



WEEKLY NEWSLETTER



HEADTEACHER'S NOTE

Dear parents and carers,

In this Sunday's Gospel, the disciples received a glimpse of the awesome divinity of Jesus through the change in the way he looked (his transfiguration). This sacred encounter took place on the Holy Mountain – Mt Tabor. The Holy Mountain experience was a sacred moment. To be sacred is to be holy – to be dedicated to God. God wants us to be his sacred people – to be holy and to try to live and love like Jesus did. Praying helps us to recognise and respect our homes and school as sacred places, full of God's love.

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**

27th February 2026

Diary Dates 2025/2026

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

Tuesday 24th - Year 3,4,5

Performance Afternoon
1.45 & Evening 5.15pm

**Friday 27th - 9.30 Way of
the Cross**

3.15 End of Term

April 2026

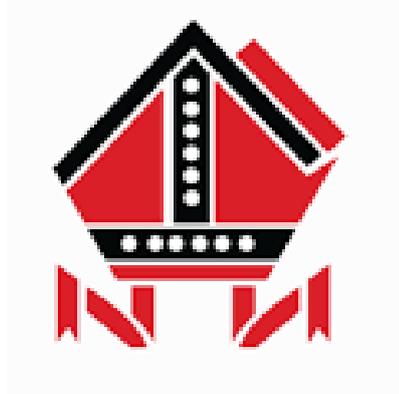
**Monday 13th - 08.45 Start
of Pentecost Term**



**Menphys Carol
Concert raised an
incredible £13,500.
Thank you for all your
support.**



**St Thomas Aquinas was joint
13th highest attaining MAT in
the country for KS4 outcomes
(GCSE's) in 2025 (out of 814).**



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/>



Easter Chocolate Donations

FOBE are on the hunt for chocolate!
We're collecting tasty treats for our Easter Raffle, and we'd love your help. Bring in any chocolate donations from Monday 2nd March to Friday 13th March. Every choccy treat—big or small—will help us create amazing Easter Hampers and make our raffle extra fun this year!



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

HOSTED BY LETTERS AND STITCH

Mother's Special

A creative event to celebrate mums and mother figures!

Sunday 1st March
10.30 am - 12.30pm
Quorn Church Rooms, LE12 8DP

Activities include:
Handprint and pressed flower framed keepsake
Chocolate truffle making and box decorating
Scavenger hunt - whilst mum enjoys a cuppa!

£20 for an adult and child + £8.00 for an additional person.

For more information and booking:
[Lettersandstitch.eventbrite.com](https://www.lettersandstitch.eventbrite.com)
Facebook: 'Letters and Stitch' or call 07811069007

🌸 Celebrate Mother's Day locally with Letter and Stitch — Sunday 1st March at Quorn Church Rooms. Come together, connect, and support your community. 🌸



After School Clubs - Spring Term

Beat Street Dance – Now on Mondays!

Our dance club has a brand-new slot and an exciting focus.

Sports with Megastrikers – Tuesdays

High-energy, action-packed sports sessions designed to keep children active, develop teamwork and most importantly... have lots of fun!

Dodgeball with Football & Fitness - Wednesdays

Fun and energetic way for children to develop teamwork, coordination, and physical fitness in a playful environment. To book dodgeball only please click here for further information.

Gymnastics – Thursdays

Our ever-popular gymnastics sessions continue, helping children build strength, coordination and confidence as they develop core skills in a fun and supportive environment.

Game On! - Fridays

Game On is all about connection, strategy and good old-fashioned fun. Children will enjoy:

- Classic board games
- Team challenges
- Larger-than-life versions of games
- Interactive experiences like Human Cluedo!

It's perfect for children who love problem-solving, teamwork and a bit of friendly competition.

To book, please follow the link below:

[5 Star Club](#)

Important: Road Safety



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.



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



Punctuality



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.



School dinner money
must be paid in
advance in order for
the school office to
book the school dinner
in.

£3.00 per meal a day

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.



Our Attendance so far this year is 96.2%.

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 NOT BE 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.

ATTENDANCE

WHY IS IT IMPORTANT?

ABSENCE FROM SCHOOL

How do YOU measure up?

Attendance	Days	Weeks	Lessons
85%	8 Days	2 Weeks	50 Lessons
90%	13 Days	4 Weeks	100 Lessons
95%	19 Days	6 Weeks	150 Lessons
98%	28 Days	8 Weeks	200 Lessons
99%	40 Days	10 Weeks	250 Lessons
100%	52 Days	13 Weeks	300 Lessons
100%	67 Days	15.5 Weeks	360 Lessons

89% + Below
Drastic effect on academic achievement

95%-90%
Cause for concern

100%-96%
Excellent

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