

SJF NEWS



www.st-johnfisher.org | www.ourladyoflourdessheffield.org.uk | Friday 9th February 2024

Weekly Awards

The early closure of school on Thursday, because of adverse weather, meant that family and friends were not able to visit the SJF Curriculum Showcase after school. A decision was therefore taken, to cancel today's Celebration Assembly, in order to give family and friends an opportunity to visit the showcase this morning. This week's awards will therefore be presented in the first Celebration Assembly of Term 4, and shared in the newsletter on 23rd February 2024.



Staff News

Today most of the school community came together in order to bid a fond farewell to Miss Birch, as she commences her maternity, and excitedly awaits the birth of her baby. Inevitably, plans were disrupted, to an extent, by the forced closure of school on Thursday afternoon, however, in spite of this, the children of **Y6**, who were in London with Mr MacInness, Mr Barratt, Mrs Grayson, Miss Steenson and Mr Pursehouse, still managed to share pre-record messages with Miss Birch.

We thank Miss Birch, for her hard work and dedication to our community, and she leaves us, to begin her maternity leave, with all our love and best wishes. A process to recruit a suitable replacement is underway.

Attendance: Term 3 - Final Week

1 st	Y4	97.7%	Bobby Bear will visit next week
2 nd	Y1	96.7%	Brenda Bear will visit next week
3 rd	Y6	95.5%	Elvis Owl will visit next week
4 th	FS2	94.2%	Billy Bear will visit next week
5 th	Y3	92.7%	
5 th	Y5	92.7%	
7 th	Y2	91.0%	

Target = 98.0% Average Attendance = 94.3%

Attendance: Term 3 - Overall

1 st	Y4	97.3%	
2 nd	Y3	96.8%	
3 rd	Y5	96.7%	
4 th	Y1	95.7%	
5 th	Y6	95.8%	
6 th	Y2	94.3%	
7 th	FS2	91.0%	

Average Term 3 Attendance = 95.5%



Get Set, GO!

1 st	Y1	79%
2 nd	Y4	78%
3 rd	Y6	74%
3 rd	Y3	74%
5 th	Y5	72%
6 th	FS2	71%
7 th	Y2	69%

Average = 74%

Attendance: Terms 1, 2 and 3

1 st	Y4	97.3%	
2 nd	Y5	97.0%	
3 rd	Y6	96.6%	
4 th	Y3	96.1%	
5 th	Y1	95.7%	
6 th	Y2	94.3%	
7 th	FS2	94.0%	

Average Year-to-Date Attendance = 95.9%

Term 3 Smiley Scores (The scores from the final week will be shared in the next newsletter)

St Andrew's House 462 1750	St David's House 473 1715	St Patrick's House 492 1743	St George's House 465 1662
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SJF Learning Value: Term 4

When return after the holiday, our Term 4 Learning Value will be 'Self-Belief'.

Self-belief is all about:

- ✓ trusting in our own abilities
- ✓ setting ourselves challenging but realistic goals
- ✓ gaining confidence and thinking of ourselves positively

If we have self-belief, we understand that:

- ✓ we can achieve our potential if we believe in ourselves and are resilient
- ✓ we should continually set more challenging goals to help us stay motivated to move forward
- ✓ gaining confidence gives us the strength to carry on – even when it feels easier to give up

We can show our self-belief by:

- ✓ having a positive and determined mindset
- ✓ encouraging others supportively to try (and keep trying) to achieve their goals
- ✓ really believing that we can call reach our potential and achieve our goals

The following words come to mind when we think of self-belief:

- courage
- tenacity and focus
- assuredness
- determination
- faith
- inner strength
- positivity
- confidence
- resilience



Our Catholic Life

Weekly Celebration of the Word

Our next Celebration of the Word takes place on **Thursday 22nd February 2024** and will be led by our **Y4** pupils. We invite their family and friends to join us in the hall at 9.00am.

Our Virtues to Live By

In our Tuesday assemblies, the children will reflect on **charity** and **forgiveness**, important virtues that will help to guide us on our personal Lenten journeys.



