



St Louis Catholic Academy News for Advent 2022



ADVENT AT ST LOUIS

As we begin Advent, we support CAFOD, our Advent charity. World Gifts are a great way for pupils to learn about the joy of giving, and they help to transform the lives of people living in poverty around the world. Your child will learn about how global gifts such as cows, solar lamps and water for a family help to change lives. Once again, we have chosen to support CAFOD as a way for our pupils to put their faith into action. By raising money for World Gifts this Advent, we will be supporting our brothers and sisters around the world, inspiring our pupils to become active global citizens and living out our school mission. You can find out more about CAFOD together as a family by visiting cafod.org.uk/families. This year, we will have a busy calendar of fundraising events but you may choose to fund a world gift on behalf of your family too.

Our PTA are busy preparing for the School Advent Fair on Friday 2nd December after school. I am very grateful for all the help and support that many families are giving to the PTA. They have also organised Christmas card orders with your children's art work and a raffle. It is lovely to be able to enjoy this event together.

Teachers in Reception and KS1 are preparing children for their nativity performance in church and the whole school is preparing for our end of term Carol service in church. We look forward to families joining us.

God Bless, Sue Blakeley



World Gifts

Buy a charity gift that makes a difference! World Gifts are a range of virtual charity gifts that will delight your friends and family.



An event for all the family to enjoy Christmas Fair

**FRIDAY 2ND DECEMBER AT 3.30PM IN THE SCHOOL HALL.
FAMILY AND FRIENDS ARE WELCOME.
STALLS, TOMBOLA, HOT FOOD, GIFTS, MUSIC, GAMES AND RAFFLE.**

Christmas CAROL SERVICE

**Tuesday 13th December,
1.45pm in church
(Choirmaster Daniel Justin,
with prayers led by Deacon
James and Deacon John)
Whole School Carol service**

Advent Preparations around our school



**JOIN US FOR
ST LOUIS ADVENT FAIR**
FRIDAY 2ND DECEMBER
AFTER PICK UP TILL 5.30PM

ST LOUIS PTA are so excited to be hosting the first Advent Fair in 3 years. This event will be a wonderful, festive extravaganza for our school community as well as raising much needed funds for the pupils.

Christmas Crafts, Reindeer Food making, BBQ, Choir Singing, Mulled Wine, Face Painting, Glitter Tattoos plus much more.

**DON'T FORGET YOUR FESTIVE JUMPERS
AND SANTA HATS**



Registered Charity Number: 1124123

We have spaces! Please tell your friends. We have spaces in our nursery, This has wrap around care and can accommodate your child during your working day. We are an inclusive Catholic school, welcoming of all children.

Reception and KS1 Nativity Performance: 7th December 2pm in church.

The Christmas Story with welcome and prayers led by our Parish Priest Fr. Leo.





Miss Coetzee has been meeting with School Council to discuss ways to make our school even better. Children from Year 1 upwards meet to share ideas and classes vote for their class representative to sit on School Council.

We are keen to promote our Eco Schools work through this group. This month, we are creating some vegetable growing beds that School Council will help choose seeds for. Waitrose has generously given us £150 towards this work.



**MAKE IT HAPPEN
CHOOSE FAIRTRADE**



This Year, there is a Fairtrade Raffle to raise funds for CAFOD. Tickets are 50p and the hamper is filled with Fairtrade goods. We wish to promote Fairtrade groceries and treats to our families.



We are an inclusive Catholic school, welcoming of all children.

You **must** apply for a primary, infant or junior school place for the 2023/2024 school year by the closing date of **Sunday 15 January 2023**. We are always available to show prospective families around. **We have spaces in Nursery immediately. Last year all children attending Nursery who applied for a place were able to move to our Reception classes and transitioned to our main school.**



Christmas in the School Kitchen

Trina ordered her Christmas Turkeys early ready for the annual

Christmas Lunch. Her team love to prepare the annual Christmas meal This will be served on Tuesday 14th December. We'll all gather in the school hall, with phases eating together for their sitting. Trina and her team will be working hard to make this celebration a great one for our children. Teaching staff and MDSAs will join their classes for a turkey feast. We are so thrilled to welcome our nursery children to join us in the celebrations—we will be in touch with their parents to confirm numbers soon.

