

"Father, the time has come. Glorify your Son,  
that your Son may glorify you."

John 17:1



Guided by the teachings of the Church we pray, work, celebrate, and care for each other and other people using the gifts we have been given by God the Father, Son and Spirit.

### Key Dates

Mon 18th May	Y3 Rosary Stay and Pray at 2:45pm
Tues 19th May	Year 2 - Parent reading workshop at 2:30pm
Wed 20th May	Mass - led by Y6 - all welcome
Wed 20th May	Year 3 - Reconciliation in church at 3:30pm
Wed 20th May	Y4 Rosary Stay and Pray at 2:45pm
Thurs 21st May	Special lunch - please order on ParentPay
Thurs 21st May	Parishioner Tea - Gap Room at 12:30pm
Thurs 21st May	Y5 Rosary Stay and Pray at 2:45pm
Frid 22nd May	School breaks up for May half term
Mon 1st June	School open for all
Wed 3rd June	Mass - all welcome
Thurs 4th June	Year 5 trip
Mon 15th June	New EYFS intake for Sept meeting at 2pm
Wed 17th June	Mass - led by Y5 - all welcome
Wed 17th June	Year 3 trip
Thurs 18th June	Special lunch - please order on ParentPay
Mon 22nd June	Year 6 trip
Thurs 25th June	Parishioner Tea - Gap Room at 12:30pm

### Mrs Milligan and Mr Spindlow's Message

This week, our Year 5 children participated in a reading workshop, deepening their love of books and developing their literacy skills in engaging and meaningful ways. It was a pleasure to see their enthusiasm and commitment to learning. Thank you to those of you who were able to attend.

We were blessed to celebrate Ascension mass together, a significant moment in our Catholic calendar that brought our whole school family together in prayer and reflection. This spiritual life is at the heart of who we are.

In Early Years, our youngest children enjoyed a wonderful Rosary stay and pray session with their families. This was such a special opportunity for them to experience prayer in a nurturing environment. Do look out for further dates next week—we'll be extending this beautiful initiative to other classes.

I must take a moment to celebrate our Year 6 children on their SATs achievements. Well done to every single one of you—you've worked incredibly hard and we're so proud of you all.

As we approach the end of the half term, please note that we return to school on Monday 1st June. Keep an eye on our communications for exciting summer event dates coming your way very soon.

# This Week's Gospel



Today we hear Jesus praying for his friends and for us. He wanted us to be one, to be united in love, as closely as Jesus and God the Father are united in love.

John 17:1-11

After Jesus finished saying this, he looked up to heaven and said, “Father, the hour has come. Give glory to your Son, so that the Son may give glory to you. For you gave him authority over all humanity, so that he might give eternal life to all those you gave him. And eternal life means knowing you, the only true God, and knowing Jesus Christ, whom you sent. I have shown your glory on earth; I have finished the work you gave me to do. Father! Give me glory in your presence now, the same glory I had with you before the world was made.

“I have made you known to those you gave me out of the world. They belonged to you, and you gave them to me. They have obeyed your word, and now they know that everything you gave me comes from you. I gave them the message that you gave me, and they received it; they know that it is true that I came from you, and they believe that you sent me.

“I pray for them. I do not pray for the world but for those you gave me, for they belong to you. All I have is yours, and all you have is mine; and my glory is shown through them. And now I am coming to you; I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world. Holy Father! Keep them safe by the power of your name, the name you gave me, so that they may be one just as you and I are one.”

# This Week's Attendance



## Attendance Counts

Year Group	
EYFS	88.9
Year 1	86.1
Year 2	86.2
Year 3	94.0
Year 4	95.8
Year 5	93.5
Year 6	98.4

**Our school attendance target is 95%. The overall attendance for last week was 92.0%.**

**It is really important that we continue to work together to do all we can to prioritise the children's attendance at school.**

### Attendance Support

**Mrs Tennant and the attendance team are always available to offer advice and support to help ensure your child is able to attend every day and reach their full potential. To book an appointment, please call the office on: 0121 747 2782**

### SPOTLIGHT ON PERSISTENT ABSENCE

**What is persistent absence?**  
**If your child takes too much time off school they will become categorised as PA or persistently absent.**  
**(Attendance below 90% = persistent absence).**

