school clubs, they should be collected from the bottom church gate promptly. If not collected, they will be put into Owls Club and you will be invoiced accordingly.**

### **Late Collection**

If you are more than 10 minutes late collecting your child at the end of the school day, they will be put into Owls Club and you will be invoiced for the session.

### **Free School Meals**

If you think that you may qualify for free school meals, even if your child is in KS1 or does not want to receive school meals, please take the time to apply as the school will receive additional funding if you qualify.

Please apply at: **Free School Meals – Coventry City Council**

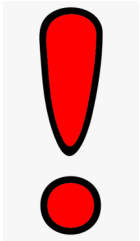
## Owls Club Payments

If your child attends Owls Club, all payments must be made no later than the date printed on the invoices.

Owls Club is extremely popular, with most days at full capacity, and priority will be given to prompt payers.

If payment is not received by the due date, we reserve the right to withdraw your child's place from Owls Club.

## Medicines in School



We can only give medicines to children where it has been prescribed by a doctor to be taken four times a day.

A medicine form must be completed before we can administer medicine.



### **Reminder:**

**We are a nut free school, please do not pack any nuts in your child's lunchbox. This includes peanut butter, Nutella etc**

## Reading Books



**Reading books to be brought into school everyday**



**School gates are open between 8.30 and 8.40 every morning.**

**Please ensure your child arrives in school before the gates are locked.**

**We have an increasing number of children arriving late each morning.**

**Building Fund** Contributions to the school building fund are now due for the Spring Term (£10.00 per child or £15.00 per family) or for the whole school year (£30.00 per child or £45.00 per family).



Dates may be subject to change – please check your emails regularly



### **Monday, 10th March**

Dance - KS2 - 3.14-4.00p.m.  
Netball Squad - Years 5 & 6 - 3.15-4.15 p.m. - **NO SESSION**  
Year 2 Reading Café - 9.00 a.m  
Netball Match - away vs Holy Family

### **Tuesday, 11th March**

Recorder Club - KS2 - 3.15-4.00 p.m.  
Boys Football Squad training - Years 5 & 6 - 3.15-4.15 p.m - **NO SESSION**  
Boxing Club - Yr 1 & 2 - 3.15 - 4.15 p.m.  
Boys Friendly Football Match - home vs All Souls

### **Wednesday, 12th March**

Mini-Tennis - Year 3/4 - 7.45-8.30 a.m.  
Running Club - Key Stage 2 - 8.00 - 8.30 a.m.  
Guitar Tuition  
Dance - Year 1 & 2 - 3.15-4.00 p.m.  
Girls Football Squad training - Years 5 & 6 - 3.15-4.15 p.m.  
Year 6 and Reception - Stations of the Cross - 9.00 a.m.

### **Thursday, 13th March**

Mini-Tennis - Year 5 & 6 - 7.45 to 8.30 a.m.  
Piano Tuition  
Creative Flair Dance - Year 3 & 4 - 12.00-12.30 p.m.  
Creative Flair Dance - Year 1 & 2 - 12.30-1.00 p.m.  
Boxing Club - Key Stage 2 - 3.15 - 4.15 p.m.  
Reception Inspire Workshop - 9.00 a.m.  
Boys Football Match - home vs St John's

### **Friday, 14th March**

St Patrick's Day Celebrations  
Rocksteady Assembly - 2.30 p.m.

### **Saturday 15th March**

Year 6 Mass - 6.00 p.m. in Church

### **Future Dates**

Tuesday 18th March	- Year 1 Reading Café - 9.00 a.m.
Tuesday 18th March	- Boys Football Match - away vs Walsgrave
Monday 17th March	- Year 4 Maths workshop - 2.00 p.m.
Thursday 20th March	- Girls Football Match - away vs St John's
Friday 21st March	- Year 1 Class Assembly - 2.00 p.m.
Tuesday 25th March	- Netball Match - away vs Christ The King
Tuesday 25th March	- Year 6 Confirmation Reconciliation Service - 5.00 p.m.
Wednesday 26th March	- Year 5 and 1 Stations of the Cross - 9.00 a.m.
Friday 28th March	- Charity Roadshow and Cake Sale
Friday 28th March	- Year 4 Class Assembly

Don't forget to follow us @sjohnvianney and you can also see our twitter feed on our website.