HOW TO APPLY ONLINE FOR FREE SCHOOL MEALS

Children in Reception and KS1 are eligible for a free meal. **If your child is attending a nursery school:**

- they must be in a maintained school nursery as a registered pupil at the school
- your child must be in receipt of education before and after lunch on the same day
- you must be in receipt of a qualifying benefit. You should apply online by clicking the green button below visiting: <https://suffolkone.capitaone.cloud/CitizenPortal/en>
- **School also receives £1,385 for each child which is used to support their learning.**

Thank you St Louis PTA

The PTA organised the sale of Christmas cards this year using the children's original art work. We are thrilled that this also supports adults with learning needs because the Burwell Print Centre is a social enterprise used by our school too.



Bishop-elect of East Anglia

Peter Gwilym Collins was born on the 13 May 1958 in the town of Tredegar, South Wales, and then nurtured with his three older sisters in the nearby village of Rhymney. He attended local Catholic primary and secondary schools and then briefly explored a pathway into teaching before being accepted for seminary formation in 1978.

Following six years at the Royal English College, Valladolid, Spain, he was ordained to the priesthood for the Archdiocese of Cardiff



on the 14 July 1984. His philosophical and theological studies were undertaken at the Augustinian Faculty in Valladolid, at the Pontifical University of Comillas in Madrid and at the Pontifical University of Salamanca.

He served as an Assistant Priest in the Metropolitan Cathedral of St David, Cardiff from 1984-86 and in

Brigend from 1986-88. He returned to Spain for post-graduate study before taking up his appointment as Vice Rector at the Royal

English College, serving there from 1989-94.

Upon his return to the Archdiocese, he was appointed as Parish Priest of Chepstow and Caldicot. In 2001, he became Dean of the Metropolitan Cathedral in Cardiff, serving there for the next eighteen years. In 2006, he was appointed as a member of the Metropolitan Chapter of Canons. In 2019, he moved to the next-door parishes of St Mary of the Angels, Canton and Holy Family, Fairwater.

Alongside his parish responsibilities, Bishop-elect Collins has served in a multiplicity of diocesan roles: twelve years as Chair of the Education Commission; ten years as Director of the Diaconate; twenty-eight years in various safeguarding roles, being designated as Archbishop's Delegate to the first national meeting on safeguarding in 1995 and later serving as Coordinator and Clergy Advisor. He has also served as an area Dean, a member of the College of Consultors, a member of the Archbishop's Council and as a Trustee. He was appointed to the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem in 2004.

The Episcopal Ordination of Bishop-elect Collins will take place at the Cathedral Church of St John the Baptist, Norwich on 14 December 2022 at 11.30am. Some of our students will attend his ordination.

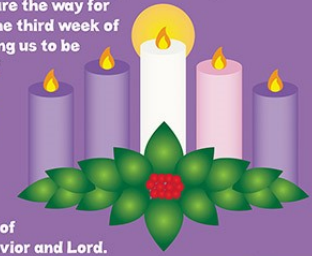
OUR PRAYERS DURING THE SEASON OF ADVENT

We continue to come together as a whole school for lighting of our Advent wreath in the hall this year. We thank the PTA for donating the class wreaths. Fr Leo will be visiting classrooms to bless class wreaths too.

We come together in prayer in many ways. On Mondays we hold Gospel Assemblies in the hall with children leading some of the prayers. On Tuesdays or Wednesdays, we hold class prayers. On Thursdays, children sing together in phases. Our Year 6 Chaplains help prepare and lead Friday whole school assemblies. We use TenTen Catholic resources to support our daily classroom prayer life and each day starts with a reflection and prayer linked to the Monday assembly theme of the Gospel. Children are being increasingly supported to lead and develop the prayer life in their classrooms and wider school. Each class has their own advent wreath and Jesse Tree as symbols of Advent and stimulus for prayer and reflection.




























THE ADVENT WREATH

An Advent wreath is a circle of evergreen branches, with four candles that represent the four weeks of Advent. Three of the candles are purple, reminding us to pray and offer up little sacrifices to help prepare the way for Jesus. The candle for the third week of Advent is rose, reminding us to be joyful since the birth of Jesus is drawing near. Some Advent wreaths include a white Christ candle which is lit at Christmas Eve or on Christmas Day, symbolizing Jesus, the Son of God and son of Mary, born to be our Savior and Lord.



