

SJF NEWS

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Friday 4th September 2020 (Issue 1 - 2020/21)



Welcome Back!

Welcome back for the new school year! It has been so good to welcome back and catch up with all our children and families. These are strange times, but in spite of it all, everyone at SJF is positive and focused on supporting our children so they can each reconnect positively and quickly in order to feel happy and settled.

Thank you for your support over the first three days, especially with the changed routines at the beginning and end of the school day. This is particularly important because these times have been identified as the most vulnerable points for the infection to be brought in to a school. It is therefore extremely important that we work together in order to maintain the integrity of our three bubbles and stick to the plan that we have worked really hard to get right; balancing safety concerns with the practicalities of parents/carers having children in more than one bubble, for example. We will keep everything under review but are relying on parents and carers supporting us by being prepared to wait for a short time for their older children to be released with the rest of the children in their bubble at the end of the school day.

Please click [here](#) to find the SJF Reconnection Plan that was sent out at the end of the holiday, before school reopened. It is also available on the homepage of our website. Here is a reminder of the **entry/clear by** times for each bubble at the beginning and end of the school day.

Bubbles	AM Entry	AM Start	AM Clear By	PM Entry	PM Finish	PM Clear By
A (FS2, Y1 + Y2)	8.40am	8.45am	8.50am	3.05pm	3.10pm	3.15pm
B (Y3 + Y4)	8.50am	8.55am	9.00am	3.15pm	3.20pm	3.25pm
C (Y5 + Y6)	8.50am	8.55am	9.00am	3.25pm	3.30pm	3.35pm

If you are early you can join the queue and then wait by the 2m markings in the parish car park until it is time for you to enter the playground. Each evening, when younger children have been collected please either leave the grounds safely via the one way system or join the appropriate line in order to wait for older children.

Class Teachers

FS2	Mrs Darken
Y1	Mrs Hadfield (Inclusion/SENDCo) & Mrs Sambrook
Y2	Mrs Broadhead
Y3	Miss Brownbill
Y4	Mr Broadhead
Y5	Mr MacInnes
Y6	Mrs Barrett (Deputy Headteacher) & Mrs Holloway
French	Miss Cox - Primary Languages Network (Years 1-6)
Music	Junior Jam (Years 1-6)*

*in FS2 Music is part of the integrated provision

Teaching, Learning & Pastoral Support

- Miss Birch (Teaching Assistant – Student Support)
- Miss D’Roza (Higher Level Teaching Assistant)
- Miss Heath (Higher Level Teaching Assistant)
- Mrs Golland (Teaching Assistant)
- Mr Johnson (Teaching Assistant)
- Mrs Pickering (Learning & Inclusion Mentor)
- Mrs Prentice (Teaching Assistant)
- Mrs Raynes (Higher Level Teaching Assistant)
- Mrs Steenson (Temporary Teaching Assistant)
- Mrs Walton (Teaching Assistant)

Building Maintenance & Lunchtime Supervision

- Mr Andrews (Building Manager)
- Mrs Birch (Lunchtime Supervisor)
- Mrs Bower (Senior Lunchtime Supervisor/Cleaner)
- Ms Brothwell (Lunchtime Supervisor/cleaner)
- Mrs Hollingworth (Lunchtime Supervisor/Cleaner)
- Mrs Seaton (Lunchtime Supervisor/Cleaner)
- Mrs Thomas (Lunchtime Supervisor)

School Administration and Finance

- Mrs Ramsden (School Administration Manager)
- Mrs Birch (Administration Officer)



Governor's Name	Governor's Designation (up to September 2020)
• Mrs S Ludlam	Foundation Governor (Chair of the Governing Body)
• Mr M Watters	Foundation Governor (Vice-Chair of the Governing Body)
• Mr J Ball	Foundation Governor
• Mrs H Beatson	Foundation Governor
• Mr D Beever	Foundation Governor
• Mrs A Prestige	Foundation Governor
• Mrs C Prestige	Foundation Governor
• vacancy	Foundation Governor
• Mr F Barratt	Staff Governor (Headteacher)
• Mrs MM Barrett	Staff Governor (Teachers)
• Mrs A Pickering	Staff Governor (Support Staff)
• Mr A Drummond	Parent Governor
• Mrs C Thorpe	In attendance (Executive Officer, Multi-Academy Trust)
• Mrs L Ramsden	In attendance (Finance)



Our Governing Body fulfils a vital role in the life of our community, supporting the strategic leadership and management of our school. In Catholic academies, like SJF, there are several types of Governor. Our Governing Body is always looking for new members with skillsets and experience that will support the school e.g. a background in finance, law, human resources, education, health and safety, safeguarding, business the Catholic church etc. If you are interested in finding out more please contact us for information about roles and vacancies (enquiries@st-johnfisher.org). Please note that brand new parents are also eligible. Thank you.