Please follow us on our Twitter account: SJV@sjohnvianney

For Owls Club follow - @OwlsClubSJV

**Facebook** - SJV PTA have a Facebook page. If you would like to have access and be added to the page, simply search 'Sjv pta' and submit your request, one of the current members will see your request and add you accordingly.





**FREE TEA AND COFFEE**

**DOES YOUR CHILD OR  
YOUNG PERSON HAVE  
SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL  
NEEDS?**

Get in touch with us if you would like to join our next SENDIASS Coffee Morning. Meet other parents in a similar situation. Share with others in a friendly, non-judgemental environment, together with a member of staff from SENDIASS.

**COFFEE MORNING**  
TUESDAY 11<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2025  
(9.30AM-11.30AM)

\*Please note this session is not suitable for children

To book your place contact:

SEND Information, Advice and Support Service (SENDIASS)

Tel: 024 7669 4307 or email: [iass@coventry.gov.uk](mailto:iass@coventry.gov.uk)

**The Wave,  
Coffee Tots Community Room**

New Union St, Coventry CV1 2PS



# Coventry Children's Mile

**22 June 2025**  
**War Memorial**  
**Park**



**Save**  
**the date**





Kieran Boyle 07900 911947



Mark Leeson 07973 810370



ROGER CASEMENTS GAA

# GIRLS GAELIC FOOTBALL TEAM



We are looking for new players for our U12, U14, U16 & U18 Girls Teams for the 2025 Season to join our highly successful teams competing in the Warwickshire Girls Leagues .



## GAELIC FOOTBALL

Gaelic Football is a fun, non-contact sport, that has great skills that compliment other sports such as football, Rugby and Netball.

## WHY JOIN?

- Make new friends
- Learn new skills
- Summer sport
- No clash with girls football/rugby
- Season runs April to September

## TRY-OUTS

We are holding free try-outs for new players to come along and try this great sport for the 2025 Season.

## LOCATION & DATES

- Free Try-outs will be held at:  
**Finham Park School, Green Lane, Coventry, CV3 6EA**
- Friday Nights 6.30pm to 7.30pm
- From 14/02/25 –14/03/25
- On Grass under Floodlights



[www.rogercasements.co.uk](http://www.rogercasements.co.uk)



@CasementsGAA



/RogerCasementsGAA

# School Clubs

Club	Day	Time
Netball Squad - Years 5 & 6	Monday	3.15 - 4.15 p.m.
Dance - Key Stage 2	Monday	3.15 - 4.00 p.m.
Fun Music Club— Reception	Tuesday	Lunchtime
Recorder Club	Tuesday	3.15 - 4.00 p.m.
Boys Football Squad - Years 5 & 6	Tuesday	3.15 - 4.15 p.m.
Boxing Club— Years 1 & 2	Tuesday	3.15 - 4.15 pm.
Mini Tennis - Years 3 & 4	Wednesday	7.45 - 8.30 a.m.
Running Club Key Stage 2	Wednesday	8.00 - 8.30 a.m.
Girls Football Squad - Years 5 & 6	Wednesday	3.15 - 4.15 p.m.
Art Club	Wednesday	3.15 - 4.15 p.m.
Dance - Years 1 & 2	Wednesday	3.15 - 4.00 p.m.
Mini Tennis - Years 5 & 6	Thursday	7.45 - 8.30 a.m.
Creative Flair Dance - Years 3 & 4	Thursday	12.00 - 12.30 p.m.
Creative Flair Dance - Years 1 & 2	Thursday	12.30 - 1.00 p.m.
Boxing Club—KS2	Thursday	3.15 - 4.15 p.m.
Games Night	Thursday	3.15 - 4.15 p.m.