



St Pius Spotlight

'To renew all things in Christ'



19.12.25

Dear Parents and Carers,

The holidays begin! This week we have enjoyed sharing our Christmas performances with you, as well as our pantomime trip and Christmas parties. Fr. John finished the week off for us with a beautiful mass to prepare us for the upcoming celebration.

Thank you to all those who were able to attend our nativities this week and who contributed to our raffle. It has been lovely to share the Advent season with you.

We will return to school on Monday 5th January and begin another lovely term together.

In the meantime, from all of the staff here at St Pius, we wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Best wishes as always,

Miss Hudson

Attendance

During celebration assembly on Friday, we have been celebrating whole class attendance and each week the class with the highest attendance will receive our Anna the Attendance Cat to live in their class all week! Well done to Class 1 who won this week.



Week beginning: Monday 1st December 2025	
Year group	Attendance percentage
Class 1	100%
Class 2	98.1%
Class 3	98.3%
Class 4	96.9%



Our overall school attendance this week was 98.3%. Our attendance target is 97%.

Advent Service

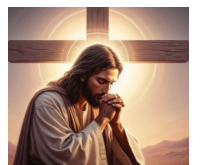


There will be a special Advent Service at St Pius X Church on Sunday 21st December at 3pm. During this service, children will take a lead and all are welcome to attend.



This Sunday is the fourth Sunday in Advent, and represents Jesus' love for us.

Lord Jesus, we thank you for your love and celebrate your coming birth.



Pupil Wellbeing Conversations

It can feel difficult to know how to start a conversation with a pupil about their wellbeing. Sometimes this is because you don't feel equipped with the information you think you need, or you don't feel confident enough to open up the conversation. This guide shows you what action to take and how to handle a mental health disclosure.

1. NURTURE WARM, TRUSTED, KIND RELATIONSHIPS

When pupils have a consistent, emotionally available adult who shows they care and who 'holds them in mind', they thrive. They are also more willing to open up about their wellbeing and seek your support.

2. CREATE A SAFE ENVIRONMENT

Provide a classroom environment which is free from belittling and shame-based behaviour management. This will help pupils feel they can share worries, talk about their feelings, know they are listened to and difficulties are acted upon.

7. LOOK AFTER YOUR OWN WELLBEING

To be able to help pupils with their wellbeing, the adults around them need to be regulated and calm. It is so important that you know what helps you manage and make time for wellbeing in your life.



6. KEEP CALM, EVEN IF YOU'RE WORRIED

In situations where pupils disclose mental health difficulties, keep calm whilst expressing concern for their wellbeing. Reacting with panic will create more alarm and raise a pupil's level of anxiety.

5. BE OPEN & CLEAR ABOUT CONFIDENTIALITY

If you invite a young person to tell you about their wellbeing, make sure you know what you will do with the information, and remember that you cannot promise to keep it to yourself.

4. PROVIDE A QUIET ROOM FOR CONVERSATIONS

If a child discloses a mental health difficulty, invite them to talk in a safer, more private environment, and if appropriate, talk to your designated safeguarding lead (DSL) for advice about how the situation can be managed.

3. HAVE SIDE-BY-SIDE CONVERSATIONS

Some pupils find safety in side-by-side conversations such as a walk and talk, whilst tidying the classroom together or perhaps during a lunchtime club.

HELPFUL OPENERS

- You don't seem your usual self today. Would you like to talk about anything?
- You look sad/worried today. Do you want to have a chat about it/ is there anything I can do to help?
- You said something interesting in circle time/at lunchtime about how you felt when... How do you feel about it now?

Taken from Mentally Healthy Schools:
<https://www.mentallyhealthyschools.org.uk/media/1611/tips-for-having-a-conversation-with-a-child-about-mental-health.pdf>

The National College

This guide is part of The National College staffroom poster series. A collection of information posters for your school staffroom.