**Missing school will make your child fall behind in lessons and will impact on their academic progress and achievement. Don't allow your child to become a PA student.**

**This table shows how many days missed each half-term will make your child a PA student:**

How many days will make my child a persistent absent student?	
Half-term 1	3 ½ days off school from September until October half-term holiday will make your child a PA student.
Half-term 1-2	7 days off school from September until the Christmas holiday will make your child a PA student.
Half term 1-3	10 days of absence from September until February half-term will make your child a PA student.
Half term 1-4	12 ½ days of absence from September until the Easter holidays will make your child a PA student.
Half-term 1-5	15 ½ days of absence from September until May half-term will make your child a PA student.
Half-term 1-6	19 days of absence for the full academic year (September to end of summer term in July) will make your child a PA student.



## Safeguarding Tip of the Week

### Is my child too ill for school?

A simple guide for parents

**Follow government guidance**  
Schools and nurseries must follow government guidelines on health protection and managing infectious diseases. These explain when children should be kept off school and when they shouldn't. Find out more at [GOV.UK](http://GOV.UK)

**If your child stays home**  
Phone the school or nursery on the first day. Let them know your child won't be in and give the reason.

**Let the school know**  
If your child is well enough to go to school but has an infection that could be passed on (such as a cold sore or head lice), let their teacher know.

**What to do about other conditions**

**High temperature**  
If your child has a high temperature, keep them off school until it goes away.

**Feeling anxious or worried**  
It's normal for children to feel a little anxious sometimes. Avoiding school can make it worse. Talk about any worries and work with the school to find ways to help. If your child is still struggling and it's affecting their everyday life, talk to your GP or school nurse.

<p><b>Coughs and colds</b> If your child has a cough or common cold symptoms (runny nose, sore throat, headache) as long as they don't have a high temperature. Encourage handwashing and using tissues.</p>	<p><b>Chickenpox</b> Keep your child off school until all the spots have crusted over. This is usually about 5 days after the spots first appeared.</p>	<p><b>Cold sores</b> There's no need to keep your child off school. Encourage them not to touch the blister, kiss anyone or share cups, towels or other items.</p>	<p><b>Conjunctivitis</b> You don't need to keep your child away from school unless they are feeling very unwell. Get advice from your pharmacist. Encourage them not to rub their eyes and to wash their hands.</p>
<p><b>Ear infection</b> If your child has an ear infection and a high temperature or severe earache, keep them off school until they're feeling better or the temperature goes away.</p>	<p><b>Hand, foot and mouth disease</b> If your child has this but seems well enough, there's no need to keep them off school. Encourage handwashing and using tissues.</p>	<p><b>Head lice and nits</b> There's no need to keep your child off school. You can treat head lice and nits without seeing a GP.</p>	<p><b>Impetigo</b> Needs treatment (often antibiotics). Keep off school until sores have crusted over and healed, or for 48 hours after starting antibiotic treatment. Encourage handwashing and not sharing items.</p>
<p><b>Measles</b> See a GP. Call the surgery before you go in, as measles spreads easily. Keep off school for at least 4 days from when the rash first appears. Avoid contact with babies, pregnant people and those with weakened immune systems.</p>	<p><b>Ringworm</b> See your pharmacist unless it's on the scalp, in which case see a GP. It's fine to go to school once treatment has started.</p>	<p><b>Scarlet fever</b> Needs antibiotics from a GP. Otherwise it's infectious for 2 to 3 weeks. Your child can go back to school 24 hours after starting antibiotics.</p>	<p><b>Slapped cheek syndrome (fifth disease)</b> No need to keep your child off school. Once the rash appears, they're no longer infectious. Let the school know.</p>
<p><b>Sore throat</b> You can still send your child to school if they have a sore throat. But if they also have a high temperature, they should stay at home until it goes away.</p>	<p><b>Threadworms</b> No need to keep your child off school. Speak to your pharmacist, who can recommend a treatment.</p>	<p><b>Vomiting and diarrhoea</b> Children with diarrhoea or vomiting should stay away from school until they have not been sick or had diarrhoea for at least 2 days (48 hours).</p>	<p><b>Working together to help keep children healthy and learning</b></p>

### Why attendance matters

Being in school every day helps children learn, build friendships and feel confident. We understand that children sometimes need to stay at home when they are genuinely unwell, but many mild illnesses do not stop children from attending school. Missing school unnecessarily can affect learning and make returning harder. Please use our "Is My Child Too Ill for School?" poster to help you decide when your child can attend. Working together helps keep children healthy, happy and learning.