Foundation Governors

Foundation Governors are practicing Catholics appointed by the Bishop of Hallam usually on the recommendation of their Parish Priest. Foundation Governors support the school by representing the Bishop on the board. A key aspect of their role is to uphold our Catholic ethos and ensure that Gospel values underpin and shape all strategic decisions and the overall focus and direction of our school. Foundation Governors do not need to be linked directly to the school i.e. they do not have to be parents or carers.

Parent Governors

Unlike Foundation Governors Parent Governors are elected by other parents of children in our school. To be eligible a candidate must have a child attending school at the time of the election. A Parent Governor can be re-elected if s/he still has a child attending school. A candidate does not have to be practicing Catholic.

Staff Governors

The Headteacher attends along with representatives of both teaching and support staff.

Staff News

I am delighted to welcome **Miss Birch** who is a student support teaching assistant. We will also be joined **Mrs Steenson** for the first weeks of the school year also as a student support teaching assistant. **Miss Heath** joins us on a temporary basis to cover Mr Hawley's role until a permanent replacement is recruited. **Miss Woods** is our new trainee teacher on placement with us for an initial teacher training programme run by our Sheffield Catholic Teaching Schools. She will be based in Y1 with Mrs Hadfield and Mrs Sambrook. **Mr Johnson**, remains with us for another year, but this time as a Teaching Assistant, supporting children in Bubble A in the mornings and PE across the bubbles during the afternoons in line with guidance and our risk assessment.

The children in Years 1-6 will enjoy French lessons delivered by **Miss Cox** from the Primary Language Network and music delivered by the team at Junior Jam. The specialist teachers of both subjects will ensure that curriculum content, teaching and learning is fun, inspiring and meets all OFSTED expectations.



The young people of FS2 will of course benefit from a high quality, varied and integrated early years curriculum that focuses on giving them the best possible start, with a sharp focus on supporting pupils to achieve Early Learning Goals within rich and engaging learning environments in and out of the classroom.

★ Citizen of the Week & Weekly Awards

★ We will start next week as will Golden Children and Writing Champions.

Getting Involved

This is the time of year that we appeal for people to get involved in school life. This is something that is special about our community here at St John Fisher. Unfortunately COVID-19 linked restrictions limit the number of the ways people can get involved with school life. As I have already said, there are opportunities to get involved as a Governor. Another way you can help is to join our PTFA. The PTFA is such a big part of school life and this year even more than in previous years they need other parents and carers to get involved. If you would like to find out more please email the PTFA and someone will get straight back to you. Your commitment can be as big or small as you like, and all contributions and ideas are welcomed and appreciated! Their email address is pffa@st-johnfisher.org. Please think seriously about getting involved, we really need you! Thank you!



PTFA & The Oasis

I would like to thank the PTFA for all their hard work preparing 'The Oasis' and for providing outdoor tables and chairs so that learning can take place outside of the classroom. I would also like to thank them for redesigning and repainting the mural. It looks stunning! We will share photographs in due course. Special thanks go to Mrs Cooper and Mrs Prestidge for all their tremendous efforts!

Forthcoming Events

Our usual packed calendar of events is being reworked and details of Masses and services are being finalised with Fr Bede, our new priest, this week and will be shared in due course.

07-09-20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All children in Years 1-6 start in new classrooms with new teachers FS2 Group A taster morning (9.30am to 11.30am) - no uniform
08-09-20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> FS2 Group B taster morning (9.30am to 11.30am) - no uniform Y1 and Y2 pupils need to wear PE uniform all day
09-09-20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> FS2 Group C taster morning (9.30am to 11.30am) - no uniform Y3 and Y4 pupils need to wear PE uniform all day
10-09-20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> FS2 whole class (9.30am to 11.30am) - no uniform Y5 and Y6 pupils need to wear PE uniform all day Welcome Presentations shared in Class Zone (https://www.st-johnfisher.org/class-zone/)
11-09-20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> FS2 whole class (9.30am to 12.30am) - no uniform but will need a healthy packed lunch
14-09-20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> FS2 first full day. The children will need to come to school wearing PE uniform.

Review & Target-Setting Meetings

Our meetings will take place over the phone rather than face to face. Please sign up for a time slot on your designated day. The conversations with your child(ren)'s new teacher(s) will last about ten minutes.

