



ALL THE NEWS FROM SACRED HEART



Our New School Mission Statement

We started the New Year with a new Mission Statement that fully embodies the true spirit, values and aspirations we have at Sacred Heart. The phrase “We live and learn in hope and joy” serves as an inspiration of positivity, encouraging our children to approach each day with optimism and enthusiasm. It reflects our commitment to developing an environment where learning is a delightful journey filled with discovery and growth.

By “keeping the spirit of God alive in our community,” we stress the importance of faith, compassion, and togetherness in our school life. This principle reminds our students that they are part of a larger family that nurtures and uplifts one another. As we embrace this mission together, we create a welcoming environment for all, helping each student to succeed and feel happy in our school community.



Trust Parent Survey

We're pleased to share that we've received the findings from the recent parents' survey conducted by the CMAT. It's encouraging to see so many positive comments about Sacred Heart CVA and the education we provide. We value your partnership in your child's learning journey and thank you for taking the time to share your thoughts and experiences.

Building Work

A message was sent to you last week about the upcoming building work. I was very pleased to have finally resolved our issues with the insurance company after our flooding . With the support of the Trust, extensive work on repairs to the roof began on the 27th of January for a period of about 15 weeks . During this time there will be scaffolding around the school and a range of safety measures will be in place. As a result of this we can also begin our internal repairs at half term . Hopefully by summer we should be in a position where such an issue cannot happen again! Please be mindful of the scaffolding as you walk around the school.

Alan James

Whole School Mass

As a school we came together to celebrate mass on the 14th January. All the children sang, served and participated beautifully. It was a lovely occasion where we joined together to celebrate the Baptism of the Lord. Fr David recapped for us the precious symbols of Baptism and reminded us to think of how special to be part of God's family.





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Year of Jubilee - Pilgrims of hope

Pope Francis has announced that 2025 will be a year of Jubilee – an event that happens every 25 years. The theme for the upcoming Jubilee is “Pilgrims of Hope”. The 2025 Jubilee will begin in Advent 2024 and will run until the Feast of the Epiphany in 2026.

On Friday 24th January, Pilgrims of Hope was launched in school around the world and here at Sacred Heart, each class designed striking panels for our door of hope. Children thought about the significance of the Pope’s message for 2025 and thought of ways in which they can live this out in school. Their wonderful ideas were portrayed through beautiful, collaborative artwork. More information is available on the Jubilee 2025 website.

[Jubilee 2025](#)



The Feast of St Thomas Aquinas

On Tuesday 28th January, we will artwork our Trust's Feast Day of St Thomas Aquinas. Year 5 and Year 6 chaplains joined with others from across the trust at English Martyrs Secondary School in Leicester to celebrate Mass. The Mass was streamed across all 23 Trust schools to watch.





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Sensory Mass



On Saturday 18th January, Sacred Heart school in conjunction with the Parish held its first every Sensory Friendly Mass. It was a beautiful occasion presided by Fr David and supported by specialist teaching staff from our local primary schools. This mass was celebrated by many families in our own school community as well as other families from the Holy Family Churches.

Such was the success of this mass; a full schedule has been put in place for the coming months.

Please see the following dates for further Sensory friendly masses as well as First Holy Communion Preparations.

If you have any queries or would like to attend, please contact Fr David on the following:

holyfamilyleicester@dioceseofnottingham.uk

Future dates for Sensory Mass



Professor Toogood

On Tuesday 28th, we were very fortunate to attend an assembly led by Aaron Toogood, a Professor from DeMontfort University. This was a fun and informative assembly where Prof. Toogood demonstrated the fun aspects associated with learning maths. The children were fully engaged, mesmerised and enthused with what they say and heard.



We are very lucky to have Professor Toogood lead some of our Year 6 mathematicians in a Mathematics session every half term. Through these sessions Prof Toogood encourages the children to broaden their understanding of maths and gain confidence in all areas. It was great to have Prof Toogood visit our school again and continue to inspire all our budding mathematicians.



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Dogs Trust Inspires Pupils at Sacred Heart Leicester

Sacred Heart Catholic Voluntary Academy recently welcomed Dogs Trust for an inspiring visit that left our students excited and informed. The visit was part of our ongoing commitment to fostering kindness and responsibility among pupils, while also linking to our sustainability and well-being goals.

During the visit, the Dogs Trust representative Sarah Saunders engaged students with interactive workshops, teaching them the importance of responsible pet ownership and animal welfare. Pupils learned how to care for dogs, understand their needs, and even practiced how to safely interact with unfamiliar animals.

One highlight of the day was the discussion about sustainability and reducing waste in pet care. The representative shared tips on using eco-friendly pet products, which resonated with our students as part of our Eco Area initiatives.

The children were enthusiastic and asked thoughtful questions, demonstrating their growing awareness of caring for all living beings. Many of them reflected on how these lessons could extend to their daily lives, showing the impact of this session on their attitudes toward animals and sustainability.

