



WEEKLY NEWSLETTER



HEADTEACHER'S NOTE

Dear parents and carers,

This Sunday's Gospel shows how the message of Jesus can change everything in the world. Jesus reminds us that we are not here only for ourselves - we are here for others to improve the lives of those around us with love, care and goodness.

Whenever we perform an act of goodness, even the smallest good deed, it pleases God and sets an example for others to see and to follow.

So this Gospel reminds us of the importance of our role in life to bring god's light to others and to be 'the salt of the earth. Now lets go and bring that task and the light of Jesus to everyone that we meet.

God Bless

Mr Monaghan

USEFUL LINKS



Click on the image above for uniform, Coolmilk, school lunch menu, free school meals, after school clubs and more!



Click on the image for term dates, newsletters and the school calendar



Click on the images above to follow Bishop Ellis on Social Media

BISHOP ELLIS CATHOLIC
VOLUNTARY ACADEMY

6th February 2026

Diary Dates 2025/2026

February 2026

Monday 9th - Children's Mental Health Week

Wednesday 11th - Parents Evening

Thursday 12th - Parents Evening

Friday 13th - 3.15 Half Term

Monday 23rd - 8.45 Return to school

March 2026

Tuesday 3rd - 13.15

Reconciliation Service

Thursday 5th - World Book Day

Tuesday 10th - 9.30 KS1 Mother's Day Mass led by Year 1 & 2

Reception & Yr 6 Heights & Weight Check

Wednesday 11th - Friday

13th - The Briars Trip Yr 6

Friday 27th - 9.30 Way of the Cross

3.15 End of Term



Chaplaincy Team - Prayer Stations



Our Chaplaincy Team preparing the prayer stations for lunchtime – creating a calm space for reflection. They did a fantastic job!



REMINDER

Parents' Evening is next Wednesday 11th February and Thursday 12th February. Please take a moment to double-check your booking. You should have received a link for the online video call. If you have any queries, please contact the school office.

Year 4/5 Class Mass

A heartfelt thank you to all parents, carers, and members of our school community who attended the Year 4/5 class Mass. Your presence made the occasion truly special, and it was wonderful to see so many of you there.





Year 1 & 3 Dance Session

Year 1 and Year 3 enjoyed a brilliant dance session yesterday afternoon with Louise from Jump Start Dance. The children threw themselves into the activities, had a wonderful time, and thoroughly enjoyed trying out a range of different dance styles. Their enthusiasm and energy made the whole session a joy to watch.



Mass Times

Divine Infant of Prague, Syston:

Weekend -

Sat 16.30 pm

Sun 11.15 am

St. Theresa's, Birstall;

Weekend -

Sat - 18.00 pm

Sun - 09.15am

Weekdays -

Fri - 18.00 pm

Our Parishes are very keen for children to read and participate in mass. Please get in contact with the parish for further information.

St. Theresa's, Birstall
<https://st-theresa-sacredheart.co.uk/>

Divine Infant of Prague, Syston
<https://stpatricksandsyston.uk/>





Important: Road Safety



Earlier this week we received an email from a concerned member of the public regarding road safety before and after school.

"Please can you remind parents of the school that there are 2 pedestrian crossing either side of the school, which should be used for safe crossing over a very busy main road that not only cars use but lorry's and buses.

Countless times I've witnessed parents crossing over with their children in-between cars, almost dragging and running them across to the other side.

It sets a bad example to their own children never mind any others, and extremely dangerous for drivers going along that road.

Many thanks"

They asked us to remind families about the importance of using the two pedestrian crossings located on either side of the school.

These crossings are there to help everyone cross a very busy main road safely.

They shared that they have witnessed parents crossing between cars with their children.

We kindly ask all parents and carers to use the designated crossings at all times and to encourage children to do the same. Your support helps keep everyone safe.

A promotional image for "THE RALLY HUB" and "RISE UP BACKET SPORTS" February camps. The image shows an indoor sports hall with blue beams and a green artificial turf field. A banner in the background reads "MT13" and "FEBRUARY CAMPS". The text "16th - 20th February" is displayed, along with times "09:00 - 12:00 | 4 to 8 year olds" and "12:45 - 15:30 | 9 to 14 year olds". The "THE RALLY HUB" logo is in the top left, and the "RISE UP BACKET SPORTS" logo is in the top right.

The Rally Hub Sports Club will be running sessions over the February half term. Please see the leaflet above for full dates and times.



Punctuality



Attendance at Bishop Ellis this year is excellent. Our current attendance figures put us in the top 13% of schools across the country. My sincere thanks go to you all for your support in this important aspect of school life. I understand as a parent that this is not always easy.

Please also ensure that your child is in the school building for 8:45 when school starts. Class teachers start lessons immediately and any lateness means that our children are missing out on valuable learning time. I know from my own experience, this can be a challenge. If you feel you would like any support with punctuality please reach out to your child's teacher or speak to a member of staff on the gate in the morning.



SITE SAFETY

PLEASE CAN YOU ENSURE THAT YOUR CHILD DOES NOT RIDE THEIR BIKES OR SCOOTERS WHILST ON THE SCHOOL SITE. THIS IS TO ENSURE WE KEEP ALL VISITORS SAFE WHILST ON THE SCHOOL SITE.



REMINDER NO PARKING IN THE LAY-BY IN FRONT OF THE SCHOOL GATES



FOLLOW US

Follow Bishop Ellis on Instagram & Facebook

If you are on Instagram or Facebook please follow and share the school's posts so we can connect with the wider community and prospective parents.



