

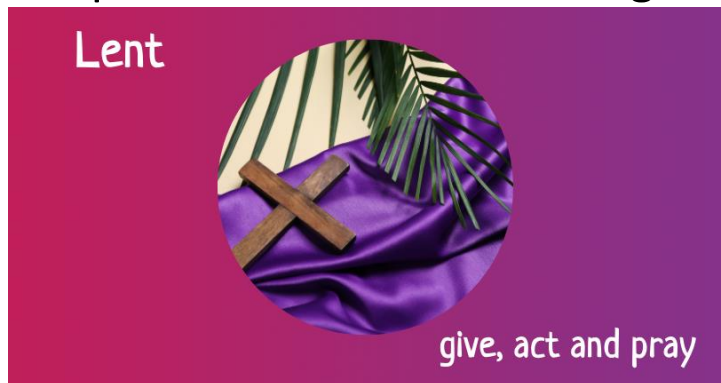
Academic Year 2025-26

Friday 6th March 2026

Dear Parents & Carers,

Catholic Life

Gospel Value for March: Forgiveness



Dear Jesus
Thank you for always forgiving us. Help us to forgive others when it feels hard or unfair. Give us kind hearts that say sorry, Accept apologies and choose peace instead of anger. Teach us to love like you do
Amen

In school this week, we have particularly been praying for peace in our troubled world.

Lenten Mass

Thank you to Father Francis for joining us to celebrate our Lenten Mass on Wednesday morning, which was ably led by St Carlo Class. It was a very prayerful and reflective mass, which focussed on our Lenten Mission and Gospel Value of forgiveness and acting in Lent to improve our relationship with God. Thank you to so many parents and friends for joining us.

Stations of the Cross

On Friday 13 March at 730pm, the St John the Baptist Youth Club are leading Stations of the Cross at St John the Baptist Church in Purley. We would like to invite all young people to experience this 20-minute moment of prayer focused on our Lord's journey to Calvary. To participate in the Stations, come to Youth club this Sunday, 4:15-5:45pm.

Why not pray the stations with your children at home? [Stations of the Cross: Lent 2026](#) You could just focus on one station each day as part of your family prayer life and doing something positive for Lent.

Lent Photo Competition

This Lent, we are inviting children once again to take part in our "**Lent through a Lens**" photo competition! Lent is a time of reflection, kindness, and new beginnings, and we want to see the ways you can spot in the world around you.

What to Do:

Take a photo of something that reminds you of Lent—this could be a blooming flower, a bright sunrise, an act of kindness, or anything that shows light in the darkness.

How to Enter:

Send your photo to Miss Holloway

violet@margaretroper.croydon.sch.uk

add your name and class and make sure you also include a sentence or two explaining what signs of hope your photo shows

Prizes:

All the photos will be displayed in school and in future newsletters and there will be prizes for the winning photos.

Let's capture the hope and joy that Lent brings! We can't wait to see your photos! ✨

Assessment Week – Spring Term

Next week is Assessment Week across the whole school.

During this time, children will complete short, age-appropriate assessments in class. These simply help us monitor how your child is progressing and getting on and allow the teachers to plan the next steps in learning.

There is nothing extra for children to prepare for! We just encourage them to come to school as usual and try their best!

Mrs Garcia

PTA News

A message from Louise, our PTA Chair:

Hi everyone, we are so excited to share that our Mum's Surprise Room will be taking place on Friday 13th March! 🙌

Many of you will remember we ran this for the first-time last year and it was such a wonderful success. The children absolutely loved having the chance to choose and buy a special gift for someone important in their lives.

Every child will have the opportunity to buy one gift during the school day. Each gift will cost £2, so please send your child into school with £2 on Friday 13th. After school, we will be selling any leftover gifts.

To help us make this event just as magical again this year, we would really appreciate your support. If you have any gifts or wrapping paper that you're able to donate, please send them into school by Tuesday 10th March. Every contribution, big or small, will help make this event extra special for the children.

Thank you so much for your continued support."

Please see the flyer below. As Louise says, we could still do with some more gifts to sell, please leave your donations at the school office. Our Faith Leaders will be working with the PTA committee to wrap gifts purchased on the day.

Thank you to Louise and the team for organizing the book week costume sale last week – it is great to see costumes being re-used in line with our 'Stewardship' mission from Catholic Social Teaching.