Term 1 Curriculum Overviews

The Term 1 Curriculum Overviews will be sent out in due course. Please do contact us if you need any help in order to support your children at home or if you can offer help to us. Thank you.

SJF Open Morning 2019

Unfortunately it will not be possible for our Opening Morning to go ahead this year due to COVID-19 restrictions. Arrangements are still being finalised as to if (and how) visits for prospective parents/carers can go ahead safely during the pandemic.





Uniform

Our uniform is important and pupils are expected to wear it and look smart every day. Our uniform is key to our identity and reflects our ethos, standards and high expectations.

Official Uniform Suppliers

We now have two official suppliers and items with the official logo can be bought from either 'Logo Leisurewear' or 'School Trends'. No other company has permission to sell uniform with the SJF official logo.

Here are the links to the SJF pages on the websites of our two official suppliers:

- **Logo Leisurewear:** <https://www.logoleisurewear.com/schoolshop/n-s/st-john-fisher>
- **School Trends:** <https://www.schooltrends.co.uk/uniform/StJohnFisherCatholicPrimarySchoolS124HJ>

Parents and carers can also purchase uniform items in the correct colours without a logo from other sources.

PE Uniform

Please that children are expected to come to school wearing their PE uniform on PE days. The official items can be purchased, with logos, from either supplier. If parents/carers opt to source items from elsewhere they must be absolutely plain with no logos, slogans or other embellishments, including designer label like Nike or Adidas etc. The sweatshirt must be plain maroon/burgundy and the bottoms must be plain light grey joggers.

Earrings and Jewellery

A reminder that children are **not** permitted to wear earrings/studs or any kind of jewellery at school. Sensible watches are permitted.

School Shoes

Whilst trainers/high boots can be worn to/from school e.g. in bad weather or to play football at break-times, pupils are expected to wear proper school shoes in school i.e. NO high boots or trainers (even all black ones).

PE Days

- **Mondays** FS2
- **Tuesdays** Years 1 and 2
- **Wednesdays** Years 3 and 4
- **Thursdays** Years 5 and 6



School Lunches

Please remember that children's lunches must be ordered by midnight each Thursday for the following week. You have the option to order for more than one week if you choose. Taylor Shaw works with our School Council to set the menus. Please talk to your children about their meal choices to avoid disappointment in school!

Pupil Premium Grant

If you are (or have been) in receipt of benefits of one kind or another then your children might be entitled to a Pupil Premium Grant and free school meals. The grant is also available to children in care or those with parents serving in the UK armed forces. The grant provides school with much needed additional money to support vulnerable children. It is therefore very important that you tell us, especially now, whilst school funding is such an issue. Please make sure you claim even if your child is in FS2/Y1/Y2 and receives free school meals anyway. Please speak in confidence to Mrs Ramsden or Mrs Birch in order to find out more. Thank you.

