

SJF NEWS

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Friday 8th September 2017 (Issue 1 ~ 2016/17)



Welcome Back!

I would like to extend a warm welcome back to you all for the new academic year! I have really enjoyed meeting back up with all the children and catching up on their news. It has been really special to hear about all the exciting things they did over the summer holiday.

Citizen of the Week

The first recipient is **Harry Parkin** (Y6) who has made a fantastic start to the new school year. He has impressed everybody with his focus, maturity and readiness to learn. Though it was a difficult choice, as all the children have made a really positive start - we agreed that Harry deserved to be the first Citizen of the Week for the new school year because he is so caring and makes everybody else feel special – in line with our statement to live by this week. As there was no Celebration Assembly this week, Harry will receive his award next Friday.

Welcome Mass

Today we gathered as a community for our annual start of the school year 'Welcome Mass'. The theme was friendship and the service gave us all an opportunity to root the year – and all our hopes - in prayer. I would like to thank Fr Paul for helping finalise the liturgy and for arranging for Fr Geoff to step in to celebrate Mass in his absence. I would like to thank Fr Geoff; Mr Smith and the young people of Y6 for leading the liturgy; Miss Pendlebury for the wonderful music; the children and everyone who was able to join and support us. It was a very special way to mark the start of the new school year.

Staff News

We welcome Mrs Barrett, our new Deputy Headteacher, in Y3 and Mrs Morris in Y1. Following the birth of her second child, Mrs Bishop has decided not to return when her current period of maternity leave ends - so we send her and her family our prayers and best wishes.

Sadly Mrs Pickering is unwell currently and will not be able to return to work for a few weeks (though you might see her when she brings her son to school). We send her our best wishes for a speedy recovery. In her absence, Mrs Asquith has kindly agreed to return temporarily in order to maintain continuity and she will work on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays. We also welcome Mrs Mappin to the team, who will cover this key supporting role on Mondays and Tuesdays and is also familiar with the children.

PTFA Information Evening

The PTFA would like to invite you all to their information evening on **Tuesday 19th September 2017** in the school hall. Refreshments will be served from 6.00pm for a 6.30pm start. Please note that the date has changed from the one published in the calendar.

It will be a great opportunity for parents/carers to meet each other, especially those who have just joined our community. It is also an opportunity to find out about the important ways the PTFA supports our school and perhaps think about the ways you could help and get involved.

The PTFA is very keen to attract new members and develop new ideas for events that bring our community together and raise much-needed funds for our children. If you can spare an hour why not come along, maybe with a friend or two? Thank you.

Curriculum Overviews

The Term 1 Curriculum Overviews will be sent out shortly. Please do contact us if you need any help to support your children or you can offer help to us. Thank you.

Lottery Grant

I will be meeting with the designers of our new Y1/Y2/Ark outside area next week which, as you know, is being funded by a successful 'Big Lottery' grant. We hope that work will be completed before Christmas.





FS2 Children & Families

On Monday we welcome the children who will be joining our new FS2 class. We also welcome a number of new families and we hope that they all feel welcome and very much part of our special community.

Forthcoming Events

Please refer to the SJF calendar, (sent home before the holidays) for details of forthcoming events. Below is a summary of events happening next week. The School Calendar is also available via this link:

www.st-johnfisher.org/parents/school-dates/

12-09-17	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• FS2 children in half day, no lunch (9.00am-11.30am)• Years 1 & 2 Welcome Meeting (in Y2 classroom)*	(3.30pm)
13-09-17	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• FS2 children in half day, with lunch (9.00am-1.00pm)• Year 3 & 4 Welcome Meeting (in Y4 classroom)*	(3.30pm)
14-09-17	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• FS2 children in half day, with lunch (9.00am-1.00pm)• Year 5 & 6 Welcome Meeting (in Y6 classroom)*	(3.30pm)
15-09-17	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• FS2 children in all day• Y3/4 Educational visit to the Yorkshire Farming Museum• Y6 Celebration Assembly	

*Please note that we are happy to supervise pupils and any pre-school siblings during the Welcome Meetings.

All Saints Open Morning

The members of our Y6 class and their families are warmly invited to attend an Open Morning on Saturday 23rd September 2017 from 10.00am until noon.

All Saints is a very special place with strong links to our school. Further information is available via this link: <http://www.allsaints.sheffield.sch.uk/>



Sean Pender
Headteacher

All Saints Catholic High School is a Christian community within the tradition of the Roman Catholic Church, working in the spirit of gospel values.

Within this tradition our school mission is to:

- ✓ *share a common philosophy of life*
- ✓ *teach the truths of our faith and the principles of Christian morality*
- ✓ *encourage our members to fulfil their intellectual, spiritual and physical potential*
- ✓ *prepare each person for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of adult life*

We aim to work in partnership with the home, our churches and local communities in delivering a high quality education for all. These relationships provide the foundation for developing lifelong wholeness and integrity.

Achievements Outside of School

Please forward any of your child(ren)'s achievements and we will do our best to publish them in the newsletter. It does not matter what the achievement is, if it is important to your child we will share it and celebrate it!

Top Table

Congratulations to the Goose 'family' who were chosen by Mrs Bower and her team of lunchtime supervisors to sit on the Top Table today for having good table manners. Congratulations to Olivia M, Marika D, Jessica B, Owen F, Daniel G and Paige T, we are all very proud of you!



