



St John Fisher News

Friday 3rd February 2017 (Issue 18 - 2016/17)



www.st-johnfisher.org
www.ourladyoflourdessheffield.org.uk

Citizen of the Week

This week's recipient of the award is **Caitlin Hardy** in **Y2** who understands that we are happiest when we are united in line with this week's 'Statement to Live' by. Colleagues have described Caitlin as a diamond who – very quietly and with no fuss – always supports others when she is part of team. She also helps other children in lessons and in group activities. Caitlin does not do anything for recognition or reward, but simply because of an instinct to reach out to others. Congratulations Caitlin, everyone is very proud of you!

Staff and Parish Car Parks

Please do not use the staff car park to drop children off to school in the morning or collect them at the end of the day.

Members of Staff and Governors have raised concerns regarding the risk of a serious accident occurring involving authorised users of the car park and pupils walking across the car park, especially when it is darker, early in the morning and after school. I would very much appreciate your cooperation with this matter.

Also please do not use the parish car park unless you have Fr Paul's permission. Thank you.

Term Dates 2017/18

I am aware that there has been some discussion about the 2017/18 term dates I issued on the 25th January. I thought it would be helpful to give you some background to the reason for these dates.

The Sheffield Local Authority is very keen for all schools to align their holiday patterns where possible. I therefore attended an open meeting with Headteachers from different Infant, Junior, Primary, Secondary and Special schools from right across Sheffield. Everyone had an opportunity to share their issues and ideas.

So you are clear, the Bishop's view is that Catholic schools should always aim to be open right up to the great feasts of Christmas and Easter and then have their holiday afterwards. We are therefore committed to trying to set SJF holidays based on this key principle.

I also wanted to respond to the reasonable feedback from parents/carers who have children in more than one setting and who have expressed their preference for term dates and holidays to be more aligned in order to make issues like holiday childcare and the booking of family holidays easier for them.

We have aligned our term dates with other Sheffield schools in 2017/18 because the dates proposed take account of the Catholic principle of working right up to the great feasts. I do appreciate that some of you might be disappointed that we do not have a two-week Spring Bank holiday in 2017/18 but this is because the Spring Bank Holiday coincides with the public examination season for secondary schools and colleges, meaning that they can never have a two-week holiday at this time.

As Easter is not fixed there may be specific years in the future where the full alignment of term dates between all Sheffield schools is more difficult than it is in 2017/18. However Headteachers and the Local Authority are committed to working together so that where possible term dates and holidays are aligned.

Uniform Reminder

Boots

Children can wear wellington boots or other high boots to and from school and at playtimes if the weather is cold and/or bad, however **they must bring proper school shoes in with them to wear in school at all other times**. Shoes can be left in a bag on their pegs after they change into their boots at the end of the day.

PE Kit

Children must wear a plain burgundy sweatshirt and plain grey jogging bottoms on PE days. You have the choice to either purchase this kit (with the school logo) from our specialist supplier, 'School Trends' via this link: <http://www.schooltrendsonline.com/uniform/StJohnFisherCatholicPrimarySchools124HJ> or from another source. Please note that items bought from another source must be plain and unbranded. Thank you.

Assessment Workshop

A reminder that there will be two workshops on **Monday 13th February 2017** to explain how our assessment cycle and tracking system works and to go through the report formats - both for the interim updates and the end of year reports. We will also aim to answer any questions that you might have. The first session is at **3.30pm** and this will be repeated at **5.00pm**. The sessions are in Mr Smith's Y6 classroom. Please note that we can provide childcare during the first session but not the second. Thank you.

Forthcoming Events

Don't forget that our calendar is on our website or via this link: www.st-johnfisher.org/parents/school-dates/

Bags2School

Another reminder that collections will now take place on:

- Friday 10th February 2017
- Friday 5th May 2017



Parent Advice and Support – Drop-in Sessions

Please remember that all parents and carers can access advice and support from the MAST Parent Support Team. There are weekly drop in sessions in the school library from **8.30am on Thursday mornings** which are open to everyone.

Advice can be on a wide range of issues, from general information about services available to Sheffield parents/carers to more personal and specific advice on parenting, housing, debt- management and coping with addiction etc. If you would like an appointment please speak to Mrs Asquith. Thank you.

