

# SJF NEWS

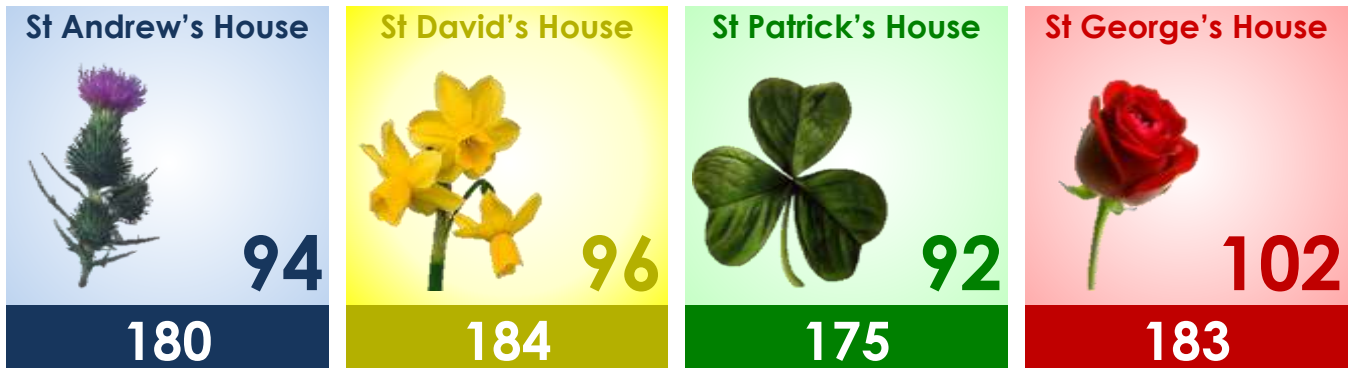


www.st-johnfisher.org | www.ourladyoflourdessheffield.org.uk | Friday 20<sup>th</sup> September 2024

## **Citizen of the Week**

This week's Citizen of the Week is **Phelan** in **Y5** who understands the importance of being able to say (and think) positive things about himself in line with this week's 'Statement of Belief'. He understands that it is important to be as kind to ourselves as it is to others. Every day he shows that he can treat others as he would like them to treat him, and in doing so, he sets a wonderful example. He rarely makes a fuss, and can be very thoughtful in supporting and caring for others. What a great friend you can be! We are proud of you!

## **Term 1 Smiley Scores**



## **Welcome Meetings**

Thank you to everyone who has attended our welcome meetings. Please note that the presentations were sent home to everyone who signed up for our website alerts, and they are available in the relevant class pages ([here](#)).



## **SJF Calendar: Events**

Our new 2024-25 SJF calendar is available on our website by clicking this [link](#). Please check it for details of educational visits; assessment points; nativity plays; curriculum showcases; the dates when different classes leading Celebrations of the Word; other services and Masses etc. It is all there, so you have time to plan.

## **INSET Day Reminder**

Please note that **Friday 25<sup>th</sup> October 2024** is a staff training (INSET) day, so school will be closed to children. The final day of Term 1 is Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> October. We reopen for the Term 2 on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> November 2024.

## **SJF Open Morning**



Our Open Morning takes place tomorrow, on **Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> September 2024** from 10.00am until 12.00pm. If you know anyone interested in finding out more about our school, please encourage them to come along and meet us.

### *All are Welcome*

We welcome children of all faiths and no faith, who wish to join our community, though baptised Catholic children are prioritised. We especially welcome anyone seeking places for September 2025.

Visitors will have an opportunity to meet our children; Headteacher, Deputy Headteacher and staff; Governors and members of our PTFA as they look around the site, asking any questions they have, in order to learn about our school and what makes it so special. Please spread the word for us!



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**Pupil Voice**

*Our SJF School Council 24-25*



At the end of the summer term, elections for the class councillors were held for children who would be in Years 1-5 this year. As reported in last week's newsletter, this process was completed with the election of five Y6 Councillors to senior roles on the School Council.



*Here is a word from Mr MacInnes, coordinator of our SJF School Council.*

Hustings for the four **Y6** Senior positions on the School Council were held this week, followed by an election.



This means that our new SJF School Council is now complete, and will gather for their first meeting with me, very soon - to meet each other and discuss plans for the year ahead.

