



St Monica's Catholic Primary School

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Friday 23rd May, 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

Good evening one and all and welcome to this week's newsletter.



Pilgrims of Hope - Pledge Day

Jubilee Year 2025 – “Pilgrims of Hope”

In the Catholic Church, a Jubilee Year is a special time of forgiveness, reconciliation, and renewal, celebrated every 25 years. The year 2025 has been declared a Jubilee Year. Before his passing, Pope Francis invited us all to embrace the theme: “Pilgrims of Hope.” Pope Francis wanted to challenge us to reflect on how we can care for our world and protect it for future generations.

At St Monica's, we're responding to this call with an exciting initiative. On the morning of Friday 4th July, we will celebrate Pledge Day. Each class will create a Class Pledge during the week, a promise that will show how our classes can contribute to

the mission of the Jubilee Year. These pledges will be shared and celebrated in our school assembly.

Later in the morning, a representative from each class will take part in a joyful pilgrimage to St Monica's Church, where they will present their class pledge to Father Ged. These pledges will then be proudly displayed in the church, becoming part of our parish's shared commitment to making the world a better place.

This day will not only be a celebration of our children's creativity and compassion, but a meaningful step toward helping our pupils cherish this beautiful world we live in.

Jubilee Year - Family Pledges



Families can also make a simple pledge for the Jubilee Year, here is an example family pledge I created in with my family. I have placed it up in the kitchen and my children love it (they are even using the correct bins for waste and recycling now!).

"In the Gouldbourne household, we pledge to look after our planet. We will reduce waste in the house, recycle as many items as we can, conserve water and look after green spaces in our community. We will learn about our environment as a family and work as hard as we can to protect the planet for future generations."

If you do create one, please email it in and I will share it with Father Ged.

Well done to Y1 and Y4: Completing the Y1 Phonics Screening Check and Y4 Multiplication Tables Check

We have been delighted with the hard work and determination shown by our Year 1 and Year 4 pupils this week: two important milestones have taken place, and our children rose to the challenge brilliantly.

Our Year 1 children completed their Phonics Screening Check. This is the culmination of many years of phonics learning, starting all the way back in Nursery. Throughout their Read, Write, Inc. journey, these fantastic pupils have shown resilience and enthusiasm – and the support from home has been fantastic. This teamwork paid off, as our pupils approached the check with confidence and positivity. They should all feel incredibly proud - the Year 1 team certainly are.

Your child's Phonics Screening outcome will be included in their end of year report.

Meanwhile, our Year 4 pupils completed their Multiplication Tables Check. After months of practice in maths lessons and on TT Rock Stars, they tackled the 25-question test with real determination. Every single child has shown excellent progress this year and should feel a strong sense of achievement.

Your child's outcome from the MTC check will be included in their end of year report.

We are so proud of both year groups – well done to all our fantastic pupils. Make a fuss of them this weekend, please.



Sports Day 2025 - Key Information from Mrs Tohill

Excitement is building across the school as Sports Day practice gets underway in our PE lessons.

In EYFS, children are developing their running, jumping, and balancing skills as they prepare for their races. It's been a joy to

see their enthusiasm and growing confidence on the field.

Year 1 and 2 are loving their practice sessions, too: they enjoy a good race and they're equally enthusiastic about throwing for distance and aiming at targets. Their determination and team spirit are shining through.

Our older pupils will take part in a range of traditional Sports Day events, including the much-loved egg and spoon race, sack race, and bean bag balancing challenge.

And of course, no Sports Day would be complete without our legendary parents' race to top things off!

Families are warmly invited to come along and cheer from the sidelines – parents can bring a camping chair if this is needed. Each session should last approximately 45 minutes.

We can't wait to welcome you for a day full of fun, laughter, and sporting spirit.

- **Tuesday 24th June, Infants:**
- Nursery 9am; Reception 10:10am Year 1 11:20am; Year 2 1:20pm
- **Wednesday 25th June, Juniors:**
- Year 3 9am; Year 4 10:10am Year 5 11:20am; Year 6 1:20pm

Lockdown Drill next Wednesday

Next Wednesday morning, we will carry out a calm Lockdown Drill at school. I want to reassure all families that this is not in response to any threat, but simply a routine drill to quality assure our lockdown procedures and ensure that everyone knows what to do in the event of a real incident in our local community.

The drill will involve the following steps:

- Our lockdown alarm will sound across the school
- Children will move to a designated safe space (usually their classroom, if not already there)
- All doors and windows will be closed and locked
- Shutters on external doors and windows will be closed
- Staff will take registers to ensure every pupil is accounted for
- We will use our internal communication systems to confirm all registers have been completed
- Pupils will remain calmly in their safe space until the all-clear is given

Please be assured this will be a calm and carefully managed experience. Teachers will talk through the process with pupils in an age-appropriate and SEND-sensitive way, so that children understand the importance of the drill without feeling anxious or afraid.

We are fortunate that our school is well-equipped for such procedures, with external shutters on all doors and windows, providing additional safety in the event of any external safeguarding concern.

I will share how the drill went in next week's newsletter. These procedures are in place to ensure that, in the event of a real safeguarding incident in the wider community, we are fully prepared to keep our pupils and staff safe.

Building Works - Entrance at Southport Road

Thank you for your continued patience and understanding with the building works that are taking place on the Southport Road entrance. I am hopeful this will be completed by the first week in July.

School Uniform - Summer Fayre

We're pleased to let you know that there will be a Used Uniform Stall at our Summer Fayre on Thursday 4th July.

Children grow so quickly, and with the cost of living continuing to affect families, this is a great opportunity to embrace upcycling and pick up some good-quality uniform at a low or no cost.

If you have any uniform in good condition that you'd be happy to donate, please drop it off at the school office by Monday 1st July.

In addition, Paul's Place on Stanley Road has kindly shared a 10% discount voucher for new uniform purchases. This can be used digitally and is valid until 31st July.

[Uniform Voucher](#)

Thank you all, have a great weekend.

Best wishes

Mr. James Gouldbourne

Headteacher

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