Advice and support
for children and
families



Contact MAST when
your family needs
some extra help

Our Catholic Life

Weekly Liturgy of the Word

Our next Liturgy of the Word will be led by the young people of **Y5** on **Thursday 9th February 2017**. The family and friends of our **Y5** children are therefore invited to join us in the School Hall just after **9.00am** on the day.

Celebration Assembly

We invite the family and friends of our **Y4** children to join us for our Celebration Assembly next **Friday 10th February 2017** in the School Hall at **2.55pm**.

Parish News

You are invited to a special healing Mass to mark the feast day of Our Lady of Lourdes on **Friday 10th February 2017**, at **7.00pm**. There will be special prayers for the healing of the sick in the presence of the relics of St Maximillian Kolbe. Everyone is welcome.

Please note that important information about services and events in our parish of Our Lady of Lourdes is available via the parish website: www.ourladyoflourdessheffield.org.uk. Thank you.

Term 3 Smiley Scores So Far...

St Andrew's House  334	St David's House  395	St Patrick's House  359	St George's House  325
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Good Shepherd Appeal

The Bishop's annual appeal is one of our nominated House charities and raises money for small Diocesan-linked charities which do such important work for local vulnerable people. Information has been sent out alongside this newsletter.

Jubilee Tree Planting

As part of our Diamond Jubilee celebrations every child will be given their own sapling to plant in the school grounds later this year. Most will be planted in the top corner of the school field in order to eventually create a small wooded area to further enhance our learning environment.

Writing Champions

FS2	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Daniel Grzesiakowski	Olivia Moomba	William Denham	Ava Jones	Lorenzo Dizon	Isaac Patterson	Ellie Cheetham

Golden Children

FS2	Katy Beatson for showing kindness to others and for being able to describe how to be a good friend!
Year 1	Riley Wood for working really hard in Mathematics and impressing Mrs Pickering!
Year 2	Tiarnan McKeown for being a super member of Y2 this week! He has tried very hard to complete tasks and help others! Well done!
Year 3	Lily Peters for having a 'can do' attitude and a fantastic enquiring approach to learning! What a superstar!
Year 4	Laurie Paige for having a mature attitude towards helping others and a willingness to work with everyone!
Year 5	James Fitzpatrick for working very hard in class this week. He is very helpful and knows what needs to be organised and Mrs Holloway really appreciates this! What a star!
Year 6	Abigail Morgan for showing a wonderful attitude and dedication in her understanding of Mathematics! Well done Abigail!

Achievements Outside of School

- **Polly Flude** in **Y1** has just achieved her Stage 1 swimming badge. Well done, what a great achievement!
- **Tamzin Samba** in **Y3** achieved her 100m swimming award recently. Congratulations!

Attendance This Week

FS2	94.0%			The overall school average remains just above 97%. Let us see if every class can match or beat the 97% target next week. Thank you for your support.
Year 1	95.0%			
Year 2	98.9%	Brenda Bear will visit next week		
Year 3	99.3%	Bobby Bear will visit next week		
Year 4	97.2%			
Year 5	97.5%	Elvis the Owl will visit next week		
Year 6	98.1%			
Weekly Target	97%	This week's Average Attendance	97.2%	

KIDZONE

Please contact KIDZONE directly for information about the February holiday club, or to book places. Thanks.

<http://www.st-johnfisher.org/parents/the-kidzone-onsite-out-of-hours-care/>

Statement to Live By

Next week our 'statement to live by' is "**I listen to what you say and I show that I am listening.**"

Time to talk: Together you could think about the difference between **hearing** and **listening**. How do we show someone we are listening actively to them? Why is it important to listen? How does it make us feel when someone really listens to us? How does it feel when they don't? When do you make time to listen to God in your daily life?

The word "listen" contains the same letters as the word "silent".

God speaks in the silence of heart.
Listening is the beginning of
Prayer.

LEARN TO BE A GOOD LISTENER, YOUR EARS WILL NEVER GET YOU IN TROUBLE!

~FRANK TYGER

Best wishes,
Mr Barratt