Collective Worship

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Citizenship Statement of Belief Assembly (Headteacher) Chaplains' Celebrations (Years 5 and 6)	'Virtues to Live By' Class Assembly (Teachers & Chaplains)	Themed Assembly (Teacher-Led)	Weekly Celebration of the Word (Class-Led)	Celebration Assembly (School Leaders) Chaplains' Celebrations (Years 1, 2, 3 and 4) Story Liturgy (FS2)

Our Lenten Prayer: 'The Confiteor'

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.



O Lord, Hear My Prayer

Tenor | Jacques Berthoin | Psalm 102



Our Early Lent Gathering Song

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 2023

Lent is a very special time in the Christian calendar - a time of preparation for Easter, the greatest of all Christian feasts. Lent begins with Ash Wednesday, which is during the school holiday, this year. During an Ash Wednesday Mass or service ashes, made from the previous year's burnt palms, are used to gently mark our foreheads as a reminder that we are loved equally by God and that our lives are special, but short - and so should be lived selflessly.

Lent can also be a very blessed time for those who make the most of the opportunities provided to reflect on their lives, struggles and those things that keep them from God. It is an invitation to resolve to be better.

Lent is a time of hope; a chance to repent and start again, by making the changes we need to make so that we can benefit from having a full relationship with Our Father. It is a time to show love and respect to others and especially those who are poor and marginalised in our city and world. It is a time when we are challenged to use our gifts, abilities and talents to do more to help others practically, offering prayers and making sacrifices, for example, by fasting or giving up certain things that we enjoy. Information about what we will be doing to support Bishop Ralph's 2024 Lenten Good Shepherd Appeal will be shared shortly. A reminder that the appeal supports the vital work of small and important charities that do so much good in Sheffield.

As Christians, we believe that Easter recalls the incredible sacrifice that Jesus made for us when he was crucified and died for everyone's sins, before rising again, three days later, in order to destroy those sins and set us all free. Lent is a time when we are called to pray, fast, give and hope.



Lent Class Reflections

During Lent our Class Chaplains will support staff with the organisation of simple daily Lenten class reflections. These start on **Wednesday 21st February 2024** and run until **Friday 22nd March 2024**. We invite parents/carers to book one reflection, initially, in classes where their children are pupils. Places are limited so if you wish to join more reflections please call on the day to see if there are spaces. Please arrive by 3.05pm, thank you.



Monday

Y1 Y5 Y6

Tuesday

FS2 Y3 Y4 Y5 Y6

Wednesday

FS2 Y1 Y2 Y5 Y6

Thursday

FS2 Y1 Y2 Y3 Y4

Friday

Y2 Y3 Y4

SJF Passion Play 2024

The English word "passion" is comes from the Latin word *passio*, which means suffering. The expression, 'passion of Christ' is therefore used to describe the pain and suffering that Jesus Christ endured, for our sins, during the last days of his life. We mark this, here, each year with a simple passion play performed by the children in Years 3-5. This year it takes place during Holy Week, on **Tuesday 26th March 2024**, starting at **2.00pm** in **Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church**. It will be followed by refreshments in the school hall. All are welcome.

Our lady of Lourdes Parish News

For information about parish and Diocesan life including; the times of Masses, services and confession; information about sacramental preparation; and what is planned for Lent and Easter please click this [link](#) to our parish website. Thank you.



Diocese of Hallam



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SJF Curriculum Showcase

I would like to thank everyone who was able to join us for our latest SJF Curriculum Showcase - a real celebration of children's learning. On display was a sample of work from every child and curriculum area - and it was as beautiful as it was inspiring. A few children acted as guides, on hand to talk to visitors about their learning and to explain the exhibits, which included samples of children's work, photographs capturing moments and video. The children all get an opportunity to be guides if they want to, a few at each event, so that it is fair.



Inevitably, this year's arrangements were impacted by the forced early closure of school on Thursday, due to the snow, but we were pleased to be able to provide a further opportunity for those family and friends who had planned to join us on Thursday evening, and had missed out, to join us the next morning instead.