Similarly, thanks to everyone involved in running and supporting our 'Book Swap' yesterday on World Book day. This offers a new lease of life for pre-loved books as well as promoting a love of reading.



Our Faith Leaders have proposed a 'Toy swap' following the same principle - Share a toy - Caring for our planet – Coming Soon - Watch this space!

Sports Day has been booked for Friday 19th June and **school will finish at 1pm** on that day, after our family picnic.

Parents Evening – Take Place the week after next.

If you have not yet booked, there is still time to do so.

Please log in through <https://margaretpercatholic.parentseveningsystem.co.uk>

If you experience any problems or require any further assistance with the booking, please contact me via the office email: office@margaretper.croydon.sch.uk

Driving onto the school site & access to the school office

Could parents/carers please note that It is strictly a 5mph zone all the way up through our school grounds. We have seen 2 parents at least coming round into our car park doing way more than this. It is quite scary.

Parents/carers are not allowed to park in the school car park without a permit from school office. Mrs Garcia will be doing random spot checks.

Access to the school office:

If parents/carers want to come in to the school building to visit the office before or after school please do so through the school main doors not through the playground doors. The white doors leading onto the playground are only for pupil and staff access at all times. This is a safeguarding matter.

Sports Reports

Netball Report – On Friday last week, the A team played an away match at Purley Oaks. A few of the players couldn't make it so we had to swap in a few B team players. We were one player short, so we borrowed a player from Purley Oaks. Everybody playing represented the school amazingly well! In the first half, quite quickly, we got a goal, then a few more scored by Greatness, followed by two from Evie. The opposition managed to score one and we led 6-1 at half-time.

In the second half, it got harder, but we persevered and scored five more (Greatness 4 & Evie 1) and that brought the final score to 11-1 to us! On Behalf of the netball team we would like to say a thank you to Purley Oaks for lending us a player and to Coach Cindy. Report by Diana.

Please see the notice below about Girls' Football. After our great win last week, it's encouraging to see girls' football growing in stature – encourage your girls to get involved>

Award winners this week:

Class	Stars of the Week	Writer of the week	Maths Star
St Rose	Mete & Helen	Avah	Harry S
St Martin de Porres	Aishu & Georgia	Albert	Gabriella
St Benedict	Phoebe & Aidan	George	Adha
St John Paul	Eva-Maria & Jacob	Amber-Brielle	Sean
St Carlo Acutis	All of St Carlo Class	Ella	Emi
St Joseph	Riccardo & Phoebe	Kayden	Jacob
St Oscar Romero	Joni & Aanya	Firdaws	Andrew

Very well done everyone!

Happy Birthday to, Albert, Emma, Raffaella, Eliza, Joshna & Rye who have had their birthdays recently

This week's Attendance Awards are as follows:

Y2 & Y6 - 100 % Highest Attendance Award

Reception - 100% Punctuality Award again this week

Congratulations to you all!



ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST
YOUTH CLUB INVITE YOU TO



THE STATIONS OF THE CROSS

13 MARCH 2026

FRIDAY, 7:30 PM

AT ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST CHURCH

20 MINUTES OF
MEDITATIVE PRAYER AND
SONG CREATED AND
PERFORMED BY AND FOR
YOUNG PEOPLE



**THIS IS AN ACCESSIBLE EVENT,
DESIGNED TO BE ENJOYED BY ALL AGES**



Class contact email addresses

The best way to contact your child’s class teacher, if the matter is not urgent, is to email them. Class email addresses correspond to the class colour followed by @margaretroper.croydon.sch.uk. Class email addresses are for routine matters; if you wish to discuss anything more complex, please email the school office. If you cc in the class email when sending a message to the office, that also helps!

Therefore, they are as follows:

Reception)	Mrs. Chandler	red@margaretroper.croydon.sch.uk
Year 1	Miss Kelly	orange@margaretroper.croydon.sch.uk
Year 2	Mrs. Wallace	yellow@margaretroper.croydon.sch.uk
Year 3	Miss May	green@margaretroper.croydon.sch.uk
Year 4	Mr. Bathmaker	blue@margaretroper.croydon.sch.uk
Year 5	Miss Jackson	indigo@margaretroper.croydon.sch.uk
Year 6	Miss Holloway	violet@margaretroper.croydon.sch.uk

The After-School Club telephone number is 020 8668 0945

If you need to contact the team, after 3pm, please use this number.