As a new SJF School Council, the members intend to continue the fantastic work of their predecessors in promoting road safety and safe parking around school. They also hope to further embed our school's 'reading for pleasure' culture and will fundraise to revitalise our existing 'book nooks' and create new outdoor reading spaces. We look forward to very fun and productive year as a council!

<b>Chairperson</b> Jack	<b>Vice-Chairperson</b> Luke	<b>Treasurer</b> Louis	<b>Joint-Secretaries</b> Nahom & Rebecca	
<b>Y1 Councillors</b> Julia & Tinashe	<b>Y2 Councillors</b> Eliana-Joyce & Harlow	<b>Y3 Councillors</b> George & Nadia	<b>Y4 Councillors</b> Aria & Scarlett	<b>Y5 Councillors</b> Anjie & William

*The Hub*

The Hub operates over four lunchtimes each week for young people in Years **3, 4, 5** and **6**. It provides a space for children to engage with a range of different activities, including any homework tasks, if they choose.

It also provides a space for them to talk, if they have a worry ball, either with staff, or any of our trained Healthy Minds Champions, who are also on hand help.

The Hub is coordinated by Mr Murphy and links to his broader 'Healthy Minds' brief. There are four different opportunities open to children attending 'The Hub', each day, to engage with, including Outdoor Hub and, from time to time, other miscellaneous opportunities too.



	Focus 1	Focus 2	Focus 3	Focus 4
<b>Monday</b>	Chess/Board Games	Paper-based homework	Computer-based homework	Reading
<b>Tuesday</b>	Debate or Outdoor Hub	Paper-based homework	Computer-based homework	Reading
<b>Wednesday</b>	Quiz	Paper-based homework	Computer-based homework	Reading
<b>Thursday</b>	CLOSED			
<b>Friday</b>	Maths games & activities	Paper-based homework	Computer-based homework	Reading



On Tuesdays, children will have an opportunity to join our new 'Outdoor Hub' and explore their creativity within our natural environment. This new programme encourages children to learn, play and explore amidst nature, fostering a deeper connection with the world around them, enhancing artistic skills whilst promoting hands-on learning and environmental awareness. This week they used natural materials to create 'pictures' based on favourite people, characters and scenes from movies, TV and books.

Healthy Minds Champions

# Healthy Minds

Our 2024-25 Healthy Minds Champions have met with Angela Manning, our key worker from the Sheffield Healthy Minds Team, for a special training session.

Our team is made up of new and experienced members, and the training enabled them to get to know each other and to learn more about their important role in our school.





**REMINDER: Pre-Loved Uniform Sale & Help**

The next pre-loved uniform sale will be next **Friday 27<sup>th</sup> September 2024**, from 3.30pm in the **Y6** classroom. All quality items, are donated by families and are laundered and sorted. Items are available for a £2+ donation for items with our SJF logo and a £1+ donation for plain uniform items. Please speak to the school office or email the PTFA ([pta@st-johnfisher.org](mailto:pta@st-johnfisher.org)), if you are in a more desperate need of uniform. Thank you.



# PTFA WELCOME MEETING

You are invited to a very special welcome meeting to find out more about the important work of our PTFA. The meeting takes place after school on **Friday 4<sup>th</sup> October 2024**, in the **Y6** classroom starting at 3.30pm. Supervised childcare will be available close by. The PTFA does so much to support school life and enhance the experience of all our children.

Without their support we would really struggle to fill the gaps and do the things that they do which includes:

- ✓ funding transport to/from the Lyceum pantomime, treats for children and volunteers staff
- ✓ organising and delivering the fantastic Santa in School event
- ✓ arranging regular discos and family socials and events
- ✓ providing gifts parents for Mothers' Day and Fathers' Day, annually
- ✓ organising gifts from the community of parents/carers for Y6 leavers
- ✓ providing support at school events e.g. curriculum showcases, Sports Days, performances etc.
- ✓ organising the Friday Fayre and annual **Y5** Enterprise Challenge
- ✓ raising funds for projects like the transformation of our library, and our exciting new wildlife area

The PTFA is (and has always been) key to our school life. It is organised by a very special and dedicated group of volunteers. Please pop in and find out more. Supervised care, close by, will be provided for the children of everyone who attends.

