



# St Catherine's Catholic Primary School

Highdown Drive, Littlehampton, West Sussex BN17 6HL

Tel: 01903 716039

Website: [www.st-catherines.w-sussex.sch.uk](http://www.st-catherines.w-sussex.sch.uk)

Email: [office@st-catherines.w-sussex.sch.uk](mailto:office@st-catherines.w-sussex.sch.uk)

9 January 2026

## Catholic Life

Miss McGonigle this week led a Celebration of the Word to mark the Feast of the Epiphany. Pupils were told of the traditional symbol used all over the world at this time of year (20 + C + M + B + 26) and how it is etched in chalk above doorways (and outside our classrooms now too) to remind us that Jesus is the 'daily guest' in our homes.



## Christmas Fayre

A big thank you to everyone who joined us for our Christmas Fayre back in December. A grand total of £1,590 was raised for the school.

## New Parent Governor



Following a very close election, Natalie Heyward joins our Governance team as our new Parent Governor. Thank you to all candidates who put themselves forward and to everyone who voted.

## St Catherine's Hub

Thank you to everyone who contributed to our survey last term, this will help us tailor our support to best meet your needs. Our Educational Psychologist, **Dr Nathalie Hojka**, will be returning on the **22nd of January at 9.15am** (a change from the time previously communicated), this time delivering a session on '**Anxieties**', which was one of the most requested topics on our survey. Please see the attached poster for all the details and once again, contact the office to book your place.

## Respecting our Neighbours

Please be mindful of the neighbouring homes around our school, ensuring we are parking in appropriate places and being respectful in our communications.

## Matthew 2:1-12

'They knelt down and worshipped Him.'

## Attendance

A big thank you to all of our families who make such a big effort to ensure that their children have a '**Smart Start**' each school morning. Learning starts as soon as the bell rings. The first part of the morning is carefully planned and is a very important time for pupils, often practising key skills and picking up on gaps in learning from previous lessons. Being in on time for these tasks helps them settle, focus, and prepare for the rest of the day. Missing this time can mean that children feel rushed, unsettled, or less confident as lessons progress. Over time, these missed learning opportunities can add up and affect both progress and confidence.

## New Playground Development

In the Spring term, work will start on the redevelopment of our playground. The existing playground will be resurfaced and new markings added, the existing trim trail will be replaced by three new climbing structures, and a brand new MUGA (multi-use games area) will be built on a section of the field. The MUGA will have an artificial grass surface, allowing it to be used whatever the weather. We will let you know if any alterations need to be made to drop-off and pick-up arrangements at any point. We are all so excited! Please see the attached plans for details of the changes.

## Diary Dates

### January

Mon 12	PTFA Uniform Sale
Tues 13	EYFS/Y1 Chatterbooks starts 8.45-9am
	Y6 SATs Presentation 3.15pm
Thurs 15	EYFS Phonics Fun starts 8.45-9am
Mon 19	School Clubs begin
Thurs 22	St Catherine's Hub Session - Understanding Anxiety 9.15-10.30am
	Y3 Class Liturgy 2.45pm
Mon 9 - Fri 13	Y6 Bikeability Week
Mon 16 - 20	Half Term
Mon 23	Return to school