I would like to thank the PTFA for, again, being on hand to provide refreshments. Their constant support of our community is so important and much appreciated. If you think that you could help out, for example, by selling refreshments for an hour or so, at events like this, please email the committee (pffa@st-johnfisher.org).

I would like to thank the children for their hard work and wonderful efforts to produce such beautiful pieces for us to view and enjoy. I would also like to thank my fantastic colleagues for supporting and enabling the children to be the active and engaged learners that they are, and also for helping to set everything up, and put it away. Please click [here](#) for more photos from the showcase.

Reading for Pleasure: Our Latest Feature Books of the Week



Please click [here](#) to view our full 2023-24 SJF Book List.

These are our latest feature books:

- **A Place Called Home**
 - Kate Baker
- **The Breakfast Club Adventures: The Beast Beyond the Fence!**
 - Marcus Rashford

Please follow this [link](#) to view the Waterstones reviews on our website.



Achievements outside of School

Please do not forget to share details of your children's achievements outside of school with us via our enquiries@st-johnfisher.org email address. Regardless of whether the achievements are big or small, we would be delighted to both share and celebrate your child's good news!



Uniform Reminders

Please ensure that children wear the correct uniform to school. Our uniform is a key part of our identity and we are proud of it. We appreciate your support in helping us to maintain our high standards. Please click [here](#) for the reminders on our SJF website.

Uniform can be bought from our official suppliers, who are the only ones licenced to use our school logo. Please see the links below:

- **Logo Leisurewear** (click [here](#))
- **School Trends** (click [here](#))

Shoes Reminder

Children are expected to wear **proper school shoes** in school. Trainers (including all-black ones) must **not** be worn instead of school shoes. Children can bring any trainers to wear at break-times for playing football for example, but must have school shoes to change back in to afterwards. Suitable trainers of any sort, can be worn on PE days as part of PE uniform.



Children must wear the correct SJF PE uniform on PE days. If not bought from one of our official suppliers, then items must be in the correct SJF colours (burgundy sweatshirt and mid grey bottoms). They must be **completely plain** and **not** branded or decorated at all.

- ✓ **No** designer labels or embellishments
- ✓ **No** leggings (just mid-grey joggers only please)

Jewellery Reminder

The wearing of jewellery, including earrings/studs is **not** allowed. Appropriate watches can be worn, but not smart watches that enable children to get online.

Confidential Support

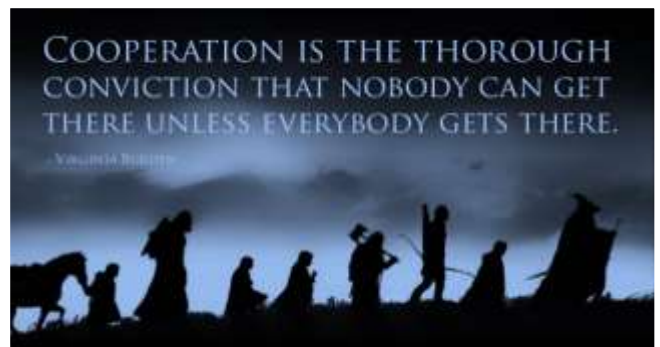
Please speak to us in confidence if you need time and support in order to provide the correct uniform. We are happy to pass on good quality, pre-loved, items that are donated to us. The PTFA also organises regular pre-loved uniform sales with high quality SJF uniform sold for £1 per item, including jumpers, cardigans, shirts, skirts, dresses, PE uniform, trousers etc. Please continue to donate unwanted quality uniform items, thank you.