Meet the Expert: Anna Bateman
Anna Bateman, subject matter expert on mental health & wellbeing and school improvement adviser

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Spotlight Celebration

School life this week



EYFS, KS1 and Key stage 2 performed in amazing Nativities, complete with solos, dancing and even stars!

Well done everyone!



Our trip to Consett Empire Theatre was a huge success: we had so much fun!

Oh yes we did!!



In this section, we celebrate our achievements both in and out of school. If you have something you would like us to share for your child—an achievement, work of art, event they attended - please send it to school via email and we will include it in the newsletter!

Dates for Your Diary

05.01.26: Spring Term begins

14.01.26: Class 3 Team building festival PM—please wear PE kits

16.01.26: Year 3 Games Festival PM—please wear PE kits

16.01.26: Class 1 Celebration of the Word 2.45pm (followed by Coffee and chat)

21.01.26: Class 4 Assembly 9am

30.01.26: Class 2 Celebration of the Word 2.45pm (followed by Coffee and chat)

04.02.26: Class 3 Assembly 9am

06.02.26: Non-uniform day—bring a bottle

18.02.26: Ash Wednesday Service in school—time TBC

HALF TERM 21.02.26–01.03.26

04.03.26: Class 1 PE trip PM—please wear warm, outdoor clothes

05.03.26: World Book Day

06.03.26: Class 3 Celebration of the Word 2.45pm (followed by Coffee and chat)

11.03.26: Class 2 Assembly 9am

13.03.26: Class 2 Invasion games festival PM—please wear PE kits

13.03.26: Non-uniform day—crafts, chocolates, toys

20.03.26: Class 4 Celebration of the Word 2.45pm (followed by Coffee and chat)

23.03.26 and 24.03.26: Parents evening Spring Term 3.30–5.30pm

25.03.26: Class 1 Assembly 9am

25.03.06: Class 4 Rugby skills trip PM— please wear PE kits

30.03.26: Palm Sunday Procession 2.45pm

02.04.26: Easter Raffle and Easter Egg Competition awards 2pm

EASTER HOLIDAYS 03.04.26–19.04.26

08.12.25: Class 3 Road safety workshop session 2 in school—outdoor clothing needed

11.12.25: Christmas Jumper Day

12.12.25: Christmas Fayre 2.30pm onwards

20.04.26: Summer Term begins

24.04.26: Class 2 Celebration of the Word 2.45pm (followed by Coffee and chat)

29.04.26: Class 3 Assembly 9am

06.05.26: Class 4 Assembly 9am

08.05.26: Non-uniform day—bring a bottle

11.05.26–14.05.26: KS2 SATs

15.05.26: Class 1 Celebration of the Word 2.45pm (followed by Coffee and chat)

22.05.26: Pentecost Procession 2.45pm

22.05.26: Non-uniform day crafts, chocolates, toys

HALF TERM 23.05.26–31.05.26

Dates for Your Diary Continued

05.06.26: Class 4 Celebration of the Word 2.45pm (followed by Coffee and chat)

10.06.26: Class 1 Assembly

12.06.26: Non-uniform day—bring a bottle

19.06.26: Class 3 Celebration of the Word 2.45pm (followed by Coffee and chat)

24.06.26: Class 2 Assembly

25.06.26: St Bede's Uniform evening for Y6 parents

26.06.26: Non-uniform day—crafts, chocolates, toys

01.07.26–02.07.26: St Bede's Transition days for Year 6

02.07.26: Transition day in school

03.07.26: Non-uniform day—£1 contribution

09.07.26: Year 6 Leavers' Performance 4pm

10.07.26: Sports Day and School Fayre

13.07.26–15.07.26: Robinwood residential for Class 4

16.07.26: School Raffle Draw 2pm

Due to the residential dates, the Year 6 Leavers Mass—Time TBC—will be rearranged—we will let you know the new date asap.

Monday 20th July - Monday 31st August - Summer Holidays 2026