## E- Safety Tip

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about

# ONLINE GROOMING

**WHAT ARE THE RISKS?**

**STRANGERS USING FAKE IDENTITIES**  
Strangers often pose as children or teenagers online to build trust. They can create fake profiles, photos, videos or use real people's or friends' identities. They use techniques like blackmail or threats to get children to share personal details, photos, or videos. They may also use blackmail to get children to meet in person, exposing them to significant emotional and physical risks.

**THE RISE OF SEXTORTION**  
Sextortion involves pressuring children to share explicit content. Once obtained, the offender may threaten to share it with others, blackmail the child, or use it for financial gain. Children may also be forced to perform sexual acts or create explicit content. This is a form of sexual abuse and can have long-term effects on a child's mental health.

**EXPLOITATION THROUGH GIFTS AND FLATTERY**  
To gain a child's confidence, offenders often give gifts, money, or services. They use flattery, compliments, and promises to create a relationship. They may also use blackmail to get children to share personal details, photos, or videos. They may also use blackmail to get children to meet in person, exposing them to significant emotional and physical risks.

**GAMING PLATFORMS AS GROOMING GATEWAYS**  
Gaming platforms, social media, and other online services are often used by offenders to build trust with children. They may use these platforms to communicate with children, share explicit content, or arrange to meet in person.

Advice for Parents & Educators

**KEEP CONVERSATIONS REGULAR**  
Regular communication with children is essential. Encourage them to talk to you about their online activities. If you notice any concerning behavior, talk to your GP or the police.

**CREATE A "TELL ME" CULTURE**  
Children often keep secrets from their parents. Encourage them to talk to you about their online activities. If you notice any concerning behavior, talk to your GP or the police.

**UNDERSTAND THE PLATFORMS CHILDREN USE**  
Take time to learn about the apps, games, and social platforms children use. Encourage them to talk to you about their online activities. If you notice any concerning behavior, talk to your GP or the police.

**STAY ALERT TO WARNING SIGNS**  
Be alert to signs of online grooming, such as a child becoming secretive about their online activities, receiving gifts or money, or being asked to share explicit content. If you notice any concerning behavior, talk to your GP or the police.

Meet Our Expert

**Wake Up Wednesday** | The National College

Twitter: @wake\_up\_weds | Facebook: www.thenationalcollege | Instagram: @wakeup.wednesday | YouTube: @wakeup.weds

Online grooming is a growing and deeply concerning threat, with thousands of offences recorded each year in the UK. This edition explores how offenders build trust with children through fake identities, flattery, gifts and group chats before exploiting that relationship. It also examines the rise of sextortion and how gaming platforms and social media can become gateways for harm.

# Last Week's Awards



## Virtues Award

EYFS - Riley  
Year 1 - Arlo-Jay  
Year 2 - Graciemae  
Year 3 - Layla-Mai  
Year 4 - Elsie  
Year 5 - Casey  
Year 6 - All pupils



## Reader of the Week

EYFS - Cavan  
Year 1 - Lily-Mae  
Year 2 - Noah  
Year 3 - Sidney  
Year 4 - Max  
Year 5 - Jack  
Year 6 - N/A



## PE Star of the Week

EYFS - Aryan  
Year 1 - Arlo F  
Year 2 - Millie  
Year 3 - Aminah  
Year 4 - Anada  
Year 5 - Ronny  
Year 6 - N/A

## Star Pupils

EYFS

Billie and Melvin

Year 3

Winnie and Ava

Year 1

Amelia G and Amelia A

Year 4

Lily and Alice

Year 2

Charlie and Sylvie-Fae

Year 5

Chae and Ella

Year 6

All of Year 6 pupils



## Birthday Celebrations

Soraya-Summer (EYFS), Penelope (Year 1),  
Paisley-Jane, Sylvie (Year 2)  
Eden, Mylo, Summer (Year 5), Jessica (Year 6)

