

SJF NEWS



www.st-johnfisher.org www.ourladyoflourdes-sttheresa.hallam-diocese.com Friday 13th February 2026

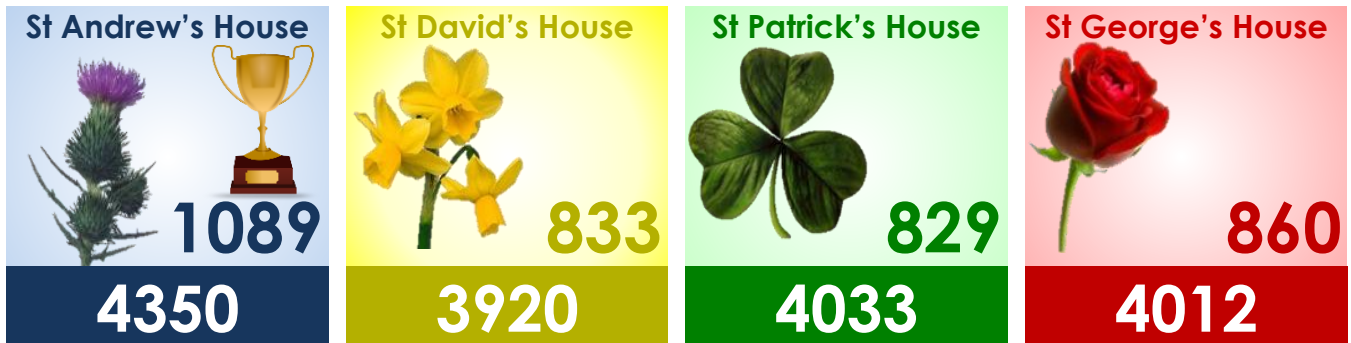
INSET Day Reminder

A reminder that Term 4 begins on **Tuesday 24th February 2026** and we look forward to welcoming you back then. School is closed to pupils on Monday 23rd February 2026 because it is a staff training (INSET) day.

Citizen of the Week

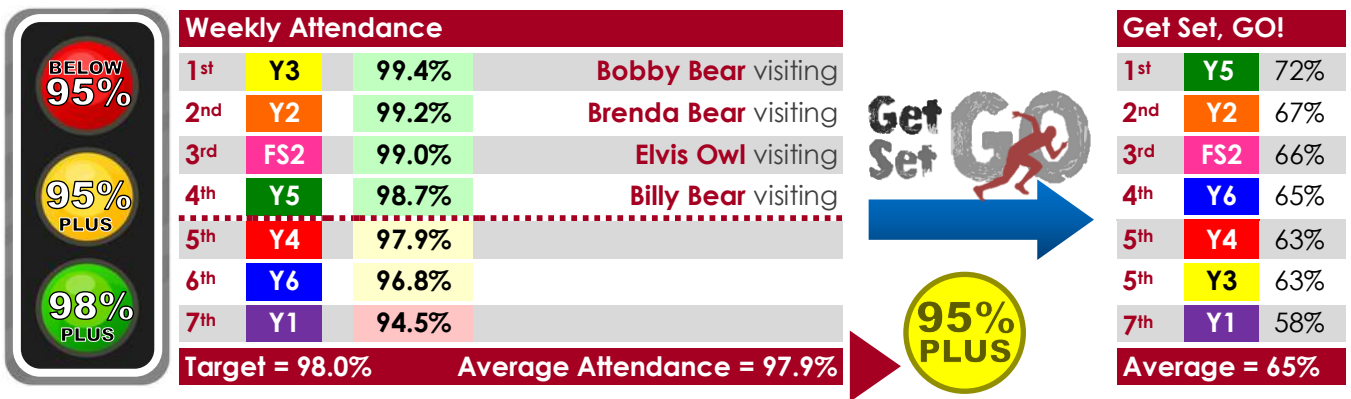
This week's Citizenship Award was presented to Seb in **Y1** for his clear understanding of the importance of cooperation, in line with our Statement of Belief. Seb is a valued and popular member of our school community and his kindness shines through. Whether in his learning group or as part of his games at break-time, children like being with him because he is fun and fair. Although he often has excellent ideas, Seb is patient and is happy for others to share their thoughts first. He listens respectfully and includes everyone, working collaboratively to achieve the aim. Congratulations, Seb, what a great example you share!

