



St Pius X Catholic Primary School & Little Lambs Nursery



Monthly Newsletter – May 2026

Dear Parents/Carers,

Our Summer term is now underway and we are hoping for warmer weather as the end of year curriculum, trips and activities begin.

Gospel Value of the Month – Hope

Church Devotion of the Month – The Blessed Virgin Mary

Prayer Room – Pray a Decade of the Holy Rosary

First Holy Communion will take place on **Sunday 7th June**. Our

First Holy Communion programme dates can be found in the key dates section of the weekly newsletter. This year there will be a mixture of parish sessions and school sessions. Parish sessions will be 6-7pm at the Parish Centre and are for children only. School sessions will take place during the school day. It is important that your child attends all meetings. Failure to attend meetings may result in your child being unable to make their First Holy Communion. Parish dates are **9th March, 23rd March, 27th April, 11th May, 1st June**.

Family Rosary Session – On the morning of **Thursday 21st May** all classes will pray a decade of the Rosary at the beginning of the school day. We are inviting family members into pray a decade of the Rosary with their child at **9:05am**. Children who have a family member attend, will pray a decade of the rosary in the hall together. Refreshments will be provided afterwards.

May Procession Flowers – Our May Procession will take place on **Thursday 21st May**. We are setting children a challenge of making a flower/s at home to present at the foot of the statue of Mary towards the end of the procession. Completed flowers may be brought into school ahead of the procession and handed to Mrs Cotgreave, who will keep them safe in the Prayer Room. Mrs Cotgreave will award children who make a flower/s with ClassDojo points.

CAFOD Easter Egg Raffle – Thank you for supporting our end of term CAFOD raffle. We raised over £500 CAFOD – a worthwhile charity.

Nursery and Reception Spaces – We still have some spaces available in our wonderful Early Years setting! Please get in touch if you would like more information or to come and have a look around. Please spread the word.

Extra-Curricular Clubs started the week commencing **20th April** for the summer term and end the week commencing **29th June**.

Attendance Reviews – Our half-termly attendance review has taken place, in line with our Trusts Attendance Strategy, at the beginning of term and the next review will take place the first week back after May half-term.

Bikes and Scooters – Bikes and scooters being left at the front of school is a health and safety hazard. If your child is attending tutoring, please ask them to take their bikes and scooters to the bike park prior. Children in nursery may leave bikes and scooters behind the fence where Mr McGoldrick stands in a morning.

Nursery Applications deadlines are:

- **10th July** for January Intake.

Baby & Toddler Group Volunteers Needed - We are urgently looking for additional volunteers to help support our weekly Baby & Toddler Group, which is currently at risk of having to stop due to a lack of volunteer support.

Volunteers are required:

8:30- 9:00am: Setting up

9:00-10:30am: Assisting during the session

10:30-10:45am – Tidying up

Unfortunately, we have recently lost some of our regular volunteers. If you are able to offer any time to help, even on an occasional basis, we would be extremely grateful. All volunteers will be required to complete a DBS check before volunteering begins. Please contact the school office if you are able to help support this valuable group.

Walk to School Week – Between **18th-22nd May** we are encouraging all families to embrace the joy of active travel through walking, cycling, or even roller-skating to school.

Together, we can make a positive impact on our environment while maintaining a balanced, healthy, active lifestyle. It is vital that we all get at least 30 minutes of physical activity every single day to keep our mind and bodies healthy. Any child that takes part in active travel will be rewarded via Class Dojo every day throughout the week. We would love to see the ways in which everyone takes part in this challenge, so please send photographs to Mr Bolton throughout the week and let's see how many car journeys we can save!

Uniform Policy - Our uniform policy can be found on our school website here: <https://www.st-piux.cumbria.sch.uk/parents/uniform>

Branded Uniform – The only uniform item that we request a school logo on is a sweatshirt/cardigan. All other school uniform items, including PE kits, don't need the school logo.

Summer Uniform - Children may wear summer uniform: grey shorts or red-checked summer dress. Please note: sandals are not permitted.

Uniform Change (Reminder) - From September 2026, we will be introducing a change to our school uniform, replacing white polo shirts with red ones. More information can be found on last month's newsletter.

Preloved Uniform is available by contacting the school office. We have a selection of summer dresses available.

Parking – We have been contacted several times recently by residents regarding inappropriate and inconsiderate parking. Please be mindful and respectful when parking around school, especially around St Francis' Gardens. Residents have been advised to contact the police directly.

Warm Weather – During the summer term, we often experience hot weather. To ensure children are protected and hydrated we encourage the following measures:

- children should bring a filled water bottle each day. We ask that it is filled with water only. Children are able to refill/top up bottles before break and lunch times.

- we ask you apply sunscreen before school. Factor 30 is recommended. Please send sunscreen into school, which can be left. All classes will reapply sunscreen again before lunchtime.

- sun caps should be worn for school. Any sun cap can be worn but logo versions can be purchased from Identity. Staff will remind children to wear them at break and lunch times.

PLEASE ENSURE ALL ITEMS ARE NAMED.

PE Lessons will be outside, weather permitting. In addition to their normal PE kit, your child will need warm clothing e.g. joggers, hoodie, sweatshirt, outdoor trainers.

End of Year Reports – This year, we have updated the format of our end-of-term reports. Reports will now be sent electronically via email rather than via ClassDojo. Please ensure that the email address we have on record for you is correct and up to date so that you receive your child's report without delay. If you need to update your contact details, please contact the school office as soon as possible.

