



Corpus Christi Catholic Primary School

'We live our lives like Jesus'

23rd January 2026

Dear Parents and Carers

As you will have read in the earlier email and letter accompanying this Chronicle, I will be retiring in the Summer. The decision to leave Corpus Christi was an incredibly difficult one to make, as it has been a joy and privilege to lead the school community over the last 6 years and I am proud of what we all have achieved. I will continue to do all I can to serve and lead the school over the next 6 months and there will be plenty of times for reflections and good-byes come the summer.

Miss Clark
Head teacher

Oracy Day - On Monday we celebrated our annual oracy day based around the theme of "Your Voice Matters." Classes explored how we can use our voices, so our message is heard. Some classes practiced performance poetry whilst others thought about and planned a campaign using their voice for good.

Technology - We now know the Government are starting a consultation on under 16s access to social media. It would be great if parents can start the conversation with their child about their use of devices; What social media and games are they accessing and using? What do they like about them and what worries them? How would they feel about not having access to certain sites? Whenever we have to deal with an issue about inappropriate messages being sent to children and groups via WhatsApp, I am always surprised by the time children are sending messages. My challenge and request is for the next 2 weeks, could mobile phones be charged out of the bedroom so children aren't tempted to send, read and reply to messages

Faith in Action - National Hot Chocolate 31st January

mary's
meals

a simple solution to world hunger

Our Faith in Action group are planning a special hot chocolate treat for the children during the week of 2nd - 5th February to mark National Hot Chocolate Day. As a recognition of all the gifts we have received from God and that we will have a special treat we are asking the children to donate some money to show how they are giving back to God with abundance all that he has given them. Money collected will be donated to our chosen charity, **Mary's Meals**, which is a charity that ensures 3 million children receive a hot meal each day in countries like Syria, India, Ecuador, Kenya and Malawi. Find out more about Mary's Meals from this link [Mary's Meals UK Charity - Helping to Feed Hungry Children Living in Poverty Worldwide | Mary's Meals UK](#)

Donations can be paid through Scopay - we would suggest between 50p - £1.
Thank you so much for your continued support and generosity.

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Faith in Action Children

Our Mini Vinnie Children have been confirmed below:

Shekinah, Evelina, Harry, Elisa, Oliver.O, Celestine, Niha, Daisy, Kobi, Oliver.B, Caris and Oliwia.S

The Mini Vinnies follow in the footsteps of Christ and St Vincent de Paul, these children will get together in school to live out their mission of see, think, do, supporting their school community and beyond alongside the St Vincent de Paul Society.

What do you see? What could it be and why do you think that?

Last week, our image was a shell!



What's this a zoomed-in image of?



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Help us thank our school's superheroes!

We need your help to recognise staff in our school who have gone above and beyond for you. Teach Portsmouth are asking primary and secondary schools in the city to thank their school superheroes.

To do this, all you need to do is visit the Teach Portsmouth website and share your thank you message using their online form. Visit www.teachportsmouth.co.uk/thankyou and share your message today!

ARBOR APP - Please can I ask all parents to check their child's information on the ARBOR APP. If you received a new mobile or have moved recently, please update the contact details and ensure all the information on your child's record is correct. We are particularly keen for parents to check the religion status for their child as we believe there are a number of children recorded as Christian and not specifically as Catholic.

SMART Devices - I am writing to remind you that for the safeguarding of all members of our school community, children are not permitted to wear smart technology devices into school. This includes items such as smart watches. Children are permitted to wear a basic digital or analogue watch, but this must not have any photographic or communicative functions and should not be valuable. If you are not sure whether a watch is suitable for school, please speak to the class teacher.

Benefitted Related Free School Meals - As you may be aware, families on certain benefits may be entitled to what is known as the Pupil Premium Grant - this is an amount of money, about £1300, that the school receives to support children in school. Where a family is entitled to the pupil premium grant, we offer subsidies for trips and some activities. However, families are also entitled to free holiday activities and a supermarket voucher during some holidays. If you have not checked whether you are entitled please do so before the end of September by clicking on this link [Synergy - Enquiry](#) Please do speak to Mrs Penney in the office if you need any help.