SJF Open Morning 2016

Our next Opening Morning will be on **Saturday 7th October 2017**. If you know anyone who might be interested in looking around school or finding out more about our community please let them know and encourage them to contact us.

We are especially interested in welcoming the parents and carers of children who are due to start school next September. It will be a good opportunity to meet children, staff, Governors and members of the PTFA.



Smileys

This week's smileys will be added to next week's totals, and the scores published in the newsletter.









We are in the process of reviewing our reward system and have been looking at different options. We are looking at adopting a system that will enable parents and carers to check their children's smiley totals (and the reason they were given) via an app which can be used on a smartphone. We are looking at introducing this system from the beginning of Term 2 and in the meantime will run with the current system.

For those of you unsure about how this works, within the current system children receive smileys from members of staff for good behaviour, effort, achievement, attitude and manners. A 'smiley' looks like a coin. This is given to the child and then marked off against their chart by the class teacher. The smiley is then deposited by the child in the Smiley box (in the hall) in the section for their 'House'. This means that when a child earns a smiley it benefits him/her and adds to the collective total for their House each Term.

I am aware that there have been one or two issues regarding children depositing their smileys and then forgetting to tell their teacher, or simply not depositing their smiley, not telling the children and then losing the smileys at home or elsewhere. This has meant that they have not been credited with the smiley (unless it has been noticed by adults and put right). We are therefore looking at options to tighten the process and ensure that children get everything they are entitled to.

Under the current system children receive a Bronze Award when they achieve 100 smileys, a Silver Award when they achieve 200 smileys and a Gold Award when they achieve 300 smileys. We are also looking at this as part of the review and will publish details of any changes when they are finalised later this term.

We will retain our four Houses and the popular colour days to mark the various feast days of the patron saints. We celebrate the feast days on Mondays and Fridays so that they do not clash with PE for children in Years 1-6 who wish to come to school dressed in the House colours and not PE kit.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Official Feast of St Andrew is on Thursday 30th November 2016 ✓ Members will mark the feast in school (Blue Day) on Monday 4th December 2017
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Official Feast of St David is on Thursday 1st March 2018 ✓ Members will mark the feast in school (Yellow Day) on Friday 2nd March 2018
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Official Feast of St Patrick is on Saturday 17th March 2018 ✓ Members will mark the feast in school (Green Day) on Friday 16th March 2018
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Official Feast of St George is on Monday 23rd April 2018 ✓ All children will learn about St George with members marking the feast in school (Red Day) on Monday 23rd April 2018

Golden Children & Writing Champions

These will start next week.

A Message from Mrs Asquith

"I would like to thank everyone for their kind words, prayers, gifts and messages at the end of last year. Thank you also for welcoming me back (!!!) as I return for a short time whilst Mrs Pickering is poorly."



Flu Vaccinations

As part of an initiative led by NHS England nasal flu vaccinations are being offered to children in FS2 Years 1, 2, 3 and 4. According to the Director of Clinical Services there is good evidence from previous vaccination programmes across the country about the benefits of immunising healthy children in order to reduce the transmission of Flu and to reduce absenteeism in schools for both children and staff.

Next week parents/carers in the specified classes will be sent letters and asked to return a consent form as soon as possible. Thank you.

Uniform

Earrings and Jewellery

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



School Shoes

Whilst trainers/boots can be worn to school e.g. in bad weather or to play football at breaktimes, pupils are expected to wear proper school shoes in school.

PE Kit

Children are asked to wear the school colours on PE days. The full kit is available from our official suppliers (School Trends). You also have the option to purchase the jogging suit from other suppliers. All we ask is that it is COMPLETELY plain and unbranded – a plain burgundy sweatshirt/hoodie and plain light great joggers.

School Trends

Information about our uniform is available via this link:

<https://www.schooltrendsonline.com/uniform/StJohnFisherCatholicPrimarySchoolS124HJ>

Our uniform is very important to us and so we thank you for your cooperation and support to help us maintain high standards every day.

Ordering Lunches

Please remember that children's lunches must be ordered by midnight each Thursday for the following week. You also have the option to order and pay for several weeks' worth, if this is more convenient. 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 this Week		
FS2	--	
Year 1	100%	Bobby Bear will visit next week
Year 2	96.7%	
Year 3	99.1%	Brenda Bear will visit next week
Year 4	95.8%	
Year 5	98.0%	Elvis the Owl will visit next week
Year 6	97.3%	
Target	97.5%	This week's average attendance: 97.8%

Well done to the three classes who managed to exceed our new 97.5% target. Our overall average also just exceeded the new target. Thank you.

Attendance in **every** year group is extremely important and time out during term time does have a negative impact on children's progress, achievement and sense of wellbeing and confidence. We understand that there are circumstances in which are unavoidable or exceptional, and these are always judged on a case-by-case basis, taking full account of the additional information applicants provide.



Statement to Live By

Our 'statement to live by' next week will be: **"I can say one good thing about myself"**

Time to talk: Sometimes we find it easier to say good things about others than about ourselves. Together think about the things that you are good at or the qualities that make you special and pick your favourite. Talk about why it is important to remember the good things about ourselves rather than dwell on the negatives. You can then explore why it is important to see the best in others too (rather than their faults).



Have a great weekend,

Mr Barratt