Mission Together Advent Calendar 2022



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>1st Sunday of Advent What is the promise the prophet Isaiah speaks of in today's first reading? <i>Isaiah 2:1-5</i></p>  <p style="text-align: right;">27</p>	<p>An Advent wreath's candles are a symbol of Christ's light. Think of ways you can a light for others today.*</p>  <p style="text-align: right;">28</p>	<p>Learn our Advent Carol <i>We are waiting*</i> and sing it as a class. Why not film your singing and share it with us @MissioUK</p>  <p style="text-align: right;">29</p>	<p>Today is the feast of St Andrew, one of the twelve disciples. Find out which country he is the patron saint of.</p>  <p style="text-align: right;">30</p>	<p>Make a <i>Star of Hope</i> and think about how you can bring hope to others this Advent.*</p>  <p style="text-align: right;">1</p>	<p>Tomorrow is the feast of St Francis Xavier. Find out why he is the patron saint of mission.*</p>  <p style="text-align: right;">2</p>	<p>Write an Advent prayer. Try to include the words: hope, wait, light, God, Jesus. Or create an artwork expressing these words.</p>  <p style="text-align: right;">3</p>
<p>2nd Sunday of Advent In today's Gospel reading, John the Baptist tells the people to prepare for Jesus. How can we do this too? <i>Matthew 3:1-12</i></p>  <p style="text-align: right;">4</p>	<p>One way we can prepare for Jesus is by building peace. Make a peace paper-chain and think about how you can build peace in school this week.*</p>  <p style="text-align: right;">5</p>	<p>Today is the feast of St Nicholas. Find out what St Nicholas did to bring hope to poor people.*</p>  <p style="text-align: right;">6</p>	<p>Say the Mission Together Prayer for children living in war zones: <i>May all children in the world, share love, share friendship and live in the peace of God's love. Now and forever. Amen.</i></p> <p style="text-align: right;">7</p>	<p>As a class, sing <i>Silent Night</i>.* Listen carefully to the words and think about what they mean.</p>  <p style="text-align: right;">8</p>	<p>Make peace today. Say sorry to someone you may have upset this week. Or forgive someone who has upset you.</p>  <p style="text-align: right;">9</p>	<p>Find somewhere peaceful to sit and thank God for the people who love and care for you.</p>  <p style="text-align: right;">10</p>
<p>3rd Sunday of Advent The prophet Isaiah predicts great joy in today's first reading. How can we share God's joy this week? <i>Isaiah 35:1-6,10</i></p>  <p style="text-align: right;">11</p>	<p>Yesterday was <i>Gaudete</i> Sunday. Find out what <i>Gaudete</i> means.</p>  <p style="text-align: right;">12</p>	<p>Find out how Advent & Christmas are celebrated in another country.</p>  <p style="text-align: right;">13</p>	<p>Make a <i>Joyful Angel</i> and think about how you can share the joy of Jesus today.*</p>  <p style="text-align: right;">14</p>	<p>Joy is easy to pass on! Look out for people who are lonely today and invite them to play.</p>  <p style="text-align: right;">15</p>	<p>As a class sing <i>Joy to the World</i>.* Why not film your singing and share it with us @MissioUK</p>  <p style="text-align: right;">16</p>	<p>Say a prayer for all children who are upset, sad, or lonely. Ask God to help us share his joy with them.</p>  <p style="text-align: right;">17</p>
<p>4th Sunday of Advent In today's Gospel, an angel visits Joseph and says, "Do not to be afraid". Ask God to help you with your worries. <i>Matthew 1:18-24</i></p>  <p style="text-align: right;">18</p>	<p>Imagine you are the donkey carrying Mary to Bethlehem. Write a poem or carol about your special task.</p>  <p style="text-align: right;">19</p>	<p>Sing your favourite carol to a family member today. Think about the words and tell someone what they mean.</p>  <p style="text-align: right;">20</p>	<p>Create a <i>Gift for the World</i> decoration and think about the gifts God has given you to share.*</p>  <p style="text-align: right;">21</p>	<p>Be an Advent light today: make a Christmas card for an elderly relative or neighbour.*</p>  <p style="text-align: right;">22</p>	<p>Today pray for people who have no home. Ask God to keep them safe this Christmas, and for us to find ways to help them.</p>  <p style="text-align: right;">23</p>	<p>Rejoice! Jesus is born! Remember to thank God and your family for all the gifts their love brings.</p>  <p style="text-align: right;">24 & 25</p>

