



Corpus Christi Catholic Primary

'LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE'... MATTHEW 5



March Newsletter 2025

Dear Families

At last, Spring is approaching – let's hope that the weather starts to improve and the sun makes an appearance soon!

We are now in the liturgical season of Lent. Lent occurs between February and April and last 40 days. We ask the children to 'Give, Act and Pray' during Lent and encourage them all to make a Lenten promise to God about how they will do this. Later in the term, we have lots of Lenten activities planned to raise money for charity.

Please take a look at the list of dates at the end of our newsletter – I have added all the dates we have up until the end of July, to give you plenty of notice and enable you to plan ahead.

Warmest Wishes

Mrs Maxwell and all the staff at Corpus Christi x

Daily School Life

Over the last few weeks, we have held our open '**Book Look**' for all our parents and followed up with individual Parent Calls to update all parents on their child's progress. If you have not had this update, please contact your child's class teacher via class dojo to arrange.

We have also held our **Art showcases**, where parents had the opportunity to view their children's Art work and progression in skills. I'm sure you will agree that their Art portfolios look fantastic!

Friday 21st March is **Red Nose Day**. The children can come to school wearing something red and we ask for a 50p donation towards comic relief.

On Tuesday 25th March, representatives of the Corpus Christi choir will perform at The Glasshouse. This is a joint event with Gateshead Music and Sports Services coming together to host the **Spring Sing** and Dance Festivals. The choir has been working hard on perfecting two songs to perform at the event. Break a leg!

On the evening of Wednesday 26th March, Year 4 will take part in the annual Gateshead **Schools Dance Festival at the Glasshouse**. The children have spent 8 weeks celebrating the joy of movement, dance and enjoying the physical, emotional and mental wellbeing that dance evokes. They've all been dedicated, committed and have all taken on every challenge, even the children who have never done anything like this before. Year 4 will continue to learn their dance routine and are very excited to perform this on stage to a crowd including their very important families.

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After the success of last year, we are hosting another 'Breakfast with a Book' before Easter. This was a lovely occasion and very well supported by families.

As before, Gateshead Library staff will be there to sign up families and also to launch our Easter Book Bingo event.

Safety and Wellbeing

Online Safety

In school, we have had several conversations recently about Roblox, especially with our Key Stage 2 children.

Roblox is a multi-platform game that enables people to play anonymously, which can often be something that attracts people to misuse the game and put younger players at risk of harm. Some of our children said that they had over 150 "friends" on Roblox, but couldn't actually say who their friends were as they had never met them or spoken to them before.

In addition to interacting with random strangers across the world, it's important to be aware of other risk factors, such as in-game purchases and potential scams that can put young people at risk. We will also share a poster on ClassDojo, which helps to show how our children can have a safe and enjoyable experience with Roblox.

To find out more: <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/online-safety-blog/roblox/>

Catholic Life

Ash Wednesday

We gathered as a whole school to mark the beginning of Lent. Our Mini Vinnies led us in prayer and we reflected on a reading from the book of Joel. In this reading, we are told to "Let our hearts be broken, not our garments torn," which means that it's not about how you look on the outside but what your heart is doing inside. The children could name the 3 things that Christians are asked to do during Lent – give, act and pray. We talked about some of the things that we will be doing during Lent to support Lenten charities including the Big Lent Walk for CAFOD. All children made a Lenten promise that they will do their best to keep during Lent.



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Jubilee 2025 – Pilgrims of Hope

What is hope?

Year 2 gathered with their grown-ups and children from Year 1 to explore the question, 'What is hope?' We explored the meaning of the word and what it means to us. Some of us thought that hope gave a peaceful feeling where others felt it is about never giving up. We listened to God's word from Romans: *'...may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.'* We reflected on this and asked our grown-ups to write about what hope is to them. As we went out, we remembered that Pope Francis has tasked us with being a pilgrim of hope.



CAFOD Big Lent Walk

On Friday 28th March, pupils and staff will walk from school to Saltwell Park where they will follow a route before returning to school. We will calculate how far we have walked altogether. As a group, we want to walk a total distance of 200km! To find out how to sponsor your child, please look on the School Story on Class Dojo. To find out more about the work of CAFOD and their Big Lent Walk click on the link: <https://walk.cafod.org.uk/>



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Our Curriculum – Modern Foreign Languages



At Corpus Christi, our children enjoy learning French as a Modern Foreign Language. Our French curriculum has been designed to enable children to develop linguistic and communicative competence, to extend their knowledge of how language works and to explore similarities and differences between any heritage languages our children have, and English. We primarily use the **Rachel Hawkes Scheme** as a foundation for our teaching.