## VOLUNTEERS WANTED



**Volunteering at SJF**

We are in desperate need of volunteers willing to support us in various ways in school. Please speak to staff on the gate or in the school office if you think you can help or would like to find out more. Please note that we undertake full safeguarding checks in line the requirements of **p**. The team in the school office can and will offer advice and support to prospective volunteers.

*Reading Volunteers*

We are desperate for more reading volunteers. The commitment does not have to be big and we can be flexible with timings. Please contact us if you would like to volunteer or more information ([0114 2485009](tel:01142485009))

*Swimming Volunteers*

Please contact us ([0114 2485009](tel:01142485009) or [enquiries@st-johnfisher.org](mailto:enquiries@st-johnfisher.org)) if you can support school staff escorting **Y4** pupils to and from swimming lessons on Wednesday afternoons in Terms 1 and 2, when they start.

*Wildlife Area Volunteers*

if you would like to support us with the development and maintenance of our new wildlife area and new planting around school. Please contact us ([0114 2485009](tel:01142485009) or [enquiries@st-johnfisher.org](mailto:enquiries@st-johnfisher.org)).



### Governorship: A message from our Chair of Governors

To those families returning for another school year - welcome back! To those joining us for the first time - a huge welcome from myself and the other governors on our Local Academy Committee. I am Dan Beever and the Chair of Governors at our school, as well as a parent.

As a governing body, we have a strategic role in supporting and challenging the leadership and direction of school. Whilst not intentional, our role can often be unseen (characterised by evening meetings in particular). We were therefore incredibly grateful for the parents that took the time to complete the survey circulated last year & flag that they would like to understand more about who our governors are and what they do. We will reflect on the feedback and address this over the school year.



I would like to request your help as we seek new voices and ideas in our team. Firstly, you will have seen the details of our Parent Governor vacancy and I would encourage anyone interested to put themselves forward, whether you have been part of our school community for years or only just joined us this month. The deadline for expressions of interest is 12 noon on Friday, 27<sup>th</sup> September.

Alongside our Parent Governor vacancy, we are keen to recruit to other governor roles. As a Catholic school, the majority of our governors are required to be practising Catholics (Foundation Governors), so we are always on the lookout for more people fitting this description to join us. In addition, we are keen to welcome more Co-opted Governors - individuals who have no specific connection with our school or the Catholic faith, but want to support our school community.

Whether Parent, Foundation or Co-opted, all of our governor roles have the same responsibilities and are valued equally - we are a team that support each other and our school, with full training available.

If you are interested in applying to be a Parent Governor then please follow the steps outlined in the information circulated via ParentMail and in bags on Friday. If you are interested in the role of Foundation or Co-opted Governor then please get in touch directly – my email address is [d.beever@st-johnfisher.org](mailto:d.beever@st-johnfisher.org). Equally, if you know family members, friends or colleagues who might be interested, please let them know!

If you have any questions about the above or governance at our school more generally then please do get in touch. Please click [here](#) for more information or to download the forms. Thank you,

D Beever  
SJF Chair of Governors

### Wake Up! Shake UP!

Click [here](#) to view the September routines devised by our team of Wake and Shakers, for you to practise at home!

Please join us, just after 8.40am, on the playground to join in!





**Our Catholic Life**



*Weekly Celebration of the Word*

We thank our **Y1** pupils supported by their **Y5** buddies for leading this week's fantastic Celebration of the Word! The next one takes place on **Thursday 26th September 2024**, and will be led by the young people of **Y2** and we invite their families and friends to join us. Recordings can be viewed by clicking this [link](#).

*Our Virtues to Live By*

Currently, we are focusing on the virtues of **respect** and **courtesy** in class assemblies and broader learning.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<b>Citizenship Statement of Belief Assembly</b> (Headteacher)	<b>'Virtues to Live By' Story Circle</b> (FS2)	<b>Themed Assembly</b> (Teacher-Led)	<b>Weekly Celebration of the Word</b> (Class-Led)	<b>Celebration Assembly</b> (School Leaders)
<b>'Virtues to Live By' Class Assemblies</b> (Years 2 to 6)			<b>'Virtues to Live By' Class Assemblies</b> (Year 1)	<b>Chaplains' Celebrations</b> (all Years)



**Our September Prayer: 'The Hail Mary'**

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



**Gathering Song**

Zion!  
Holy mountain, holy city, lead me on...  
To my Father!