Term 3 Smiley Scores



Term 3 Champions

Congratulations to the children of St Andrew's House, our Term 3 smiley champions! We thank Mr Murphy, Miss MacInnes and Miss D'Roza for arranging, and supervising, 'Golden Time' for the children on the last day.



FS2 Workshop

Thank you to everyone who managed to attend the FS2 workshop that explained our approach to the teaching of early reading, writing and mathematics. It was great to see so many of you there. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact our **FS2** team (yearfs@st-johnfisher.org). We thank Mrs Barratt and Mrs Walton, as well as Mrs Sambrook who supervised the children during the session.



Term 4 Learning Value



Self-belief is about trusting your abilities, staying positive, and having the courage to tackle challenging goals. Children show self-belief by being determined, resilient, and confident that they can achieve their potential. The following words come to mind when we think of self-belief:

- courage
- determination
- positivity
- tenacity and focus
- faith
- confidence



SJF Curriculum Update

Term 4 Curriculum Overviews

For our latest Term 4 overviews, please click [here](#). They cover all areas of the curriculum, and detail more of the crucial knowledge that the children will be expected to gain, along with key vocabulary and ideas for supporting them at home. Term 4 is a key phase in the year as we gear up for a series of statutory and non-statutory assessments, which include the **Y1** National Phonics Screen, the **Y4** times tables test and the **Y6** end of Key Stage 2 assessments (also known as SATs).

Attendance & Punctuality

(i) Good attendance and punctuality; (ii) parents/carers supporting learning at home by engaging with set home/school tasks, especially those linked to phonics and spellings; and (iii) spending just 5-10 minutes per day reading stories to their children, and hearing them read, will help them to progress, achieve and thrive.

Winter Curriculum Showcase

Thank you to everyone who joined us for our Winter Curriculum Showcase, whether at the morning or after-school session. The event was a wonderful celebration of learning, highlighting both the children's wonderful achievements as well the dedication of all the staff who support them so tirelessly day in and day out.

We commend all our children for their hard work and extend particular thanks to those who acted as guides during the morning session, confidently welcoming and supporting our visitors. The quality of the work on display was exceptional, and the children were immensely proud to see it presented so beautifully when they were given the opportunity to view the exhibits with their buddies. We are very grateful to our wonderful staff for their continued commitment to engaging and inspiring our pupils through the delivery of our SJF curriculum, and special thanks to all those who helped set everything up and clear everything away afterwards. For more photos please click [here](#).

A reminder that the Summer Curriculum Showcase will take place on **Thursday 9th July 2026**, from **8.45am to 9.45am** and from **3.30pm to 4.15pm**.





Friday 13th February 2026



Our Catholic Life

Weekly Liturgies of the Word

Our next Liturgy of the Word will be led by **Y5** on **Thursday 26th February 2026** at 9.00am, and we warmly invite their families and friends to join us. Recordings of previous liturgies can be viewed [here](#).

Our Virtue to Live by

The children will be reflecting on '**charity**' and '**simplicity**' in their weekly virtues class assemblies.

| Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Citizenship Statement of Belief Assembly <hr/> 'Virtues to Live By' Class Assemblies (Years 2 to 6) | Hymn Practise & 'Virtues to Live By' Story Circle (FS2) | Themed & 'Picture News' Assembly | Weekly Liturgy of the Word <hr/> 'Virtues to Live By' Class Assembly (Year 1) | Celebration Assembly <hr/> Chaplains' Reflections (All Years) |



Our **Gathering Song**

Our Lenten Prayer

I confess to almighty God and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have greatly sinned in my thoughts and in my words, in what I have done, and in what I have failed to do,

through my fault, through my fault, through my most grievous fault. Therefore, I ask blessed Mary, ever-Virgin, all the angels and saints, and you, my brothers and sisters, to pray for me to the Lord our God.