You can view this online at: www.rachelhawkes.com

KS2 Children have a weekly French lesson of 30 minutes and in addition they re-visit and deepen their learning for 10 minutes three times a week with structured language tasks to practise retrieval, improve retention and embed learning in long-term memory.

Children throughout the school also learn key cultural, and country-specific knowledge about France, and we aim to make French fun for all our pupils by having French Culture Days where children learn skills such as identifying countries on a map where French is spoken, learning about the key geographical features of France, finding out about French festivals and traditions, and learning about typical food from France.



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Any other updates...

Upcoming 'Stay and Play sessions in Reception Class are fully booked. More dates will be released after the Easter Holidays.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY...		
Tuesday 4th March	Y6 SAT/Residential Information Meeting	Y6 parents. School Hall 9.00am.
Friday 7th March	Y1,Y2,Y3 Art Showcase in School Hall. 3.30pm	Y1,Y2 and Y3 parents welcome.
Wednesday 12th March	Family Learning begins 9-10.30 for 5 weeks.	Y1/2 parents
Wednesday 12th March	Y2 to Gateshead Library	
Friday 14th March	Y4,Y5,Y6 Art Showcase in School Hall. 3.30pm	Y4,Y5 and Y6 parents welcome.
Thursday 20th March	Reception Stay and Play Sessions.	Places must be booked.
Friday 21st March	Red Nose Day / World Poetry Day	Children can wear something red.
Tuesday 25th March	Spring Sing @ The Glass House	
Wednesday 26th March	Reception Class to visit Gateshead Library	
Thursday 20th March	Reception Stay and Play Sessions.	Places must be booked
Wednesday 26th March	World Maths Day	
Wednesday 26th March	Dance Festival – Y4	6.30pm at The Glass House.
April 2025		
Wednesday 2nd April	Breakfast with a Book	9-9.30
Wednesday 2nd April	Reception class visit to Whitehouse Farm	
Thursday 3rd April	Y2 visit to Beamish Museum	
Monday 7th April	Music Sharing Performance Y5 and Y2 2.45pm	Y2 and Y5 parents welcome
April 7th to April 9th	Y6 Residential to Robinwood Outdoor Activity Centre.	
Wednesday 9th April	Y1 to Gateshead Library	
Monday 14th April to Friday 25th April – Easter Holidays		

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Monday 28th April – INSET Day		
Children return to school on Tuesday 29th April.		
May 2025		
Thursday 1 st May	Y4 Samba Drumming Project begins	
Thursday 1 st May	Y6 to Theatre Royal – Pig Heart Boy	
Monday 5 th May	May Day Bank Holiday	Children off school.
Friday 9 th May	Y3 'That History Bloke' Ancient Greeks.	
w/c Monday May 12 th	Y6 KS2 National Curriculum Tests	
w/c May 19 th	Careers Week	
Friday 23 rd May	KS2 Fun Run in Saltwell Park	
Monday 26th May to Friday 30th May – Spring Half Term Holiday. Children return to school on Monday 2nd June.		
June 2025		
Wednesday 4 th June	Photographer in school.	
Thursday 19 th June	Feast of Corpus Christi Whole School attend Mass.	
Monday June 23rd	SPORTS DAY Y1 to Y6 Saltwell Park	All families welcome
Wednesday 25 th June	Y6 Primary festival day at the Youth Village.	
Thursday 26th June	Early Years Sports Day	Early Years Families welcome.
Thursday 26 th June	Y3 Shipley Art Gallery Linking Project.	
Friday 27 th June	Jubilee Day – Pilgrims of Hope	
Friday 27 th June	KS2 Athletics Festival.	
July 2025		
Thursday 3 rd July	BWCET Celebration of Sport for Y5	Gateshead Athletics Stadium
Monday 7 th July	Y6 Play in a Day	
Thursday 10 th July	Y4 Samba Drumming Performance	Y4 Families welcome.
Friday 11th July	Y6 Leavers' Play	Y6 Families welcome.
Monday 14th July	Y1 and Y3 Music Sharing Performance. 2.45	Y1/Y3 Families welcome
Wednesday 16th July	End of Year Whole School Mass	All welcome
Thursday 17 th July	Last day of Summer Term.	
Friday 18th July INSET Day. Children not in school.		

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Monday 21st July to Friday 29th August. Summer Holidays

Monday 1st September INSET Day. Children not in school

Children return to school on Tuesday 2nd September

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