Caring, Learning and Achieving together as part of God’s Family

Have a lovely weekend.
Mr. Mooney

Girls Football Opportunity

Dear all

Three months ago, we started Croydon Girls Football training on Sunday mornings at Heavers Farm Primary School. Thank you to all the schools who have encouraged your girls to come join us.

Although we have over 30 girls already it's slightly disappointing that these girls are joining us from only 8 of the 84 Primary Schools in Croydon. This is a massive opportunity for your girls to learn new skills and make new friends in a supportive and comfortable GIRLS ONLY environment. PLEASE PLEASE PLEASE can you reach out to any girls in your school in years 4-6 who have a passion for football. All abilities are welcome.

Our plan is to train every Sunday morning 9:30-11am until the end of the academic year. We will then select players at u10-u12 age groups for next seasons Tandridge Sunday League. Players who don't make it into a team will be placed into our player development program to help them to progress whilst also having an emphasis on enjoying the game so as to improve their physical and mental health.

This only works if every single school supports our vision to be the ONLY girls football club in central Croydon. Please do everything you can to give these girls the opportunity they deserve. Speak to your players, speak to your parents. Let's finally put Croydon girls on the map and fill a huge void that has existed for too long.

To join, parents need to call or message me on 07715 687607. Please ensure this number is only given to parents and not to the children. I will then add them to the club WhatsApp so they can get updates on training days and timings. First session is free and then it's only £5 per week thereafter. If you are worried that parents won't be able to afford it, don't be. We will happily offer free scholarships to talented athletes. We don't want anyone to miss out on this incredible opportunity for financial reasons.

I look forward to hearing from you all soon.

Many thanks,

Mickey Mullin
PE Teacher
South Norwood Primary School

TFL Roadworks – Important advance notice.

We received this notice from TFL recently. Please note the below. It may mean that your journey to school may be delayed – I imagine we won't fully know the impact until the work commences.

Dear Head Teacher

I am writing to inform you that our term contractor FM Conway, on behalf of the Council and Transport for London (Assets operations) will be undertaking essential drainage works on Foxley Lane between its junction with Banstead Road and Woodcote Valley Road. The essential works are to address the frequent and sometimes severe flooding at the bottom of Banstead Road by the Purley Library. The works are being completed in 2 phases:

Phase 1 – covers between Banstead Road and Plough Lane and involves repair works to a carrier pipe located at a depth of 3m within 2 chambers, repair works to existing gully pots/soakaways, installation of new gully pots and other works necessary to improve any issues arising from the drainage network.

Phase 2 – covers between Plough Lane and Woodcote Road and involves repair works to existing gully pots/soakaways, installation of new gully pots and other works necessary to improve any issues arising from the drainage network.

Phase 1 is scheduled to commence on **Saturday 28 March 2026** and completed by **Friday 17 April 2026**, subject to no unforeseen circumstances. The works would be completed under a road closure, and diversion routes would be put in place. The Council is working with neighbouring boroughs Sutton and Surrey as well as Transport for London, Buses, and Highways England, to secure a traffic management solution that will ease the impact on local traffic movement. Full details of the traffic management and diversion routes will be communicated to you once these have been finalised and approved by the relevant stakeholders.

Phase 2 is scheduled to commence on **Monday 20 April 2026** and completed by **Sunday 17 May 2026**, subject to no unforeseen circumstances. The works would be completed under temporary traffic lights. Full details of the traffic management will be communicated to you once these have been finalised and approved by the relevant stakeholders. If there are changes to the start and/or end dates, you will be updated in due course.

Due to the nature of these works, it is inevitable that disruptions/delays will occur. As such, advance driver/resident information boards will be put in place approx. 2/3 weeks prior to the works commencing, advising of the precise dates and times of the traffic management. A notification letter will be delivered to affected residents and messages will be published on various social media platforms. If there are changes in the scheduled dates due to unforeseen reasons, the information on the road signs will be changed accordingly. Drivers and residents are advised to check the road signs regularly for any updates and where possible, use alternative routes and allow extra time to complete their journey.

During the road closure, TfL Buses will establish diversion routes for its buses and communicate this information to its bus operators and passengers. For information on the alternative routes for buses whilst on diversion, passengers should contact TfL Buses by calling 0343 222 1234. **Please note that the diversion of buses would have an impact on school journey times.** Therefore, this information should be shared to parents/guardians so that they can make alternative arrangements in advance.