Sacred road.  
I set my face like flint for you – Jerusalem!  
Make sacred joy!

**Relationships & Sex Education: The 'Ten:Ten' Programme**

To support our Relationships and Sex Education lessons we use the **Ten:Ten** programme, in common with other Hallam Catholic schools, because it has been approved by the Bishops' Conference of England and Wales and it has been deemed to also meet statutory requirements. Once this had all been established, the Catholic schools in Sheffield carried out a further consultation with Governors, parents and carers before the programme was introduced here at St John Fisher.



All materials have been checked by the relevant state and Catholic authorities and assessed to be appropriate both (a) in terms of what is delivered to primary-aged children of all ages; and (b) in terms of the teachings and values of our Catholic Church. The delivery of these lessons in schools is a requirement of the law meaning that children cannot be withdrawn and denied their statutory right to the information.

There is a parent/carer portal designed to provide more information. You log on look to view the information using the following details.

- **Parent Portal:** click [here](#)
- **Username:** st-john-fisher-s12
- **Password:** watch-time



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# Diocese of Hallam

## Our lady of Lourdes Parish News

Important information regarding parish and Diocesan life, including Mass times and sacramental preparation can be found [here](#). To view the latest newsletter, please click [here](#). Thank you.

### SJF Curriculum Updates

#### Term 1 Curriculum Overviews

The Term 1 Curriculum Overviews have been shared and are available via this [link](#).

In Terms 1, 2 and 3, we are inviting parents and carers to observe (a) one of our story time sessions in each class; (b) your child's phonics or class reading session; and (c) a Maths challenge session. Please contact the school office beforehand if you would like to book a place for any of the sessions. Thank you.



#### Shared Story Sessions (3.00pm, The Marie Kerley library or classroom)

##### FS2 (Parents/carers can book one session)

Thank you to everyone who has attended one of our FS2 shared story times this week. The final one takes place this afternoon.

- Friday 20<sup>th</sup> September 2024

##### Y6

- Friday 20<sup>th</sup> September 2024

##### Y5

- Friday 20<sup>th</sup> September 2024

##### Y4

- Friday 27<sup>th</sup> September 2024

##### Y3

- Friday 4<sup>th</sup> October 2024

##### Y2

- Friday 11<sup>th</sup> October 2024

##### Y1

- Friday 18<sup>th</sup> October 2024

#### Shared Phonics and Class Reading Sessions (9.15am, various locations)

##### Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> November 2024

- for parents/carers of children in **FS2 Y1 Y2**
- book through school office beforehand
- refreshments in the school hall from 9.00am
- parents/carers will be directed to the appropriate classroom to observe the session

##### Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> November 2024

- for parents/carers of children in **Y3 Y4 Y5 Y6**
- book through school office beforehand
- refreshments in the school hall from 9.00am
- parents/carers will be directed to the appropriate classroom to observe the session

#### Shared Maths Challenge Sessions (9.15am, various locations)

##### Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> January 2025

- for parents/carers of children in **FS2 Y1 Y2**
- book through school office beforehand
- refreshments in the school hall from 9.00am
- parents/carers will be directed to the appropriate classroom to observe the session

##### Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> January 2025

- for parents/carers of children in **Y3 Y4 Y5 Y6**
- book through school office beforehand
- refreshments in the school hall from 9.00am
- parents/carers will be directed to the appropriate classroom to observe the session








### Library Days 24-25

Children in classes 1-6 will change and renew their library books on the following days. Please ensure that they have their library books with them.








Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Y2	Y1		FS2	Y6
Y3			Y4	
Y5				










**Golden Children!**

- FS2**  The **whole class**, again, or settling in so well!
- Y1**  **Isabelle** for not giving up if she finds something difficult - showing such resilience, and for making good choices and wanting to do the right thing. Well done, Isabelle!
- Y2**  **Lexi** for being amazing at following instructions, even the more complex ones! Well done!
- Y3**  **Marianna** for having such a wonderful week - demonstrating such determination and for asking great questions to help further her learning. Well done!
- Y4**  **Eliel** for radiating positivity in all areas of learning. He is always the first to put his hand up and, even if unsure, he is willing to challenge himself. This attitude is inspiring others to give it a go and take a risk!
- Y5**  **Caleb** for his infectious enthusiasm when explaining what he knows and his eagerness to extend his own understanding of new things. Great work, Caleb!
- Y6**  **Nahom** for being curious and for having a wonderful attitude towards his own learning! He has worked hard in all areas of the curriculum this week.

