



# Sacred Heart Catholic Academy

## Whole School Newsletter – 2nd February 2026



*"We love and learn, with Christ at the heart of all we do."*

Dear Parents and Carers, As we move into February, we are beginning to notice the days slowly growing lighter, a hopeful reminder of new beginnings. This month, the children have continued to reflect on how we can share God's love through our everyday actions — showing kindness, patience and care for one another. Through prayer and classroom celebrations, we have been encouraged to recognise God's presence in our lives and to respond to Jesus' call by helping others and making positive choices. We hope the children can continue to share this message at home as we journey together through the term, supporting one another as we learn and grow.

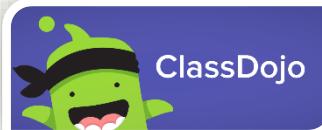
This is a jam packed newsletter – please take time to read it carefully! Thank you. Mrs Bell 😊



Year 5 children enjoying Forest School 29/1

### Class Dojo

ClassDojo is an online platform used in primary schools to share learning and celebrate children's school achievements.



Sacred Heart previously used ClassDojo, but its use was paused as it was impacting staff workload. We are now going to reintroduce it in a simpler form. Going forward, **parent communication to school will not change**. Parents should continue to follow our Communications Policy and contact the school office by email or phone when needed, including if you would like to contact your child's class teacher.

Over the next week or so, parents and carers will receive an **invitation link** to join ClassDojo. Although ClassDojo will not be in use until Monday 9th February, please follow the link so you are set up and ready to go as soon as possible.

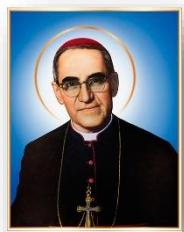
Class Dojo will be used for the Story section and one-way teacher messages, celebrating learning and sharing...

### Oscar Romero Competition

Sacred Heart School is part of a hub within our Trust called Oscar Romero. Beth, our school chaplain, is inviting children to enter the Saint Oscar Romero Hub Logo Competition.

Saint Oscar Romero believed in standing up for what is right, caring for others and speaking out for those in need. He showed great courage in living his faith. Parents are warmly encouraged to support children at home as they design a logo that reflects his values and our school community. This could be a lovely half term activity. It can be designed on paper or digitally. See poster below for further information. Good luck!

**Deadline:** Mon 9 March



### ClassDojo continued...

...key information. We hope families will enjoy this service. ClassDojo will never replace important conversations, which should always take place by phone or in person between home and school.

**PLEASE check your permissions regarding photo consent on Arbor. Please do not share content from Class Dojo on any social media. Thank you**

## Friends of Sacred Heart – Parent / Carer (PTA) - Invitation to Our First Meeting

We are excited to begin rebuilding a ‘Friends of the School’ group—something that used to be a real strength of Sacred Heart community. This will be an opportunity for parents, carers, and staff to come together to support school life in a positive and practical way.



Our aim is to bring people together to help suggest and organise school events, support fundraising, and play an active role in strengthening our partnership with The Holy Family Parish. Whether you can offer a small amount of time or take on a bigger role, every contribution is truly valued. There is no expectation or pressure—just a shared desire to help our school community flourish.

We will be holding an initial meeting to gather interest, share ideas, and begin shaping what this group could look like moving forward.

**Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> February in Year 2 classroom, 3:00 – 3:30pm**

Children will be cared for by school staff until 3:30pm for those parents joining me.

If you cannot make 3pm, please don't hesitate to join us at 3:15pm!

If you cannot make this day, please do share your interest at the school office. Please do!

Everyone is warmly welcome. Your involvement—big or small—will make a real difference, and we would love to see as many of you as possible as we get things started again.

## Lunchtimes at Sacred Heart – Eating, good habits and manners

Over the past few weeks, we have introduced a few small changes to our dinner hall routines. These are designed to help the children develop good table manners, enjoy their social time together respectfully, eat more of their lunch / school dinner, and reduce the amount of food being wasted. This is part of our global responsibility, following Catholic teaching, to be respectful of our common home.