Whilst the contractor will do all that is feasible to keep the disruptions down to a minimum, the council appeals for the patience and understanding of drivers and residents while these essential works take place. Access will be always maintained for pedestrians during the works, and arrangements will be put in place for emergency services and the bin collection vehicles. To further reduce disruption the contractor has agreed to extend their working hours from Monday to Sunday, 7am – 7pm. The cooperation of drivers and residents is requested to ensure that the essential drainage works are completed safely and as quickly as possible. The contractor's operatives on site will be available to help in the event of any emergency. The Council would like to apologise for any inconvenience and distress the essential works may cause.

Should you have any queries regarding this matter, please contact highwaysmaintenance@croydon.gov.uk.

March 2026

March continues the season of Lent, a time when children are encouraged to slow down, reflect, and prepare their hearts for the events of Holy Week and the celebration of Easter.

Across the month, children will listen to Scripture, take time to pray, and reflect on how Jesus guides and strengthens them, during their Lenten journey and throughout their lives.

This newsletter shares some of the content children will experience in school throughout March, and suggests ways for you to engage with them about it. We hope it is a useful resource for your family prayer time.

GLORY - WE SAY 'YES!'

In the week beginning 2nd March, children reflect on the Gospel account of when Jesus revealed His glory to some of His closest friends. Through the story of the Transfiguration (Matthew 17:1-9), children learn how Jesus chose to show who He truly is to Peter, James and John, helping them to see more clearly and grow their faith and trust in Him.

In this special moment of revelation, God the Father's voice affirmed Jesus as His beloved Son. Children are encouraged to think about what it means to believe in who Jesus truly is and how they can grow closer to Him as His friends. They are also invited to reflect on ways they can recognise and give thanks for Jesus' presence in their own lives, even when they cannot see Him as the disciples did.

With your child/ren, you may also like to...

- *Look at an image of the Transfiguration and ask what your child notices about Jesus and the disciples.*
- *Talk together about what it means to give God glory, perhaps by noticing good things in your day and saying thank you for them.*
- *Share a quiet moment together, inviting your child to talk about what they are learning about Jesus and how they are getting to know Him better.*

LOVE - WE SAY 'YES!'

In the week beginning 9 March, children reflect on the Gospel of John, where Jesus met a Samaritan woman at a well (John 4:5-42). Through this story, children learn that Jesus chose to spend time with someone who others ignored or avoided, showing that His love is offered to everyone.

Children hear how Jesus spoke openly with the Samaritan woman and helped her to understand more about who He is. They are encouraged to think about how Jesus knows each one of us personally and invites everyone to respond to His love. Through prayer and reflection, children consider how saying "Yes!" to Jesus' love can shape the way they treat others and the choices they make each day.

With your child/ren, you may also like to...

- *Talk about how Jesus showed care and attention to the Samaritan woman, and why this was important.*
- *Encourage your child to think about ways they can show kindness and care to others, especially those who may feel left out.*
- *Take a moment to reflect together on how getting to know Jesus better can help guide everyday actions and attitudes.*

HOLY WEEK

As Lent continues, children are encouraged to prepare for Holy Week, the final week of Jesus' life on Earth, leading to the celebration of Easter. Schools have access to a Stations of the Cross resource, which helps children follow Jesus' journey to the Cross in a simple and reflective way.

Children may also take part in a Holy Week prayer resource, these prayers are guided by retellings of the events of Holy Week, from the perspective of Jesus Himself.

Why not listen to the Friday prayer audio clip through the Online Parent Portal with your child/ren and make time to pause and reflect on the journey Jesus takes to the Cross in your own family prayer time.

CONFIDENCE IN GOD'S POWER

During the week beginning 23 March, the daily prayers focus on growing in confidence in God's power. Inspired by the Gospel account of Jesus raising Lazarus from the dead (John 11:3-45), children reflect on how Jesus shows God's power at work, even in situations that seem impossible.

Our Lenten song 'Walk Along With Jesus' is used throughout the daily prayers and can be accessed on the Online Parent Portal for family prayer time at home. You may also like to use the prayer below, which encourages trust in God's power.

Loving God,
with your powerful help,
help us grow strong in faith and trust in you.
Teach us to love as Jesus loved
and to live in ways that glorify your holy name.
We ask this through Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, forever and ever.
Amen