The Sunday Bible stories are taken from the readings at Mass that day. An abridged version can be found in our accompanying liturgical prayers. A * refers to activities, assemblies or carols. Download all for free from the Advent page of the Mission Together website.
Mission Together, 23 Eccleston Square, London, SW1V 1NU. Web: missiontogether.org.uk Reg. Charity No. 1056651



Our Year 6 Chaplaincy team of students enjoyed a fantastic day with the Ignite Team,

The Ignite Team is the youth mission team of the Catholic Diocese of East Anglia.

The group primarily work in schools, parishes, at events and online to share the Gospel of Jesus Christ in a way young people can relate to including using music, drama, multimedia, group work and personal testimony.

The Ignite Team

The Ignite Team include gap year students who have recently completed secondary school. They are bubbling with enthusiasm and energy. Full-time members of the team join for a year at a time and they are assisted by members of the *Ignite Lite* volunteer group who help out as and when they are available.

We invited the team to work with our students and help them prepare and lead assemblies in creative ways. Our students had a great day and have grown in confidence. Hopefully, some of our students will be part of the Ignite team in the future.



ADVENT MESSAGE FROM OUR PARISH PRIEST:

FATHER LEO

Embracing Advent

I wish you all a Happy Advent . What a great time to prepare ourselves for the birth of our Lord Jesus in our hearts and home. I pray and long that this season of Advent be a truly dynamic and transformative experience of life for each one of us. Let us embrace this season with watchful prayer and waking up to God's Presence *within and without*.

'For me prayer is something wonderful and supernatural that expands my soul and unites me to Jesus.' *Saint Therese*

Do I pray? How much time do I spend in prayer? What happens to me when I pray? How does prayer impact on me?

With Warmest Wishes– Fr.Leo



Our Parish Priest: Father Leo Michael Marianu

Midweek Milkshakes and Hot Chocolates are back

During Advent, we are asking you to once again raise money for Our International Advent Charity- Catholic Aid for Overseas Development (cafod.org.uk). Jane Crone from CAFOD will lead an assembly on Friday 25th November.

Midweek Milkshake 50p Wednesday 30th November (order and pay by 29th November please)

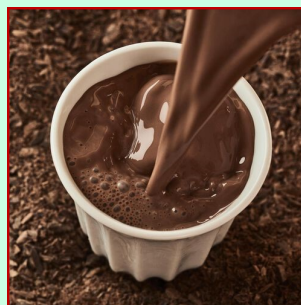
Hot chocolate 50p Wednesday 7th December (order and pay by 6th December please)

CAFOD helps children from across the world

We're also collecting loose change for CAFOD

Please remind your children to please ask before taking change from home.

CAFOD
Catholic Agency for
Overseas Development



WE ARE SO EXCITED to host an Advent Fair again and the PTA Volunteers have been busy at work with class links to get everything ready for the festivities. Some key reminders:

RAFFLE TICKETS: we have a brilliant team pulling together fantastic prizes such as a £50 Moons Voucher, Lunch at Bedford Lodge Hotel to name but a few ! Please remember to sell your raffle books and if you need more message 07368181797 or email friendsofstlouis2020@gmail.com

OWN CLOTHES DAY: don't forget to bring in a bottle or two on 25th November to donate to the bottle tombola.

SWEETIE CUP DECORATING: Cups being sent home on Friday please bring back decorated and filled with sweets in packets (no loose sweets) on 2ND DECEMBER

CHRISTMAS CARD ORDERS: Thank you so much for all your orders. We loved the designs!! These will be delivered by 9th December.

JOIN US: if you can help out at Advent Fair or want to find out more what the PTA do email friendsofstlouis2020@gmail.com



THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR YOUR SUPPORT IT MEANS AN AWFUL LOT TO THE WHOLE SCHOOL COMMUNITY

See you on 2nd December for festive fun if not before St Louis PTA

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FRIDAY 2ND DECEMBER
AFTER PICK UP TILL 5.30PM

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Christmas Crafts, Reindeer Food making, BBQ, Choir Singing, Mulled Wine, Face Painting, Glitter Tattoos plus much more.