**Writing Champions!**

- FS2**  **Next week**
- Y1**  **Julia** for her excellent letter formation and super effort in our handwriting sessions this week.
- Y2**  **George** for trying hard to write with interesting adverbs!
- Y3**  **Raquel** for making a wonderful start to her stone-age child adventure story! Well done!
- Y4**  **Freddie S** for working hard to punctuate direct speech, correctly. He even used this as part of his spelling practise, creating his own sentences which include direct speech.
- Y5**  **Mahdi** for his fantastic attention to detail, ensuring that the presentation of his work is of a good standard, checking spellings and punctuation in every piece. Well done!
- Y6**  **Scarlett** for the excellent progress that she has made in this week's learning about different sentence structures.

**Maths Champions!**

- FS2**  **Next week**
- Y1**  **Lucy** for being wonderful partner in our maths 'talk tasks', because she is such a good listener. She supports her partner if they find something difficult. Keep it up Lucy!
- Y2**  **Hattie** for wanting to challenge herself in every lesson!
- Y3**  **Mila** for her superb rounding and adjusting - for addition!
- Y4**  **Joshua** for trying so hard when rounding numbers to the nearest 10/100/1000 to the point where he is now able to explain each step to rounding and he can support others around him!
- Y5**  **Gabriella** for her growing confidence in mathematics and blossoming determination to have a go!
- Y6**  **Jai** for the excellent work ethic he has displayed in this week's maths lessons, particularly in Thursday's lesson on rounding. What a star!





**Reading for Pleasure: Our Latest Feature Books of the Week**



**READING FOR PLEASURE**

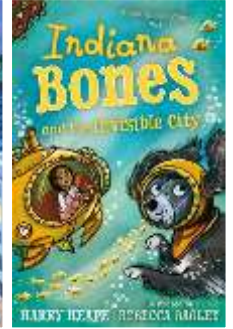
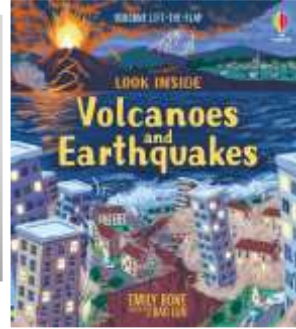
"The more you read the more things you know.  
The more that you learn the more places you'll go."  
-Dr. Seuss

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

These are our latest feature books:

- **Look Inside Volcanoes and Earthquakes**
  - Emily Bone
- **Indiana Bones and the Invisible City**
  - Harry Heape

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



**Attendance**

*Here is a message from Mr Murphy...*

We are excited to introduce our new attendance reward system, 'Be In To Win'. This initiative aims to encourage and reward students for excellent attendance and punctuality. During the week, students who arrive on time will have the chance to win on-the-spot prizes. The aim is to motivate students to maintain consistent attendance, which is crucial for their academic success. Our hope is that "Be In To Win" will foster a positive and engaging school environment, and we thank you for your support.



Weekly Attendance			
1st	Y5	1000%	Bobby Bear visiting
2nd	FS2	98.3%	Brenda Bear visiting
3rd	Y4	98.1%	Elvis Owl visiting
4th	Y1	97.9%	Billy Bear visiting
5th	Y6	96.5%	
6th	Y2	96.0%	
7th	Y3	91.6%	
Target = 98.0%		Average Attendance = 96.9%	



Get Set, GO!		
1st	FS2	87%
2nd	Y5	82%
3rd	Y6	79%
4th	Y2	76%
5th	Y1	68%
5th	Y4	68%
7th	Y3	54%
Average = 73%		

**Our Weekly Beat Your Best Challenge**



This week's Beat Your Best was designed by Charlotte and Aureilia and focuses on honing your dribbling and travelling skills with a basketball. If you take part, the Sports Majors will give you a basketball and lay out some coloured hoops on the floor. When a colour is called, your job is to dribble the ball around the hoop with the corresponding colour.