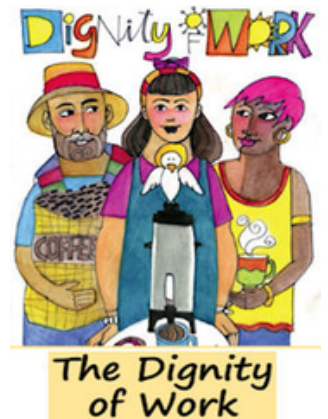


Best Wishes from your Guardian Angels Family

## Catholic Social Teaching

### The Dignity of Work

Work is important in God's plan for people.  
Jobs and pay should be fair for all.



## Virtues this Half Term

### Grateful and Generous



**Grateful:** We are grateful for the gifts God has given to us, for the gifts of other people and the blessings of each new day. We are thankful for what we have and for the people around us.

**Generous:** We are generous with our gifts and use them in the service of others. We are generous with our time and give of ourselves to serve others as God wants us to. We are generous with our actions, doing things to help other people and make a difference in the world.



God of love, help us to be  
like Jesus and work  
together with others to  
build a better future for all  
people. Amen

Have a lovely weekend and God Bless  
Mrs Helen Milligan, Mr Spindlow and  
all the staff at Guardian Angels



# **MARVELLOUS MAY ATTENDANCE COMING THIS TERM**

This term, we're excited to launch an attendance initiative celebrating the importance of our pupils being in school every day and on time.

To make it more fun and motivating, children must maintain 100% attendance across the whole term, and prizes will be awarded based on 100% attendance during a selected week.

We are currently behind the national average for attendance, and this focused term will help us move closer to meeting our whole school targets.

**With your support, we can make  
a real difference.**

**Let's work together to make this  
term marvellous!**

# Rosary Stay and Pray

During the month of May, we warmly welcome parents to join us in praying a decade of the Rosary in the Peace Garden. Parents are asked to please sign in through the office on arrival.

Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> May 2:45pm: Year 1

Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> May 2:45pm: Year 2

Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> May 2:45pm: Year 6

Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> May 2:45pm: Reception

Monday 18<sup>th</sup> May 2:45pm: Year 3

Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> May 2:45pm: Y4

Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> May 2:45pm: Year 5





✦ **First Holy** ✦  
**Communion gifts**

✦ **Gifts available** ✦

**Guardian Angels rosary beads**

**My Little Communion Prayer book**

**My First Missal**

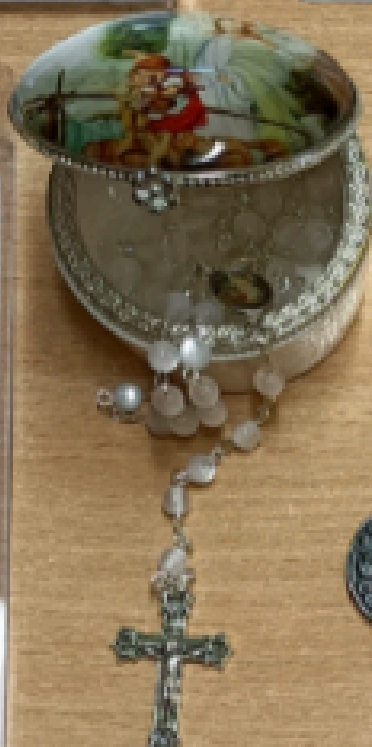
**First Holy Communion plastic prayer card**

**Holy Communion son/daughter wish card**

**Gift shop**

**Mother of God and Guardian Angels church**

**Gift shop opening times**  
**Monday-Friday 8:30am-9:30am**  
**Sundays 10.00am - 12.00pm**



**18TH**

**MAY AT  
2.15PM**

*Our next Parent  
and friends*  
**OF GUARDIAN ANGELS**

**MEETING**

Planning Summer school  
events, come and get  
involved!



**COME ALONG FOR  
A CUPPA AND LETS  
GET PLANNING!**

**SUMMER**