DON'T FORGET YOUR FESTIVE JUMPERS AND SANTA HATS

Registered Charity Number: 1124123

Dates for your Advent Diary

Season of Advent 27th November - 24th December 2020 : A Focus for Catholic Charitable Giving.

**Reception & KS1 Performance—The Christmas Story in Church
Wednesday 7th December 2022 at 2pm**



Robin Hood Theatre Performance

Tuesday 29th November 2022

ALL CHILDREN TO WEAR SCHOOL UNIFORM

St Louis Advent Fair

Friday 2nd December 3.30pm to 5.30pm

Whole School Carol Service

Tuesday 13th December, at 1.45pm in Church (Choirmaster Daniel Justin with prayers led by Deacon John)



Dress as a shepherd, king or an angel.

Friday 9th December 2022

Our non uniform day: A fundraising day towards the Friends of St Louis who support the school in its ongoing improvements.

Please wear your school uniform if you do not wish to dress as an angel, shepherd or king.



7



Spare Change to Make a Change for our International Charity

Send in your loose change to help our Advent International Charity Cafod.

The winning class who raises the most money gets a special fun –filled

Christmas Lunch and Class Party Day

Wednesday 14th December

Wear your Christmas Jumper or Party Clothes (no football kits please).

School will provide snacks and we will not accept food from home to simplify things and based upon this being successful last year.



Advent Fair raffle —tickets on sale now.



English at St Louis

At St Louis, our English curriculum is driven by the use of high-quality model texts following the Cusp reading and writing curriculum. Our model text is supplemented by additional high-quality books that the children have access to in our reading areas. We ensure that the children are able to study a range of text types throughout the year and that these text types are revisited. By immersing the children in quality texts, they are able to explore the sophisticated vocabulary used and produce their own pieces of quality writing. We ensure the children are taught specific GPS (spelling, punctuation and grammar) skills that are required for the text type studied.



We are passionate about children becoming life-long readers and strive to develop a love of reading by sharing books daily with the children. We use the Cusp Core Literature Spine in our reading lessons and have supplemented it with other high-quality books to ensure there is breadth and range and that it is both diverse and inclusive. The children are taught specific reading skills in their reading lessons to enable them to access texts across the whole curriculum and further enhance their love of reading.

We hold an annual writing festival to encourage our children to develop a love of writing and to view themselves as potential authors of the future. During the two weeks of the festival the whole school undertakes a writing activity based on a picture book, we write to different people in the community, we invite parents in to write with us and we write with buddies from another class. We also have visits from authors who inspire us and develop our knowledge of the writing process.



Mrs. White
Leader English and Reading

Dear Parents and Carers,

From time to time, children in school become anxious. We have many ways to support each individual child to meet their distinct needs. Miss Coetzee is our named Mental Health Lead in school and Karen Varma is our Lead Safeguarding Governor who oversees our school wide wellbeing support. We have Mental Health First Aiders in every phase who look out for signs of anxiety, Drawing and Talking trained staff to support children over the longer term and wider special support that we may need to support families to access.

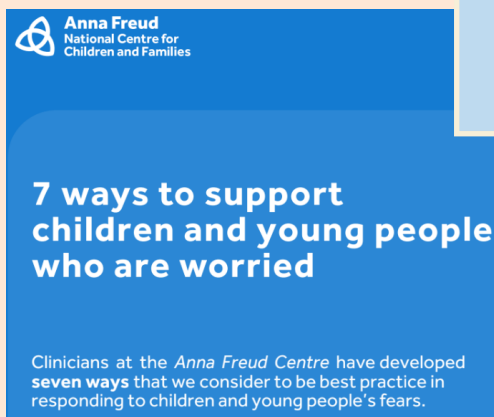
Much of the support for children is taking place in the home and we recently sent a parentmail attaching a booklet produced by Anna Freud National Centre for Children and Families, '7 Ways to Support Children and Young People who are Worried.' Please take a few minutes to read this.

All adults working in school are DBS checked and are the Trusted Adults that children can speak to in school. However, we all have people that we find it easier to speak with and children are no different. We sometimes offer children a Named Trusted Adult to speak to if they find that easier.

The booklet is based around Cognitive Behaviour Therapy -CBT. No staff in school are CBT trained but the principles for support are easy to follow and may help you in dealing with day to day worries expressed by your child.