In between colours being called, you will be challenged to *travel* with the ball around the space. Do you think you will make it round the smaller hoops? Come find us on the playground to find out! Please click [here](#) to view the Sports Majors' demonstration video.



### Achievements outside of School

You are invited to share details of your children's achievements outside of school with us via email ([enquiries@st-johnfisher.org](mailto:enquiries@st-johnfisher.org)). Regardless of whether achievements are big or small, we are happy to share and celebrate our children's good news!

- Niamh in **Y5** has been promoted to sixer in brownies, leading the group! An incredible achievement, Niamh, well done!

### Statement to Live By

Our 'statement to live by' next week will be: **"I try to forgive others when they hurt me"**

**Time to talk:** Together you could think about what the word *forgiveness* means.

- Why is it important?
- Why can it be difficult?
- Why are we asked to forgive those who hurt us?
- Think of a time when you offered forgiveness?
- Think of a time when forgiveness was offered to you?
- How does it feel after forgiveness is shared?
- How could more forgiveness, shared and received, make our world safer and happier?

PEOPLE ARE OFTEN UNREASONABLE AND SELF-CENTERED.  
**FORGIVE THEM ANYWAY.**  
IF YOU ARE KIND, PEOPLE MAY ACCUSE YOU OF ULTERIOR MOTIVES.  
**BE KIND ANYWAY.**  
IF YOU ARE SUCCESSFUL, YOU WILL WIN SOME FALSE FRIENDS AND SOME TRUE ENEMIES  
**SUCCEED ANYWAY.**  
WHAT YOU SPEND YEARS BUILDING SOMEONE CAN DESTROY OVERNIGHT  
**BUILD ANYWAY.**



PEOPLE MAY BE JEALOUS.  
**BE HAPPY ANYWAY.**  
THE GOOD YOU DO TODAY MAY BE FORGOTTEN TOMORROW.  
**DO GOOD ANYWAY.**  
GIVE THE WORLD THE BEST YOU HAVE AND IT MAY NEVER BE ENOUGH.  
**GIVE YOUR BEST ANYWAY**  
FOR YOU SEE, IN THE END, IT IS BETWEEN YOU AND GOD.  
**IT WAS NEVER BETWEEN YOU AND THEM ANYWAY.**

-MOTHER TERESA







# St John Fisher PTFA

## WELCOME MEETING: Friday 4th October

### Who we are..



The PTFA is the registered charity linked to St John Fisher. We raise money through fun events such as discos, fayres and family nights. The aim is for money raised to be used to enhance every child's school experience. We like to bring our wonderful school community together and provide memorable experiences for the children. The Committee is: Catherine Cooper- Chair, Jessica Pattison- Vice Chair, Swathi Paul- Treasurer, Public Relations- Catherine Ball and Fundraisers- Lucy Wells, Jenine Crapper and Lauren Howarth

### What we do..

Giving back to our school and seeing how we can make a difference is what makes all our hard work worthwhile! Thanks to the amazing support from our Parents, Teachers and Friends (The PT and F! in our Association), we have been able to fund many things that enhance our children's school experience. For example, providing coaches to the Pantomime, science activity providers attending school, creating a refurbished school library etc. We have recently been working towards the creation of a new outdoor learning area complete with pond, for the children to learn about nature.



### Join us!



There are SO MANY ways you can help us. Whether it's helping sell ice creams on the playground, behind the scenes preparation for events, or stall holding at the fayre or Discos- we appreciate EVERYTHING! Big and small. It's all a team effort and lots of fun doing so. Please get in touch with us by emailing [ptfa@st-johnfisher.org](mailto:ptfa@st-johnfisher.org). You can also follow what we get up to by "liking" our page [www.facebook.com/SJFSheffield](http://www.facebook.com/SJFSheffield)

### PTFA AGM

Please join us at the PTFA AGM/ Welcome meeting on Friday 4th October at school, 3:30-4:30pm- childcare will be provided, as will free tea, coffee and biscuits! The AGM is a legal requirement for the charity, where the year's Committee members are made official. We will be sharing details of our finances and fundraising activities we've been doing over the past year. Please come along to find out more! All are very welcome.

# AGM