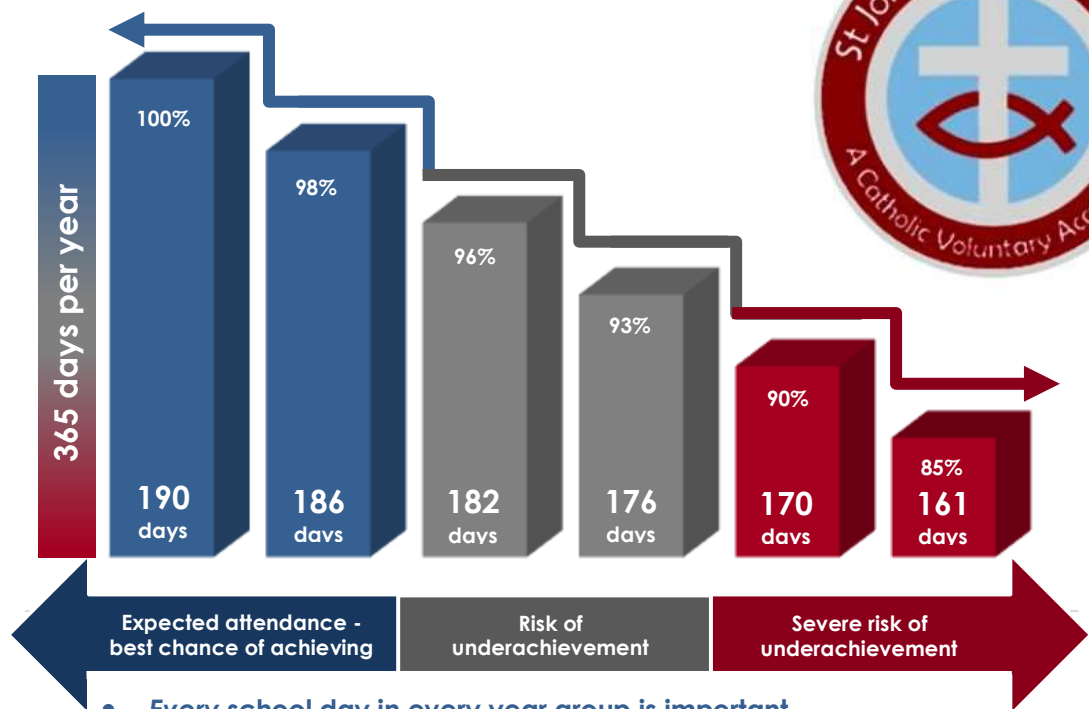
Parish News

Information about parish and Diocesan life including the times of Masses and Confession and sacramental preparation is available via this link to the parish website: <http://www.ourladyoflourdessheffield.org.uk/>.





Attendance Matters at SJF



- Every school day in every year group is important
- Holidays in term-time can have an impact on children and their progress
- 98%+ attendance is the target (186+ days) this year
- Try to have no more than 4 days off in a year
- **There are 175 non-school days for holidays and appointments** (where there is flexibility)
- **Good attenders tend to feel more happy and secure in school and achieve better**

Attendance is now compulsory again. In **every** year group is extremely important and time out during term time has a negative impact on children's progress, achievement and sense of wellbeing and confidence. As we reopen after lockdown it more important than ever that children attend school if they are well.

Sometimes parents/carers assume wrongly that term-time holidays for younger children have no negative impact, or that time out in primary school somehow matters less than at secondary school. Now we have the added risk of holiday destinations being placed on the quarantine list whilst families are away, meaning that the already negative impact of missing school for a holiday is increased as the children and their families then have to quarantine.

To underline the importance of high attendance our target remains 98% and we will be active in trying to achieve it. That said, we do understand that occasionally there are circumstances when a term-time absence is genuinely unavoidable and these situations will always be judged on a case-by-case basis, taking full account of the additional information parents/carers provide to demonstrate that there exceptional circumstances.

Catholic Life

September Prayer

Hail Mary full of grace, the Lord is with thee
 Blessed art thou amongst women and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus
 Holy Mary, mother of God, pray for us now and at the hour of our death. Amen

'Coming In' Song will be spoken rather than sung as the children remain in class

Ubi caritas et amor (Where charity and love are, God is there)
 Ubi caritas, deus ibi est



Statement to Live By

Our last 'statement to live by' of the year is: **"We are all special"**

Time to talk: To know we are special is to know that we are loved.

To know that we are loved is to know that God made us in His image, and that He is always present in our lives if we are open to seeing and hearing Him.

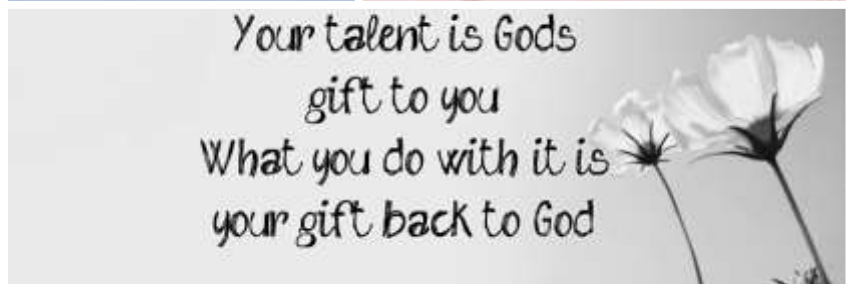
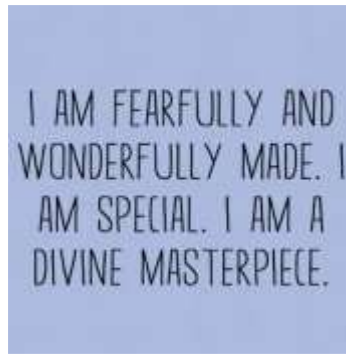
We are all amazing; created to be unique and special by a God who knows us and loves us so much.

We all have our own gifts and talents - those special things which make us unique.

What makes you special?

What makes your friends special?

What about your parents, brothers and sisters, cousins, uncles and aunts?



Remember that God created each of us to be brilliant and to shine brightly every day. When we are feeling down on ourselves (or others) it is important that we remember this first, and then try to refocus, because the truth is that we are *all* special.

Best wishes,
Mr Barratt