



Academic Year 2025-26

Thursday 12th February 2026

Dear Parents & Carers,

Catholic Life

Gospel Value for February: Love

In February, we will be considering how we respond to the teachings of Christ in his bidding to '*Love one another as I have loved you*' **John 13:34**

It is not merely a suggestion, but a requirement for discipleship, defining how followers of Christ are to interact with one another. This means that we should always endeavour to be:

- **Sacrificial & Selfless:** It is a love that lays down one's life, as Jesus did on the cross. It involves prioritizing the well-being of others over personal comfort.
- **Unconditional:** This love is not based on deservingness, but rather on the imitation of God's grace. Jesus modelled this by washing the feet of all his disciples, including Judas, who was about to betray him.
- **Active, Not Passive:** It is not merely a feeling, but a decision and a action—serving, forgiving, and uplifting others.

How to show Love:

We act as witnesses to the world by demonstrating the transforming power of Jesus' love in our daily lives.

- **Service and Humility:** The washing of the feet is a direct instruction to act as servants, taking on humble tasks for the sake of others.
- **Forgiveness:** Following Christ's example requires forgiving others, even when it is difficult.
- **Eucharistic Connection:** The context of this command is the Last Supper (Maundy Thursday), linking this love to the Eucharist, where Jesus offers his body and blood, and to the calling to "do this in memory of me" (Luke 22:19), which means to serve as he served.
- **Opposing "Selfish Ambition":** The call is to move away from self-centeredness and toward a life of service.

Children of the Light: [Children of the Light \(Lyric Video\) - Cinq Soeurs](#)

A New Commandment: [A New Commandment | Hymns old and new | Emmaus Music](#)

PTA News

World Book Day – PTA Events

We are excited to let you know that the PTA will be helping to organise some special events for World Book Day.

Book Swap

We will be holding a Book Swap in the afternoon of Thursday 5th March. In order for this to take place, we need lots of book donations! Please could each child bring in at least one book that they no longer read by Friday 27th February. The PTA will then sort the books and organise the swap ready for the event.

Second-Hand Costume Sale

On World Book Day (Thursday 5th March), children are invited to come to school dressed as their favourite book character. To help support families with costumes, the PTA will be holding a second-hand fancy dress sale after school on Friday 27th February (this will take place instead of our usual Tuck Shop). We would greatly appreciate donations of any fancy-dress costumes in good condition. Please send these into school by the morning of Friday 27th February so that we can organise them ready for the sale that afternoon.

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

Parents Evening

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

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

Maths Quiz Team

Last Wednesday, Rajvivaan, Aron, Aadhish and Gabby went to the area maths quiz at St Thomas Beckett School. There were 18 teams there as most of the schools had brought two teams. For each question, everyone could give their own answer, but if only one of us got it correct we only got a quarter of the available points. There were 30 questions and we saw where we were ranked after every 5 questions. The first 10 questions were for 20 points and at the end of the round we were close to halfway; around 89th, I think. The next 10 questions were for 60 points which was much harder and at the end we were just around halfway. Just close enough to catch up! The final 10 were for 100 points and were very difficult; after 5 of them we were in 7th and at the end we were in 6th. On the last question, I missed the question, which was annoying because we could have got the points. It was really hard, but I think we all did our level best. Report by Gabby – Team Euclid

On 28th January we went to St Thomas Beckett School for a general maths quiz. There were 9 schools and 18 teams. Our team was Firdaws, Mirin, Andrew & Kayden. We did well in the first round; coming in 5th place. The other round was hard but we came 6th place. As the rounds went on they became harder and

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


harder and we ended up 16th place. Even though it was very hard, we were still really proud to be selected to go to the maths quiz. St Mary's Junior finished in 1st place. Report by Firdaws – Team Archimedes.

Ed's note: I was extremely proud of our more-able maths quiz players – they mustn't forget that they were selected to play against the best mathematicians in the borough and did extremely well with great enthusiasm. I think that most of us would really struggle with the complexity of the questions and the speed needed to calculate. I'd love to have an adult team compete against the children. By way of illustration, below are a couple of the questions the children faced – you have 60 seconds only to answer each one!

60
26/30

00 100

A van driver is delivering 130 parcels. 30 parcels weigh 1.2kg each, 45 parcels weigh 1.8kg each and 55 parcels weigh 950 grams each. What is the combined weight of all parcels in kg?



A 162.25 kg B 169.25 kg
C 160.5 kg D 156.5 kg

57
14/30

00 100

Which of the following is correct?

A $150 = (4 \text{ to power of } 4 - 98) \div 3 + 110 - 12$
B $150 = 5^3 + 5 + 160 - 5$
C $150 = (6^2 \times 3) \times 3 + 2 - 49$
D $150 = 3^3 + 3 \times 8 + 136 - 58$

Sports Reports



On Thursday 5th we played Howard Primary and won 5-1! It was a wet and damp day but we powered through it. They were tall but we could mark them well and score some goals. In the first half, Evie and Mirin managed to score one goal each, putting us in the lead but unfortunately Howard also scored a goal. In the second half it started to pour rain and the ball was very slippery. Nonetheless, Mirin and Evie managed to score three goals together. I feel like we played really well and we are happy that we won. Congratulations to Evie for being player of the match. Report by Greatness.

On Thursday 29th January the A netball team played a home match against Regina Coeli. We all played really well. They were a hard team, but we persevered. In the first half, Evie and Greatness scored 2 goals each. Coeli managed to score 4 as well, but in the second half we were determined to try for the lead. Unfortunately, Coeli scored 5 more goals and we lost 9-4. We're still proud of ourselves. Report by Diana

On 29th January the B team played against Regina Coeli. Everyone played really well; Regina Coeli are very good. In the end we scored three goals through Phoebe & Tomisin. The opposition scored six, so they won. Even though we lost I think we had good sportsmanship. On behalf of our team, I think that everyone played well and needs congratulating. We would like to thank Coach Cindy for helping us and supporting us so much. Report by Joni.