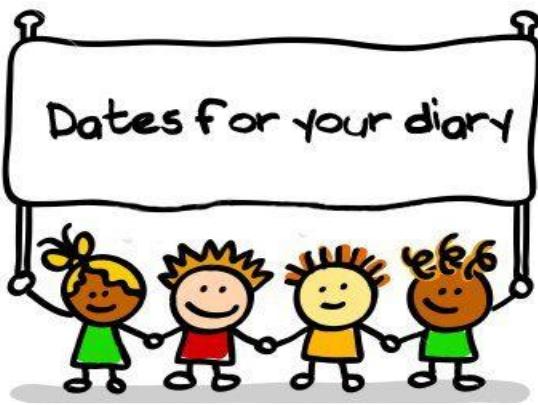
We have noticed that some children are rushing through their meals so they can get outside to play, and in some cases walking away from the table while still eating a mouthful of food. This often leads to food being dropped or left behind for our midday supervisors to clear away. We have also seen whole sandwiches, full packets of crisps, cheese strings, and even a completely wrapped pain au chocolat thrown in the bin. We want to support the children in making better choices and understanding the importance of eating well during the school day. Food they do not eat will remain in their box for them to bring home so you can monitor what your child is eating and what they enjoy.



To help with this, children are expected to remain seated until they have finished their meal. When they are done, they simply put their hand up and a midday supervisor will let them know when they are able to leave the table. They will be praised for eating well. We are encouraging children to eat the main part of their lunch first (sandwiches or hot meal), followed by fruit or other items.

If you include a treat in your child’s lunchbox, please keep chocolate bars small in size and limited to one item. A good lunch really does make a difference to their energy, focus, and wellbeing throughout the afternoon, so please do talk to your child about the importance of eating enough.

Finally, many children would benefit from practising using a knife and fork correctly. This is an important life skill and also supports the development of fine motor skills. Please do support your child with this.



Please scroll down  
to the next page



### Bags of Blessings Appeal

We are extremely grateful to Bags of Blessings for their continued support, helping to provide gifts for some of our families and for many children beyond our school community each Christmas. This would not be possible without the generosity of families like yourselves, local groups and businesses who work together to support those in need.



As part of our commitment to Catholic Social Teaching, putting those in need before ourselves, we would love families to get involved in helping with Bags of Blessings Easter project. You could donate small Easter- / spring themed art items, colouring books, felt-tip pens, decorating activities or even Easter bunny ears. All donations are warmly welcomed and will be shared with children through the Bags of Blessings charity.



### Parents Meetings - 9<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> February

Parents' meetings are approaching. Parents and carers will have a 10-minute appointment with their class teacher to talk how your child is getting on at school, both academically and in terms of wellbeing. We encourage everyone to book a slot so you can secure a time that works best for you.

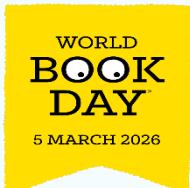
These meetings take place during teachers' directed time, which allows us to ensure that all families are offered an opportunity to meet within the planned dates. For this reason, teachers are not expected to make additional appointments outside of these times, except in exceptional circumstances. Thank you for your understanding and support.



The **Year 3** meetings scheduled for Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> February unfortunately needs rearranging. They will now take place on **Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> February, after half term**. Miss Bowen or an office staff member will be in touch with those who have already booked to check that you are happy with the same time slot you have booked, for this date. Apologies for this change. **Appointments for Monday 9<sup>th</sup> February have NOT changed.**

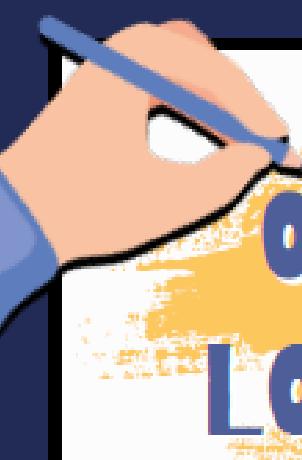
### World Book Day 2026 – Book Swap

Children, are you a big fan of World Book Day, like Mrs Read? She already has her costume already! Or, are you like Mrs Bell, hoping to avoid the dressing up, at all costs? No matter what, this day is always a day of fun and excitement about 'all things books!' Start preparing! Appropriate, warm pyjamas are also welcome alongside sensible footwear. On the day, we will be holding a 'Book Swap' so we are asking you to start looking through the books you have at home and consider bringing them into school to donate, ready to take one or two home, on the day. Donated books must be in a good condition, please.