**Oh Lord hear my prayer...
Oh Lord, hear my prayer!
When I call – answer me.
Oh Lord hear my prayer...
Oh Lord, hear my prayer!
Come and listen to me.**

Lent Class Reflections

During Lent our young Chaplains will support with the organisation of simple daily Lenten class reflections which start on **Tuesday 24th February 2026** and continue until **Thursday 26th March 2026**. We invite parents/carers to join us. Please book one reflection, initially, in classes where your children are pupils. Places are limited so if you wish to attend more Lenten reflections, please speak to office team to see if there are spaces. If attending, please arrive by **3.00pm**, thank you.



| Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
|--------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|--------------------|
| Y1 Y2 Y3 Y4 Y5 Y6 | FS2 Y3 Y4 Y5 Y6 | FS2 Y1 Y2 Y5 Y6 | FS2 Y1 Y2 Y3 Y4 | No visitors |



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SJF Community Passion Service 2025

Please note that our annual passion service, involving children in Years **Y3**, **Y4** and **Y5**, will take place on Maundy Thursday on **Thursday 2nd April 2026** in Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church, starting at **2.00pm**.



Diocese of Hallam

Our lady of Lourdes Parish News

Important information about parish and diocesan life, including the times of Masses and confession during the Lenten and Easter seasons, parish events, sacramental preparation, and the parish newsletter, can be found [here](#). Father Bede and the whole parish community would be delighted to welcome you to join them and parish events.

Reading for Pleasure: Our Latest Feature Books of the Week



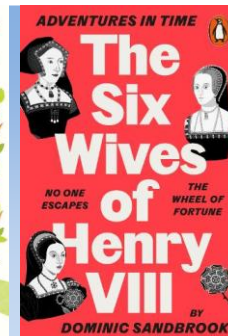
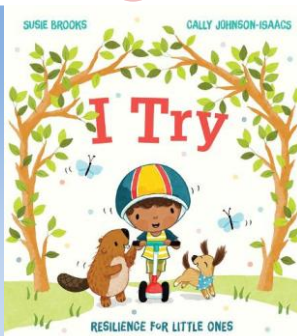
READING FOR PLEASURE

“The more you **read**
the more **things** you know.
The more that you **learn**
the more **places** you'll go.”
-Dr. Seuss

Please click [here](#) to view our full 25-26 book list.

These are our latest feature books:

- **I try**
 - Susie Brooks
- **The Six Wive of Henry VIII**
 - Dominic Sandbrook



Please click for [here](#) for the book reviews.

Travel Tracker Update



83% of **596** total possible trips recorded, **80%** of them were active

SJF Class of the Week & Month

The SJF class with the best combined recorded and active journeys

Y1

How SJF compares with other Sheffield schools and nationally

30 out of 35 participating Sheffield schools

932 out of 1171 participating schools nationally

Achievements outside of School

Please email us (enquiries@st-johnfisher.org) with details of your children's achievements outside of school because we love to celebrate all our children's achievements including those outside of school!

- **Caleb** in **Y6** was selected for the South Yorkshire elite hockey team (U12s). Though young he passed both assessments and impressed coaches with his skills and performances in goal. Well done, Caleb!



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Golden Children

- FS2** **Quinn** for working enthusiastically, finding out about the traditions of Chinese and Lunar New Year celebrations around the world! Well done, Quinn for listening well and asking great questions.
- Y1** **Erin** for always being happy to help if we need a volunteer to tidy, hand out reading books or complete a 'job' for us. Thank you Erin!
- Y2** **Gigi** being the most welcoming and warm friend to our new child. Thank you, Gigi!
- Y3** **George** for being a helpful and friendly member of the class!
- Y4** **Vaani** for being very kind and supportive to another classmate this week - helping them with their work. Great teamwork and kindness, Vaani!
- Y5** **Lilah** for her growing confidence with her work and her resilience to complete it and achieve well. It is great to see you answering questions and having a go. Well done, Lilah!
- Y6** **Peter** for the amazing determination he has shown this week, and for taking pride in his work. He did an incredible job, well done, Peter!

Writing Champions

- FS2** **Santino** for doing some lovely labelling in our Lunar New Year activity about The Great Race!
- Y1** **Rudi** for writing some lovely sentences to share about what he had learned about George Stephenson in history. Well done!
- Y2** **Llorente** for the brilliant writing of his '*If I was in charge of the school*' poem, it was full of funny and imaginative ideas!
- Y3** **Aria** for producing a great piece of writing about why the Romans left Britain!
- Y4** **Imogen** for always giving a 100% effort to her written work. Her presentation and handwriting are beautiful. Well done!
- Y5** **Seren** for her great sentence work and description on our work about the *Tin Forest*. Well done, Seren!
- Y6** **Caleb** for some fantastic work this week for the Curriculum Showcase. The quality of his work was the best he has produced, and he should feel very proud of it!

