



# Corpus Christi Catholic Primary School

**‘We live our lives like Jesus’**

27<sup>th</sup> February 2026

**Dear Parents and Carers**

*I hope you all had a wonderful half term despite the rain and welcome back for the second half of our school year. We are now in the season of Lent, a time when we reflect on prayer, fasting and almsgiving. The children have been challenged to think of what they can do as they journey through Lent and prepare for Christ's Resurrection at Easter, for example giving up time on (fasting from) their devices to spend time with God or using their devices to learn about God and the miracles that are happening 2026. Our almsgiving this year will focus on the charity Mary's Meals - our Faith in Action group will be organising an Easter Egg raffle and sponsored charity event - Space Hopper bounce! Our Mini Vinnies group are organising a weekly soup lunch for staff. Next week, children will have the opportunity to participate in our Lenten Penitential Service with the Sacrament of Reconciliation for those who have received their First Holy Communion.*

*As you know, on Wednesday, there was an incident in Gladys Avenue where we needed to put in place our emergency plan. This meant, we needed to keep children inside the building with windows shut due to the chemical leak at the ELLIS unit. Firstly, I want to express my huge thanks to the school team for their calm, professional response and looking after the children so well. I also want to thank parents for the co-operation in this situation.*

*We have discussed in school our emergency procedures and practice a fire drill every term. In terms of a lockdown, our response is based on the context of the event. As it happened, yesterday's events meant classes could operate as normal with reduced ventilation in classes and we were able to allow parents to collect when they could. Please be aware, if we need to lockdown for other reasons, for example an intruder, parents will be kept informed via the ARBOR App messages and emails but will NOT be able to access the site until emergency services say it is safe to remove the lockdown. We will be drilling this type of lockdown in the next few weeks and will let you know the day before it is going to happen. We will also be teaching the children beforehand how they need to respond by telling them we are playing a game of hide and seek from Miss Clark with a prize for the class who can do the best hiding! This will be to avoid scaring the children. We know that when we hear on the news of school lockdowns it is frightening and causes many emotions, so we pray that all schools are a safe place for all children.*

**Miss Clark**  
**Head teacher**

## **All welcome**

*Over the next few weeks we will be holding a number of celebrations of the word that parents are warmly invited to. Here are the dates*

- Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> March - 2.30pm - Mother's Day led by Early Years - Classrooms*
- Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March - 2.30pm - Mother's Day led by St Nicholas' Class - Church*

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## Living Wall

You may have noticed the living wall that has been added to the quiet playground wall. We were fortunate in securing a £5000 grant from the RHS and used it to install a living wall. It will be lovely to observe how it grows over time and the insects it attracts.



## World Book Day - Monday 9<sup>th</sup> March



We will be celebrating

# World Book Day

on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> March.



Children are invited to come dressed as their favourite book character and bring their favourite book with them.



**World Book Day creative home project:**  
Can you make your favourite book character from a wooden spoon?

Entries to be brought into school on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> and will be displayed and shared with our school community.



We will be holding our annual

# Corpus Christi Book Fair

on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup>, Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> and Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March.

Please come and visit our book fair - a perfect way to celebrate and support reading.  
For every book sold, the school receives commission for new books for our classrooms!



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**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.

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

*Last term, our image was a stick insect - were you right?*



*And where might you find this?*



- *What do they think the image is and why?*
- *What does the image remind them of and why?*
- *Can they describe the colours, shapes and textures?*

**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.

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**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**

**Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March - Year 3/4 World Book Day Guinness World Record Event - Fratton Park**

**Monday 9<sup>th</sup> March - School's World Book Day**

**Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> March - Parents Evening** (booking required, this will open on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> March via Arbor @ 3.30pm)

**Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> March - 2.30pm - Mother's Day led by Early Years – Classrooms**

**Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> March - Parents Evening** (booking required, this will open on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> March via Arbor @ 3.30pm)

**Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March - 2.30pm - Mother's Day led by St Nicholas' Class – Church**

**Monday 16<sup>th</sup> March – Inset Day**

**Monday 30<sup>th</sup> March to Friday 10<sup>th</sup> April – Easter holidays (school closed for all children)**

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

Monday 16<sup>th</sup> March

Monday 6<sup>th</sup> July

Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> 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.**

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**School Uniform donations:** We are looking for spare clothing to keep on hand for little accidents. If you have any spare black joggers or leggings, they'd be greatly appreciated!

## This week's celebrations:

Class	Good Shepherds:	Reading Champions:
St Joseph	Wallace	Paisley
St Gabriel	Victor	Tate
St Francis	Joshua	Yori
St Nicholas	Darcy-Mae	Michelle
St Lucy	Rosie	Ivy
St Josephine Bakhita	Ryan	Ama
Carlos Acutis	Savannah	Axel
Oscar Romero	Juvan	Samuel
St Therese of Lisieux	Philip	Cyprian
St Bernadette	Savannah	Ishioma
Maximilian Kolbe	Jessica	Samuel

## Golden Book:

Aryan (St Francis) – Wonderful independent writing

Miquel (St Francis) – Wonderful independent writing

Evie (St Joseph) – For making excellent choices

## Well done to Isla-Belle!



Isla-Belle was awarded a medal for her achievement of being one of the star gymnasts of the month at Portsmouth Gymnastics Centre, this was given for her hard work and impressing the coaches.

What an incredible achievement!



## Sleep & Neurodiversity Parent Workshop

Join us for an informative and supportive workshop focused on understanding sleep and the specific needs of neurodivergent children. The session is delivered by the ND Team and will cover practical strategies, common challenges, and ways to improve sleep routines at home.



Please sign up through the school office to secure your place.

Monday 27th April -  
9:00 am - 10.30am



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