## Whole School Dates for your Diary

Mon 9 <sup>th</sup> February 2026	Parents Consultation 2- 6pm	
Tues 10 <sup>th</sup> February 2026	Non-uniform Day – Everyone to bring a chocolate bar / Easter egg or art activity or item to contribute to our Easter raffle.	
Wed 11 <sup>th</sup> February 2026	Chinese New Year menu – see poster next to the front door of school	
Wed 11 <sup>th</sup> February 2026	<b>CODA photographs for the website – children in full school uniform</b>	
Thurs 12 <sup>th</sup> February 2026	<b>Parent Consultation 2 – 4pm (except Year 3* - rescheduled for 26<sup>th</sup> Feb)</b>	
Thurs 12 <sup>th</sup> February 2026	Year 3 Trip to Magna	
Fri 13 <sup>th</sup> February 2026	OLOL Trust INSET Day – school closed for staff training	
16 – 20 <sup>th</sup> February 2026	<b>Half Term*</b>	
Wed 18 <sup>th</sup> February 2026	* Ash Wednesday – more information to follow * LENT begins	
Mon 23 <sup>rd</sup> Feb 2026	9am Celebration of the Word: Lent - Parents welcome (ashes will be given)	
Thurs 26 <sup>th</sup> Feb 2026	F1 and F2 Theatre Trip	
Thurs 26 <sup>th</sup> Feb 2026	<b>Y3 Parent's Meetings 2 – 4pm</b>	
Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> March 2026	<b>World Book Day – please start donating books for the 'Big Book Swap!'</b>	
Fri 6 <sup>th</sup> March 2026	Big Lent Walk – raising money for CAFOD	
Mon 9 <sup>th</sup> March 2026	Lent Activity Day	
Wed 18 <sup>th</sup> March 2026	2:30pm Reconciliation Service in school	
	3 – 5pm First Reconciliation – children to attend church with family members	
Wed 25 <sup>th</sup> March 2026	Y3 and Y4 lead our Easter Performance in Sacred Heart Church - children in these classes will remain at school, ready for the performance.	
Thurs 26 <sup>th</sup> March 2026	Easter Event – after school TBC	
Fri 27 <sup>th</sup> March 2026	2:30pm Service of Light	
	Break up for Easter Holidays	
<b>Provisional dates for the rest of the academic year</b>		
Wed 22 <sup>nd</sup> April 2026	<b>Earth Day</b> – Caring for our Common Home	
Mon 11 <sup>th</sup> May 2026	Year 6 SATs Week	
Thurs 21 <sup>st</sup> May 2026	Year 4 Sleepover	
Mon 1 <sup>st</sup> June 2026	Cultural Diversity Day	
Mon 1 <sup>st</sup> , 8 <sup>th</sup> June 2026	Year 4 Multiplication Check Week	
Mon 8 <sup>th</sup> June 2026	Year 1 Phonics Assessment Week	
Fri 12 <sup>th</sup> June 2026	Celebration of the Feast of the Sacred Heart 12 – 1pm Community Picnic Colour Dash Charity Event	
Thurs 18 <sup>th</sup> June 2026	9:15am EYFS Sports Day 1:30pm Y1 and Y2 Sports Day	
Fri 19 <sup>th</sup> June 2026	Y3 and Y4 Sports Day Y5 and Y6 Sports Day	
Tues 23 <sup>rd</sup> June 2026	Y3 First Holy Communion Celebration in school - 9am Celebration of the Word - 2pm Party	
Fri 26 <sup>th</sup> June 2026	Y2 Trip to Attenborough Nature Reserve	
Fri 3 <sup>rd</sup> July 2026	2pm Summer Fair	
Tues 21 <sup>st</sup> July 2026	Mass to Celebrate the end of the School Year	
Fri 24 <sup>th</sup> July 2026	Final Day of Term	



# OSCAR ROMERO HUB LOGO COMPETITION

We are inviting ALL students across the Saint Oscar Romero Hub to help shape our future by designing a brand-new Hub logo.

This is your chance to create something meaningful that represents our faith, our schools, and Saint Oscar Romero.

## How to Enter

Design a logo that represents:  
Saint Oscar Romero, and/or  
The Saint Oscar Romero Hub and the  
unity of our schools

Your logo can be:

- Hand-drawn, or
- Created digitally

Once completed, send a picture or a scan to [chaplains@christtheking.notts.sch.uk](mailto:chaplains@christtheking.notts.sch.uk) with your name, year group and school  
OR give to Beth and Vicky, Lay Chaplains

**Deadline**  
**MONDAY 9TH MARCH**  
**2026**

## WHO CAN ENTER?

Students from all five schools in the  
Saint Oscar Romero Hub:

- Holy Cross Primary
- Saint Margaret Clitherow Primary
- Sacred Heart Primary
- Good Shepherd Primary
- Christ the King Secondary

Every student can enter - all ages and  
abilities are welcome.



The winning designs will become part of the official  
**OSCAR ROMERO HUB LOGO**

The logo will be used across our Hub schools on displays, documents, and communications.