Free School Meals – If you think you may be entitled to Free School Meals, please follow the link below. Successful Free School Meals applications will entitle parents for support towards school trips, residential, supermarket vouchers during school holidays, as well as a uniform grant.

https://ems.westmorlandandfurness.gov.uk/CitizenPortal_LIVE/

Residential Payments – Please remember to keep up with your payments on School Gateway. The school office will be chasing late payments this month.

FOSPX – The FOSPX have organised the following events:

- Non-uniform (affle and tombola donations) – **Friday 15th May**
- Non-Uniform (colour hamper donations) – **Friday 5th June**
- Pius Calling – **Friday 26th June**
- Freeze Pop Fridays- **Every Friday after school** (see more info below)

More information can be found on ClassDojo and their Facebook page.

Freeze Pop Friday - Freeze Pops will be on sale for 50p each at the exit gate every Friday until the end of term.

FOSPX Pius Calling is planned for **26th June from 4:30pm**. If you are able to volunteer with setting up, on a stall or organise the event, please contact the school office. The next meetings to organise Pius Calling are: **18th May, 25th May, 1st June, 8th June, 15th June and 22nd June**. Children may attend Afterschool Club free of charge – please book directly with the school office.

FOSPX Coffee Morning – We would like to reintroduce a coffee morning on the first Thursday of each month in St Joseph's Cabin. If you are willing to lead on this, please get in touch.

School Minibus Service - The minibus service runs to provide transport for children who live outside of the local Ormsgill area. It is not a childcare service. An approximate time of collection is provided to all parents/carers, but this may vary due to traffic, weather, etc. If you require your child to be collected by a particular time, due to work commitments, we do offer a Breakfast Club from 7:30am.

Statutory Assessment Dates 2025/26 - It is important that children attend school for statutory assessments. We ask that no holidays or trips are booked during these weeks.

Y6 SATs – Monday 11th-Thursday 14th May 2026

Y1/2 Phonics Screening Check – Monday 8th-Friday 12th June 2026

Y4 Multiplication Check – Monday 1st-Friday 12th June 2026

Year 6 SATs – This month, our Year 6 children will be taking their SATs tests. We are incredibly proud of how hard they have worked and the positive attitude they have shown throughout the year. We would like to remind families that a good night's sleep and a calm, positive start to the day are really important during SATs week.

SATs Timetable:

Monday: Grammar, Punctuation & Spelling papers

Tuesday: Reading paper

Wednesday: Arithmetic paper and Maths Reasoning Paper 1

Thursday: Maths Reasoning Paper 2

Free Breakfast Club – From Monday to Thursday, we will be offering a free optional breakfast for all Year 6 children before the tests. Children will receive toast and juice to help them start the day well. Children should come to the school office at 8:15am and staff will let them in. Bus children will have toast saved for them. Children already attending the school Breakfast Club will be sent over at 8:15am.

Wellbeing - We also have some fun activities planned to celebrate the children's hard work after SATs are completed: Thursday afternoon: Cricket Afternoon and McFlurries Friday morning: Wellbeing in the Woods and May Procession Crafts

Friday afternoon: Knex Challenge

ELS in Action – Year 1 parents are invited to see ELS in action on **Tuesday 2nd June at 9:15-9:45am** in the Year 1 classroom.

Phonics Screening Check Meeting – Following ELS in Action on **Tuesday 2nd June**, Mr McGoldrick will lead a short workshop **at 9:45am** about the Phonics Screening Check.

Summer Assessment Week will take place the week commencing **Monday 29th June**.

Sports Day

Date: **Friday 22nd May 2026**

Infants (Nursery, Reception, Year 1 & Year 2) – **9.30-11.30am**

Juniors (Years 3-6) – **1:15-3:15pm**

- Junior pupils will watch the Infant events and vice versa.

- Please ensure you child has the correct team colour t-shirt to wear on the day. If you're unsure of your child's team colour, please contact the school office.

- Spectators are not limited – the more the merrier!

- Spectators must remain seated. Pupils will not be allowed to visit spectators. We ask that spectators adhere to this.

- Younger children or toddlers are welcome to attend.

- Entry and exit will be through the car park gate.

- The gate will be locked at 9.45am and 1.30pm.

- Spectators must bring their own chair or picnic blanket.

- St Joseph's Cabin will be the designated toilet for spectators.

A member of staff will operate the door and only allow two people in at a time. Children will use their normal toilets.

- Refreshments will be on sale.

- There will be a parents, teachers and toddler race. Bring your running shoes!

Obviously, Sports Day will be weather dependent. If the weather is against us, we will hold the event on another date. The reserve date is Friday 5th June.

PE kits will be sent home on Thursday 21st May. Children may come to school in their PE kits. Children may wear trainers or plimsols. Children will remain in their PE kits for the whole day. Please ensure plenty of sun cream is applied before school.

Children are encouraged to bring sun cream into school so they can reapply it at lunchtime. In addition, please ensure your child brings a sun cap and refillable water bottle. Please ensure all three items are named. It is planned that the juniors will watch the Infant Sports Day and vice-versa. However, this may be too much for the younger children and they may only watch part of it depending on the hot weather - a decision will be made on the day.

As the children will be outside all day, please can you make sure your child has:

-Sun cream

-Water bottle

-Hat

-The correct coloured T-shirt matching their house team.

Due to Sports Day, there will be no Celebration Assembly on Friday.