LIKE

Our Attendance so far this year is 96.4%.

This achievement reflects the incredible commitment of our students and the invaluable support from parents and families.

PLEASE SEE THE WEBSITE FOR THE CMAT ATTENDANCE POLICY. POLICIES - BISHOP ELLIS CATHOLIC VOLUNTARY ACADEMY

WITH THE INTRODUCTION OF THE NEW NATIONAL FRAMEWORK FOR PENALTY NOTICES, THE FOLLOWING COMES INTO FORCE FOR PENALTY NOTICE FINES ISSUED FOR UNAUTHORISED ABSENCE OCCURRING AFTER 19 AUGUST 2024.

5 CONSECUTIVE DAYS OF TERM TIME LEAVE (HOLIDAY) – PENALTY NOTICE FINES WILL BE ISSUED FOR TERM TIME LEAVE OF 5 OR MORE CONSECUTIVE DAYS AND FOR FEWER DAYS WHERE THIS HAS HAPPENED BEFORE. (PLEASE NOTE, WE WILL NO LONGER ABLE TO AGREE TO AND AUTHORISE FAMILY HOLIDAYS)

10 SESSIONS OF UNAUTHORISED ABSENCE IN A 10-WEEK PERIOD – OTHER THAN IN EXCEPTIONAL CIRCUMSTANCES, PENALTY NOTICE FINES WILL BE ISSUED WHEN THERE HAVE BEEN 10 SESSIONS OF UNAUTHORISED ABSENCE IN A 10 WEEK PERIOD. PER PARENT, PER CHILD - PENALTY NOTICE FINES WILL BE ISSUED TO EACH PARENT FOR EACH CHILD WHO WAS ABSENT. FOR EXAMPLE: 3 SIBLINGS ABSENT FOR TERM TIME LEAVE WILL RESULT IN EACH PARENT RECEIVING 3 SEPARATE FINES.

FIRST OFFENCE – THE FIRST TIME A PENALTY NOTICE IS ISSUED FOR TERM TIME LEAVE OR IRREGULAR, UNAUTHORISED ABSENCE THE AMOUNT WILL BE £160 PER PARENT, PER CHILD WHEN PAID WITHIN 28 DAYS. THIS IS REDUCED TO £80 PER PARENT PER CHILD IF PAID WITHIN 21 DAYS

SECOND OFFENCE (WITHIN 3 YEARS) – THE SECOND TIME A PENALTY NOTICE IS ISSUED FOR TERM TIME LEAVE OR IRREGULAR, UNAUTHORISED ABSENCE THE AMOUNT WILL BE £160 PER PARENT, PER CHILD WHEN PAID WITHIN 28 DAYS. (THERE IS NO OPTION TO REDUCE TO £80 WITH AN EARLY PAYMENT)

THIRD OFFENCE AND ANY FURTHER OFFENCES (WITHIN 3 YEARS) – THE THIRD TIME AN OFFENCE IS COMMITTED FOR TERM TIME LEAVE OR IRREGULAR, UNAUTHORISED ABSENCE A PENALTY NOTICE WILL NOT BE ISSUED. THE CASE WILL PROCEED TO THE MAGISTRATES' COURT. MAGISTRATE'S FINES CAN BE UP TO £2,500 PER PARENT, PER CHILD. CASES FOUND GUILTY IN MAGISTRATES' COURT CAN SHOW ON THE PARENT'S FUTURE DBS CERTIFICATE AND MAY IMPACT ON JOB APPLICATIONS AND TRAVEL ABROAD.

COURT PROSECUTIONS – PENALTY NOTICES WILL NOT AUTOMATICALLY BE ISSUED. PARENTS ARE ADVISED THAT WHERE THE LA CONSIDERS THAT A PENALTY NOTICE IS NOT APPROPRIATE DUE TO THE LEVEL OF CONCERN ABOUT A CHILD'S ABSENCE, PROSECUTION ACTION MAY BE TAKEN.

FURTHER GUIDANCE IS AVAILABLE ON THE GOV.UK WEBSITE. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS REGARDING THE CHANGES AND THE NEW NATIONAL FRAMEWORK REGARDING PENALTY NOTICES, PLEASE CONTACT MYSELF.

[FINES FOR PARENTS FOR TAKING CHILDREN OUT OF SCHOOL: WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW – THE EDUCATION HUB \(BLOG.GOV.UK\)](#)

LINKED TO THE IMPORTANCE OF EXCELLENT ATTENDANCE IS PUNCTUALITY. **SCHOOL STARTS AT 8:45AM**. IT IS THEREFORE ESSENTIAL THAT CHILDREN ARE HERE BEFORE THEN. WE KNOW THAT THIS IS SOMETIMES EASIER SAID THAN DONE AND IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO DISCUSS THIS WITH A MEMBER OF THE SCHOOL SENIOR LEADERSHIP TEAM, PLEASE SPEAK TO ONE OF US ON THE GATE.

Why Attendance

Matters:

- Learning success:** Regular attendance ensures children don't miss out on important lessons and activities.
- Confidence building:** Being present every day helps students stay connected with their peers and teachers.

With the colder, winter months leading to more of us suffering from coughs, colds, flu and other illnesses, it's important to know when and where to get the right treatment for any member of your family. Please click [HERE](#) for a range of resources in order to stay well this winter.

Your child's online safety matters. Click [HERE](#) for more information.