Myself, Phase Leader and Class Teachers are always available to help you with concerns.

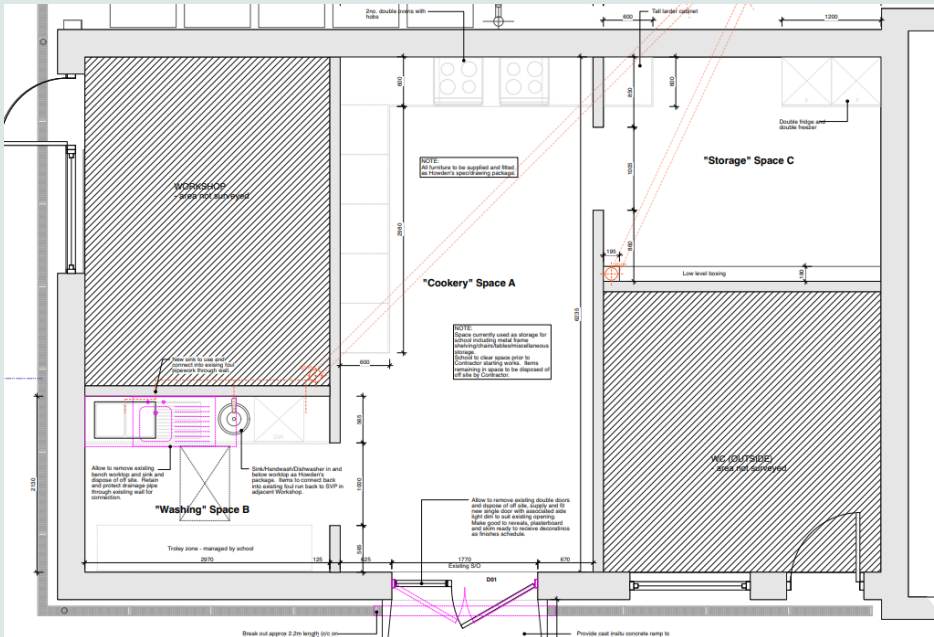
Sue Blakeley



School Teaching Kitchen

FINALLY.... This will be installed over the Christmas holidays and work is scheduled to complete on 6th January 2023.

We are grateful to the Diocese of East Anglia for the Alive in Faith grant, Mr Bill Gredley and Tesco who have contributed so far. This week we received £150 from Waitrose to help us build the raised beds



for vegetable growing. It is hoped that we can use the vegetables grown in the new kitchen. If you would like to make a donation to support this, please let us know. Costs have risen over recent months.

Mental Wellbeing Hub

We are working with the Diocese of East Anglia to develop the hub in our courtyard near to the school library. This is a much needed space for providing wellbeing support to children. The Sisters of St Louis generously gifted us £100k to fund this. Whilst the final contractor has yet to be selected, the building will, subject to planning permission, look a little like this.



27th November - 24th December 2022	Advent Cafod fundraising
29th November 2022	Whole school pantomime trip to Theatre Royal, Bury St Edmunds
2nd December 2022	Advent Fair in school 3.30pm to 5.30pm
7th December 2022	Weds 7th December 2pm. Reception and KS1 performance of The Christmas Story in church (Fr. Leo welcomes us all)
9th December 2022	Dress as Angel, King or Shepherd
13th. December 2022	1.45pm in church (Choirmaster Daniel Justin with prayers led by Deacon James and Deacon John) whole School Carol service
14th December 2022	Christmas Dinner and Party Wear Christmas jumper or party clothes
January 2023	Epiphany / start of term Mass - Friday 6th January 2023 - 9:30am
February 2023	EYFS Mass in Spring Term date to be confirmed
February 2023	Fairtrade Fortnight 27th of February to the 12th of March 2023
Lent will begin on Wednesday, 22nd February 2023	CAFOD Fundraising
March 2023	Weds 1st.March 10.15am KS 1 Mass in school (Fr. Leo) Weds 8th.March 10.15am KS 1 Reconciliation service in church (Deacons John and James)
April 2023	Weds 26th.April 10.15am LKS2 Mass in school (Fr. Leo)
May 2023	Weds 17th.May 10.15am UKS2 Mass in school (Fr. Leo)
June 2023	Ss Peter and Paul - Thursday 29th June - 9:30am
July 2023	Year 6 Leavers' Mass date tbc