



WEEKLY NEWSLETTER



HEADTEACHER'S NOTE

Dear parents and carers.

In this Sunday's Gospel, Jesus' enemies are plotting his downfall and try to trick him with a devious question about paying taxes. If Jesus says they should pay, it means that he accepts the Roman Emperor, and not God, as his ultimate boss. If he says they shouldn't pay, he can be attacked for being disloyal to the Roman Empire. But then Jesus follows up with a real clincher: 'Pay to the Emperor what is due to the Emperor and pay to God what is due to God!' This Gospel story also asks us: 'What is due to God in our own lives?' Surely 'our gratitude' would be a good answer to this question. Being grateful to God brings great joy. There are many blessings in life – let's not just take them for granted.

"The heart that knows how to say 'thank you' is a good heart, it is a heart that is content." Pope Francis (Pope from 2013-2025)

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

**BISHOP ELLIS CATHOLIC
VOLUNTARY ACADEMY**

Friday 16th October 2026



**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.**



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



October- month of the Rosary

In the Liturgical Year there are two months dedicated to Mary, the Mother of God – May is the month of Mary and October is the month of the Holy Rosary.

The memorial of Our Lady of the Rosary is celebrated on the 7th October and was instituted by Pope St. Pius V to commemorate the intercession of Our Lady, through praying the rosary before the battle of Lepanto in 1571.

Throughout the month of October we pray the rosary and meditate on the Gospels. We are asking Jesus' Mother to pray with us and for us. As the perfect disciple, who was the first person to say 'yes' to Jesus and who suffered in grief at the crucifixion and rejoiced at the resurrection, she is an example to us all who can comfort us and guide us in our own call to holiness.

Please see the Nottingham Diocese website for further resources. October – The Month of the Holy Rosary – Chaplaincy Space

We also have some Rosary beads in school. If you would like one, please take one from the display in the main entrance.

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/>



Football

It was a delight to take our girls football team to the South Charnwood tournament on Tuesday 6th October. The girls played incredibly well and more importantly supported each other. They were very respectful of the match officials.



Harvest Food Bank

Many thanks for all the donations to the Thurmaston and Syston food bank. Our Mini Vinnies led us in prayer on Tuesday and organised the donations to be collected.



1st Holy Communion

The Divine Infant of Prague will be starting their First Holy Communion programme after half term if you wish your register your child onto the programme please contact the parish office on 01165078225 or speak with Fr Paul.

If you would also like to speak to me about this, please do.

Staffing news

This week, we say a fond farewell to Mrs Bostock as she retires after six wonderful years of service at Bishop Ellis Catholic Voluntary Academy.

Throughout her time with us, Mrs Bostock has been a valued and much-loved member of our Key Stage 2 team. Her dedication to the children in her care has made a lasting difference to the lives of so many pupils. She has always approached her work with kindness, patience and a genuine commitment to helping every child achieve their very best.

While we are sad to see her leave, we are delighted that she can now enjoy a well-deserved retirement. We know that many families, past and present, will join us in thanking her for the care, support and encouragement she has given over the years.

On behalf of everyone at Bishop Ellis, we wish Mrs Bostock every happiness, good health and many wonderful adventures in her retirement. She will be greatly missed and always remembered with affection.



Diary Dates 2026/2027

School closes today for half term. We welcome the children back for Advent term 2 on Monday 26th October.

I hope you have a lovely half term break.

October

Friday 16th 3:15 School closes for half term

Monday 26th 8:45 School opens- Advent (2)

Tuesday 27th 9.00 Flu Immunisation Team In

November

Saturday 7th November 9.30 - 11.00

Wednesday 11th 10:45 Remembrance Liturgy (school)

Wednesday 11th 11:00 Remembrance Service- Thurmaston Village.

Monday 16th All week Road Safety Week

Wednesday 18th 9:30 Open morning for prospective parents and families

Friday 20th All day St Thomas Aquinas CMAT inset day. School closed to pupils

Tuesday 24th 3:15 Miss Beall- y5/6 class Mass- families welcome

December

Tuesday 1st 9:30 Christingle Liturgy

Friday 4th 7:00 Menphys Carol Concert- De Montfort Hall- families welcome

Wednesday 9th 2:15 Year 1 and 2 Nativity- families welcome

Thursday 10th 9:30 Reception Nativity- families welcome

Thursday 10th 2:15 Year 1 and 2 Nativity- families welcome

Friday 11th AM Santa Panto

Thursday 17th All day Christmas jumper day

Thursday 17th 11:45 Christmas dinner

Friday 18th 10:00 KS2 Carol Service- Divine Infant of Prague, Syston- families welcome

Friday 18th 3:15 School closes, end of Advent term.

**LAST
DAY OF
TERM**

Lest We
Forget.



Open Mornings

Please do pass on details of our open mornings to anyone you feel may be interested. We are holding an additional open morning on Saturday 7th November.

Applying to Bishop Ellis

For information on how to apply to Bishop Ellis, please visit our admissions page:

<https://www.bishopellis.leics.sch.uk/admissions-2/>

Year 7 Admissions – Important Update

Please note that the admission criteria have changed, giving a higher preference to children attending Bishop Ellis who are applying to De Lisle and English Martyrs.

For full details, please visit our admissions page:

<https://www.bishopellis.leics.sch.uk/admissions-2/>

St Thomas Aquinas Term Dates 2027/2028-2031/2032

Please see attached sheet with the term dates for next academic year. The dates for subsequent years are now on the school website.

<https://www.bishopellis.leics.sch.uk/parents/term-dates/>



FOLLOW BISHOP ELLIS ON INSTAGRAM!



Exciting things are coming!

We'll be sharing lots of fresh, new content, so make sure you're following us to keep up with what's happening at Bishop Ellis.



If you're on Instagram, give us a follow and share our posts to help us reach and connect with our wider community and prospective parents.



TAP THE LINK & FOLLOW US TODAY!

<https://www.instagram.com/bishopellisprimary/>



**ADMISSION
OPEN**



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