Our Statement of Belief

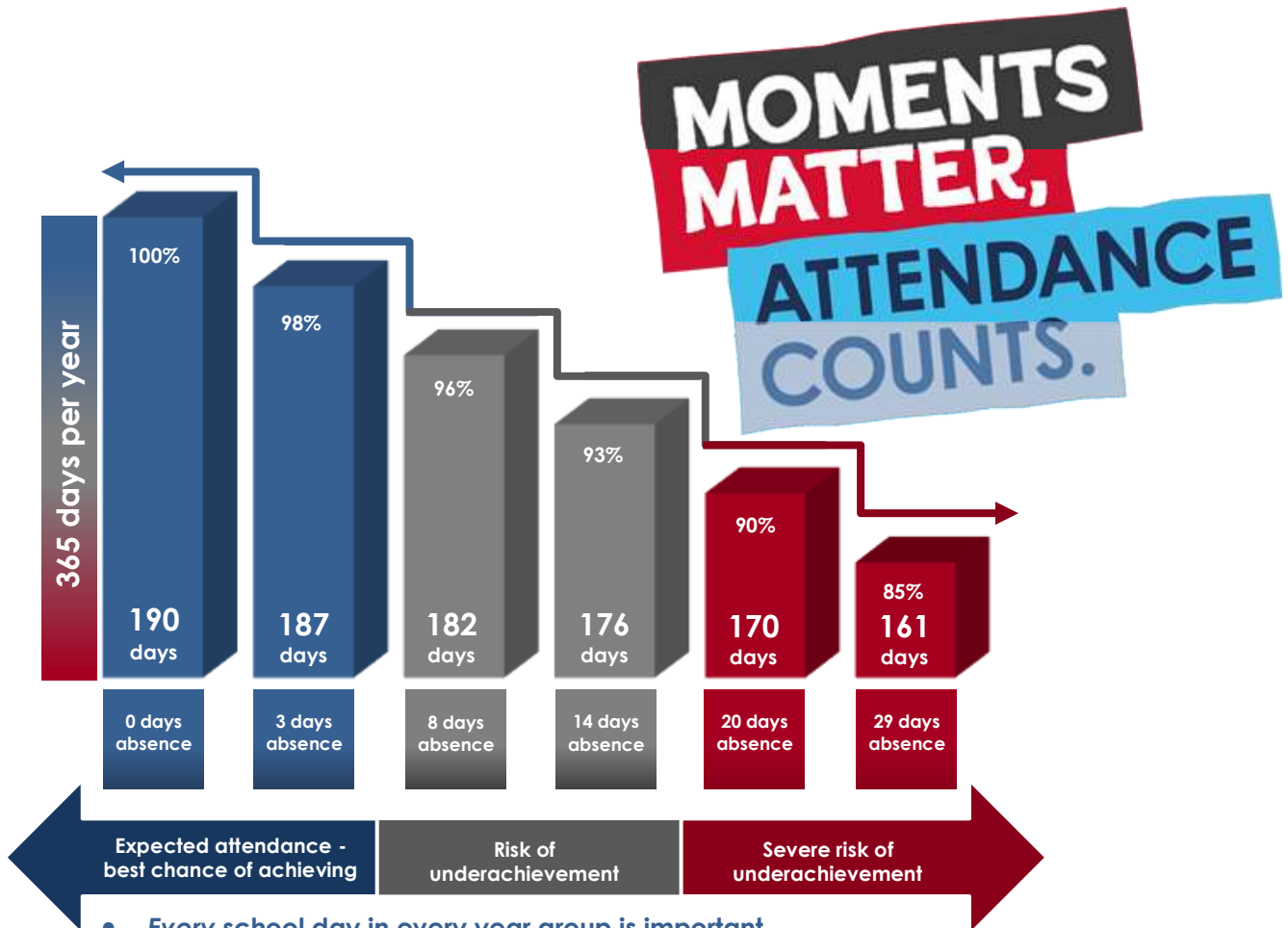
Our next 'Statement of Belief' is "**I cooperate with others in work and play**".

Time to talk: What does the word 'cooperate' mean? Can you find the meaning using a dictionary? Why is it important to cooperate in work and play? What sorts of things can we do and say to show that we are cooperating?

What might happen if we fail to cooperate?



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 a year
- **There are 175 non-school days for holidays and appointments (if there is flexibility)**
- **Good attenders tend to feel more happy and secure in school, and achieve well**

Punctuality Matters at SJF