Maths Champions

- FS2** **Billie** for doing some fantastic number work this week, finding out about '*one more than*'. Well done, Billie!
- Y1** **Robert** for showing his understanding of subtraction really well, using a range of resources. He was able to explain what he was doing, and how was sure of the answers he got! Well done!
- Y2** **Robyn** for smashing it adding and subtracting 2-digit numbers this week! She showed great determination and passion in every lesson!
- Y3** **Rowan** for some super multiplication and division with bar models.
- Y4** **Leon** for working very hard and listening well! He demonstrated great focus doing tasks and was ready for every challenge! Keep up the good work!
- Y5** **Ivy** for her excellent work on multiplying fractions, reasoning through problems, and for her excellent explanations, which were based on her secure mathematical knowledge.
- Y6** **Anjie** for some great work this week when working out solutions to word problems involving percentages. She was very determined to understand and complete every challenge.





Friday 13th February 2026



Our Statement of Belief

Our next 'Statement of Belief' is **"I recognise comfortable and uncomfortable feelings"**.

Time to talk: Why is it important to recognise uncomfortable feelings? What should we do if we have a worry ball in our tummies? Who do you trust? Who can you talk to? What happens to the worry ball when you talk? Why is it important to also recognise comfortable feelings?

Pope's Lenten Message: Abstain from harsh words and rash judgement...

By Devin Watkins



Ahead of the start of Lent, Pope Leo XIV invites Catholics to open ourselves to listening, fasting, and community, urging us to abstain from words of hatred in order to make space for words of hope and peace.

"I would like to invite you to a very practical and frequently unappreciated form of abstinence: that of refraining from words that offend and hurt our neighbour."

Pope Leo XIV made that invitation at the heart of his message for Lent 2026, which was released on Friday. As Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, the Pope said this liturgical season offers Christians an opportunity to place the mystery of God back at the centre of our lives.

Every journey of conversion, he said, begins by letting God's word touch our hearts, so that we may renew our commitment to follow Christ in the mystery of His saving passion, death, and resurrection. Pope Leo focused on the importance of listening to God and to those around us, allowing ourselves to enter into authentic relationships.

"In the midst of the many voices present in our personal lives and in society," he said, **"Sacred Scripture helps us to recognise and respond to the cry of those who are anguished and suffering."**

Christians, said the Pope, can cultivate inner openness to listening, as God does, by growing in awareness that the poor challenge our lives and economic systems, as well as the Church. Pope Leo XIV then turned to how fasting helps open us to the deep desire for justice, which he said frees us from complacency.

"Precisely because it involves the body, fasting makes it easier to recognise what we 'hunger' for and what we deem necessary for our sustenance," he said. **"Moreover, it helps us to identify and order our 'appetites,' keeping our hunger and thirst for justice alive"**. Fasting, he added, teaches us to govern our desire by purifying, freeing, and expanding it, in order to direct our desire toward God and good deeds.

However, we must fast in faith, humility, and communion with the Lord, and not in a way that leads to pride, said the Pope, adding that other forms of self-denial also lead to a more sober lifestyle. Pope Leo then pointed to an under-appreciated form of abstinence, which is refraining from hurtful words. **"Let us begin by disarming our language, avoiding harsh words and rash judgement, refraining from slander and speaking ill of those who are not present and cannot defend themselves,"** he said. **"Instead, let us strive to measure our words and cultivate kindness and respect in our families, among our friends, at work, on social media, in political debates, in the media and in Christian communities."**

If we do so, we will let words of hatred **"give way to words of hope and peace."** Pope Leo went on to emphasize the communal aspect of listening and fasting, which can be lived out in our parishes, families, and religious communities.

By listening to the cry of the poor and setting our hearts on a path of conversion to Christ, we train our conscience and improve the quality of our lives and relationships, he said. **"It means allowing ourselves to be challenged by reality and recognizing what truly guides our desires—both within our ecclesial communities and as regards humanity's thirst for justice and reconciliation."**

Pope Leo XIV concluded his 2026 Lenten Message with a call for Christian communities to become places where those who suffer find welcome. **"Let us ask for the strength that comes from the type of fasting that also extends to our use of language,"** he said, **"so that hurtful words may diminish and give way to a greater space for the voice of others."**



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