Important Events

Friday 30th January – Running Club at Portsdown Hill @ 4.15pm

Monday 2nd February – YrR 'people who help us' dress up day

Friday 6th February – Running Club at Portsdown Hill @ 4.15pm

Monday 9th February to Thursday 12th February - Yr5 Bikeability

Tuesday 10th February to Friday 13th February - Yr6 Residential

Wednesday 11th February – Late Owl Movie Party (booking required)

Friday 13th February – Running Club at Portsdown Hill @ 4.15pm

Monday 16th February to Friday 20th February – School holidays (school closed for all children)

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INSET Days this year - school will be closed to children on these days

Monday 16th March

Monday 6th July

Wednesday 22nd July

PE Days - Children should come dressed in their PE kits - green t-shirt and black shorts or black or green track suit and trainers. Track suits must be plain with no logos.

Monday - Years 5 and 6

Tuesday - Years 3 and 4

Wednesday - Years R, St Francis and St Lucy's class

Thursday - Years 1 and 2, 3 and 4

Friday – St Nicholas class, Years 5 and 6

If children are taking part in any after school clubs on days that aren't their PE days they should bring trainers with them to school and change at the end of the day.

This week's celebrations:

Class	Good Shepherds:	Reading Champions:
St Joseph	Keegan	Tabita
St Gabriel	Aiden	Elena-Winter
St Francis	Nathan	Maklit
St Nicholas	Alex	Skyla
St Lucy	Victor	Zeline
St Josephine Bakhita	Sera	Dolly
Carlos Acutis	Martha	Celestine
Oscar Romero	George	Ramana
St Therese of Lisieux	Alexander	Valentina
St Bernadette	Matilda	Alex
Maximilian Kolbe	Davis	Jessica

Bronze Merits:

Hope (St Bernadette) & Evelyn (St Nicholas)

Silver Merits:

George, Otilie and Mercy (Oscar Romero)

Corpus Christi

Bikeability Booking Form

Year 5

Is your child nervous on a bike or riding everywhere?

Bikeability helps EVERY child.

This FREE training builds confidence AND teaches riders how to be confident on local roads.

Training will take place during school on the week commencing 9th February 2026.

Children learn at their own pace during school hours.

We can provide bikes and helmets to use to make sure no one misses out.

All children deserve these important skills, Scan the code and sign your child up today



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Families of Faith

January

Prayer Corner



Dear Jesus, Mary, and Joseph, thank you for loving each other. Help us to love like you do, to be kind, and to help each other. Make our home a place of peace and joy. Amen

January can feel a cold and grey month with the excitement of Christmas behind us. Imagine how Mary and Joseph felt as they got to know the baby Jesus. In your prayer area this month collect things that remind you of being a family.

Family Faith in Action



Spread a smile to others when you go for walks together. Say hello to another family at Church or on the playground - thinking about the Holy Family being in a strange land not knowing people.

Saints to Inspire



31 January - St John Bosco

St John Bosco is the patron saint of children. His father died when he was two years old and his mother brought him and his brothers up in poverty but with a strong faith. He became a priest and devoted his life to helping the poor and young people. He taught them, cared for them, and gave him opportunities. He had a fun side. As a boy he learned magic tricks and used this to help him teach children about the faith.

How can you be like John Bosco? Learn a magic trick this month and perform it to others - telling them about St John Bosco. Save pennies to give to a youth charity. At your family meals celebrate the children's strengths, talents and potential with them.

Good News from the Gospel



We have come from the East to worship the King (Mt 2:1-12)

January is the month of change for the Holy family. They welcome visitors from afar who have followed a star for many months to see the new baby. They then had to travel to a strange land themselves. Their faith in God meant that they knew they had to live with strangers until such a time that Jesus could be safe. During this time they were giving their best offering to God. What can you do this month to show your best offering to God? Think about people who are living away from home in your prayers.



National Hot Chocolate Day 31st January

Go for a walk and share hot chocolate with someone who would appreciate your friendship

