



The Saint Raphael's News



Spring 1 February 2026/ 5th Sunday in ordinary time

Matthew 5:13-16

Jesus said "You are the light of the world."

SPRING 1 HALF TERM: The children have had a busy and exciting half term. They have worked really hard. Please see the Celebration Newsletter for photos of some of the events this half term.

CATHOLIC LIFE:

Parish Masses - Please see the parish website for the most up to date information on services at St Peter's and Raphael's Church. If you wish to contact Father Owen his phone number is 0161 338 2575.



SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMME: 2026 continues to be a special year in the lives of our children who are on the Sacramental Programme. The children and their families celebrated a beautiful Enrolment Mass in January. After the half term break, on Wednesday, 25th February, the children will celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Thank you to Father Owen and Deacon Antony for their constant help and support with this. The children are now preparing for their First Holy Communion on **Saturday 9th May, 2026** at 10am at St. Peter's and St Raphael's Catholic Church.

We are looking forward to celebrating these special occasions in the life of our children, families, parish and school.

NSPCC NUMBER DAY- The children had a great Number day. Thank you for your contributions for the NSPCC - currently we have raised £130.

UNIFORM: We have lots of donations of school uniform in excellent condition. Please either help yourself from the rail outside the reception class or speak to Miss Southworth.

WATER BOTTLES: Please could we ask that the children only have water not juice in their water bottles in the classrooms. This is following advice from dentists that sipping water regularly helps to rinse away plaque and cavity causing acid.



WORLD BOOK DAY: This year we will celebrate World Book Day on Friday 6th March. If the children want to they can dress up as a character from a book. The children will be given the World Book Day voucher before the half term holiday.

PARENTS' EVENING: The spring Parents' Evening will take place on Tuesday, 24th March and Wednesday, 25th March, 2026. Further details and booking procedures will be sent out nearer to the date.

PARENT GOVERNOR VACANCIES: We currently have vacancies for 2 parent governors. The voting process closes on Monday, 23rd February at 4pm. The votes will then be verified and the results will be announced after half term. Thank you to everyone for their support with this.

ASSEMBLIES 2025-26:

The dates for class assemblies during this academic year are below. The assemblies are Fridays at 9.05am. All are welcome.

Class	Date of Assembly	Theme
Reception	15 th May, 2026	TBC
Class 1	26 th June, 2026	TBC
Class 2	13 th March, 2026	TBC
Class 3	24 th April, 2026	TBC
Class 4	6 th February, 2026	Romans
Class 5	7 th November, 2025	Remembrance
Class 6	17 th October, 2025	Harvest

PARKING: Please could we remind you that cars are not permitted on the school drive. We all want to keep our children safe and we know how busy the school drive is at the start and end of the school day with children and adults walking up and down the drive. Parking is available on the church car park and we ask that people park with consideration for others. We also ask that parents respect private car parks that are situated around school and do not use these to park as we have had complaints from residents.

CONTACT DETAILS: Please ensure that we have the correct contact details for your children in school. If there are any changes to your mobile numbers and/or email addresses please inform us as soon as possible to ensure we have the correct contact information on our systems.

I hope everybody enjoys a lovely half term break and the opportunity to spend time with family and friends.

If you have any questions please contact school. Thank you for your continued support as we 'care, share and learn together.'

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Next Newsletter: March 2026

Mrs L. Lakner

SCHOOL DIARY

FEBRUARY 2026		
Thursday 12 th	Young Voices @ Co-op Arena	
Friday 13 th	School closes half term	3.15pm
HALF TERM HOLIDAY	Half term w/c Monday 16 th February LENT begins ASH WEDNESDAY 18 th February	
Monday 23 rd	INSET Day 3 All staff	School closed for children
Tuesday 24 th	School opens for Spring 2	8.45am
Wednesday 25 th	Sacrament of Reconciliation (First Forgiveness) @ St Peter's and St Raphael's Church	6pm
Thursday 26 th	Whole School Mass at the start of Lent	10am
MARCH 2026		
Wednesday 4 th	Full Governing Board Meeting in school	4.30pm
Friday 6 th	World Book Day and Assembly	9.05am
Friday 13 th	Class 2 Assembly Catholic Swimming Gala	9.05am Evening
Tuesday 24 th	Parents' Evening	3.30-6pm
Wednesday 25 th	Parents' Evening	3.30-6pm
WB Monday 30 th	Easter Retreat Week in school	All week
APRIL 2026		
Wednesday 1 st	School Closes for Easter	3.15pm
Wednesday 15 th	School opens for Summer 1 Term	8.45am