Last Thursday the football team had a semi-final of the small schools cup against Gresham School. We played very well and we did not give up once. We lost, unfortunately, but we tried our best; it was just one of those days. The opposition are a very good team and it was a very fair game that ended 3:2 to Gresham after extra time. Scores for us were Rafferty and Sam. We will go again next game! Report by Stanley.

Ed's note – and they did go again! I was pleased to be able to see part of the game against Beaumont this week – I haven't yet received a match report but will publish when I can. Well done chaps! I have been difficult with the weather recently with a number of fixtures rained out, but we'll keep building and showing great team spirit.

Award winners this week:

| Class | Stars of the Week | Writer of the week | Maths Star |
|---------------------|-------------------|--------------------|------------|
| St Rose | Harry S & David | Jayce | Aristides |
| St Martin de Porres | Cole & Albert | Nebyou | Aishu |
| St Benedict | Stepha & Jerah | Kendra | Olivia |
| St John Paul | Ava & Will | Noah L | Jeremiah |
| St Carlo Acutis | Inaya & Lucy | Nina | Ebosetale |
| St Joseph | All of Y5 | Joshna | Poppy |
| St Oscar Romero | Carmina & Callum | Joni | Lori |

Very well done everyone!

Happy Birthday to, Megan & Joshua who have had their birthdays recently.



This week's Attendance Awards are as follows:

Y6 - 94% Highest Attendance Award - well done!
No 100% Punctuality Award again this week

Important Notice

Miss Middleton, our attendance officer, and I met with our Education Welfare Officer earlier in the week. One of the factors that is of concern to us is punctuality in the morning. The school gates open at 8.15, the main doors open at 8.25am and children are expected to be in class by 8.30am when registration commences. I daily see families arriving at or close to 8.40am, by which time the register has been taken and the children are late. **The EWO has advised me that, in order to ensure that children are in class on time, I should close the alley gate at 8.30am**, which will require any pupils arriving after this time to come into school through the front entrance (which will require a long walk round from the alley gate). Could parents please note this and ensure that you arrive prior to 8.30am; I will not be able to keep the gate open and let you in until 8.40am, which is my current practice.

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.

Remember that next Friday 13th February is an INSET Day at the end of the half term. Our staff will be joining staff from our other Croydon Catholic Schools for a joint training day on 'Transforming Prayer and Liturgy'

Have a lovely weekend.

Mr. Mooney

Cupid's Disco



Let's Dance!

Thursday 12th February

Mufti Day All Day

Infants 15:00-16:15

Juniors 16:30-18:00

£3.50 per child

Payment via ParentPay

Dancing, games and treats

Tuck shop at Junior Disco (bring some cash)

TENTEN Newsletter - February 2026

February brings the first signs of Spring and new life, and our resources offer gentle inspiration for learning and growing. This month invites children to reflect on how we can be encouraged by the lives of the saints and faithful followers of Jesus.

As the month continues, we begin Lent, a time to prepare, pray and renew our friendship with God. Through the Lenten assembly series, children explore what it means to say “Yes!” to God, and the series of daily prayers helps them grow in confidence as they walk along with Jesus on their Lenten journey.

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

FRASSATI - THE MAN OF THE BEATITUDES

In the week beginning 2nd February, children are introduced to Jesus’ teaching in the Beatitudes (Matthew 5:1-12), learning that true happiness comes from friendship with God and choosing ways of living that reflect the Gospel.

Through the example of St Pier Giorgio Frassati, children see how we can put others first through simple, thoughtful choices, allowing the Beatitudes to guide our own words and actions. You might want to watch our video about St Pier Giorgio on the Online Parent Portal and discover how he received the title ‘man of the Beatitudes’.

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

- *Talk about the word “blessed” in the context of Jesus’ words (which is also translated as ‘happy’) and what this might mean in everyday life.*
- *Share examples of people who, like St Pier Giorgio, show kindness quietly and consider small ways to put others first during the week.*

SALT OF THE EARTH

The assembly for the second week of February, gives children another opportunity to reflect on Jesus’ words: “You are the salt of the Earth.” (Matthew 5:13-16) Just as salt enhances and brings out the best in food, Jesus calls us to consider how our words and actions can bring out the best in themselves and others.

Children learn that they can be a positive influence on others as they grow in faith and love, and that even small actions can help to brighten the world around them.

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

- *Try a simple cooking activity together, noticing how a little salt changes and brings out the flavour of food, just as through following Jesus we can help bring ‘flavour’, to enhance our lives and the lives of others.*

- *Talk about how small acts of kindness and encouragement can make a difference to others, and think of ways they can help people this week.*

CONFIDENCE IN GOD'S WORD

This month's daily prayers help children begin Lent by thinking about having confidence in God's Word. They learn that in the desert, (Matthew 4:1-11) Jesus remembered the Scriptures, finding strength to resist temptation and choose God's way. Children are encouraged to walk along with Jesus and grow in confidence as they listen to and trust in God's Word.

You might like to listen to our Lenten song on the Online Parent Portal, 'Walking along with Jesus', as part of your family prayer time and/or use this prayer which encourages us to trust in God's guidance.

**Almighty God,
through this season of Lent,
help us to learn more about Jesus
and the wonderful gifts He gives us.
May our words and actions show that we belong to Him.
We ask this through Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, forever and ever.**