Thank you to Dogs Trust for an unforgettable experience! It was a fantastic way to combine education, sustainability, and compassion into a single event.

Submitted by: Mrs Swamy-Dushan



Big Garden Birdwatch

Friday 24th January as part of the **Big Garden Birdwatch** some of our children took part in bird-spotting. The children had a great time spotting birds and the photos really show how much fun they had connecting with nature.

This was such a lovely way to celebrate wildlife and remind us all how important it is to care for the world around us. I am so proud of our school for making the most of these moments and for the amazing teamwork that made it all happen.





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Leicester MusicFest Choir Workshops

A message from the supreme choir master, Mrs Ong regarding the recent choir workshops that took part here in school.

We had a choir workshop with 2 professional musicians from the Leicester MusicFest- a festival run yearly at English Martyrs.

The children were spectacular!

Firstly, their skill level. We know they can sing, and can sing harmony, but today, the technicality of the piece caused me difficulty. They were amazing in their range and quality of sound. When learning a particularly tricky phase, Ramone, Peace and Zosia all had a go at singing it solo.

Their general knowledge was extremely wide. To give you some examples, they knew that while the rest of the mass is Latin, 'Kyrie Eleison' is actually Greek; they knew Agnus Dei means lamb of God; they knew the 'C' in words in Latin is pronounced as 'ch' because that's how they say it in Italy!

Peace was incredible- she sings with the Leicester Cathedral choir. She knew names and lengths of notes as well as the meaning of the dynamic instructions such as 'mp' means mezzo piano; 'f' means forte etc. She also knew 'Thy' means your.

Just as impressive was their behaviour and attitude. They were not there to chat, they wanted to sing! They were polite and well mannered, industrious and expressive. I couldn't have been more proud of a group of children



If anyone wants to come and see the performance its on Sunday 16th February at English Martyrs School. You can also sign up and join in to be part of the choir if you wish!

Details can be found here:

www.leicestermusicfest.com/tickets

School Meal Price Increase

We are letting you know that the price of a school meals here at Sacred Heart is going up from £2.00 a meal to £2.60 a meal. We have not increased the price of our school meals for over 10 years, but due to the increase in costs of food, electricity and gas, we have no choice but to increase the price.

This change will take place when we return from half-term on 24th February 2025.

This would be a good time to check if your children are entitled to Income Based Free School meals and pupil premium.

Follow the link below and make a claim:

[Free school meals](#)

Just to summarise:

- Paid school meals will be £2.60 a meal from 24th February 2024 for children who pay for their meals in years 3, 4, 5 and 6.
- Foundation 2, year 1 and year 2 children will still be entitled to their Universal Free School meals, which are free.
- School meals can now be paid for on Arbor, we no longer use Parent Pay.

શાળા ભોજનના ભાવમાં વધારો

- અમે તમને જણાવી રહ્યા છીએ કે સેકેડ હાર્ટ ખાતે શાળા ભોજનનો ભાવ £2.00 પ્રતિ ભોજનથી વધીને £2.60 પ્રતિ ભોજન થઈ રહ્યો છે. અમે 10 વર્ષથી વધુ સમયથી અમારા શાળા ભોજનનો ભાવ વધાર્યો નથી, પરંતુ ખોરાક, વીજળી અને ગેસના ખર્ચમાં વધારાને કારણે, અમારી પાસે કિંમત વધારવા સિવાય કોઈ વિકલ્પ નથી.
- આ ફેરફાર 24 ફેબ્રુઆરી 2025 ના રોજ અર્ધ-સત્રમાંથી પાછા ફરતી વખતે થશે.
- આ તમારા બાળકો આવક આધારિત મફત શાળા ભોજન અને વિદ્યાર્થી પ્રીમિયમ માટે હકદાર છે કે નહીં તે તપાસવાનો સારો સમય હશે. નીચેની લિંકને અનુસરો અને દાવો કરો:

[Free school meals](#)

સારાંશ માટે:

24 ફેબ્રુઆરી 2024 થી 3, 4, 5 અને 6 માં તેમના ભોજન માટે ચૂકવણી કરનારા બાળકો માટે ચૂકવેલ શાળા ભોજન £2.60 પ્રતિ ભોજન હશે.

ફાઉન્ડેશન 2, વર્ષ 1 અને વર્ષ 2 ના બાળકો હજુ પણ તેમના યુનિવર્સલ મફત શાળા ભોજન માટે હકદાર રહેશે, જે મફત છે. શાળાના ભોજન માટે હવે આર્બર પર ચૂકવણી કરી શકાય છે, અમે હવે પેરેન્ટ પેનો ઉપયોગ કરતા નથી.



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Dates for the Lent Term:

Friday 14th February – Last day of Lent Term 1.

17th – 21st February – School closed for half term.

Monday 24th February – School opens for Lent Term 2.

Wednesday 26th February – Parents evening.

Friday 11th April – Last day of Lent term.

14th April – 25th April – School closed.