



# St John Fisher News

Friday 1<sup>st</sup> March 2013 (Issue 22 2012/13)

## **Reconciliation Service**

On Thursday, as part of our Lenten preparations for Easter the children of Years 4, 5 and 6 participated in simple class-based services of reconciliation here in school. Each service was led by Father Paul supported by Father Tom Goonan from St Oswald's parish. Every child was given the opportunity to speak to Father Paul or Father Tom and to receive the Sacrament of Confession if eligible. The services were very simple and special and were conducted in an appropriately prayerful manner. I would like to thank Father Paul and Father Tom for supporting us; Mrs Humphries for coordinating the services and the children themselves for engaging so brilliantly.

## **Read Write Inc**

As you know, this week we started using the Read Write Inc system to teach literacy here in school. If you have a child on the programme he or she might have talked about it with you. It is a very dynamic approach to the teaching and learning of literacy skills which aims to develop the confidence and ability the children need to accelerate progress. There will be a special meeting for parents and carers of children involved in the programme on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> March 2013 at 3.30pm in the school hall. Letters of invitation will be sent out shortly and we would ask that you return the slip so that we know how many are coming.

## **Easter Performance – Y3, Y4, Y5**

Instead of the two Easter Performances this year we have decided to try a new format by preparing one Easter Service involving narration, singing and drama which will take place in Church on **Tuesday 26 March at 2.45pm**. As with the Carol Service, a letter will be sent out this week to parents and carers of our Y3, Y4 and Y5 children inviting them to the service and asking for the number of adults attending so that we can ensure enough seating will be available. (Please note that this will be the only service – there will be no service on Wednesday evening as you have been previously advised)

## **World Book Day**

Next Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March is World Book Day and is a non-uniform day. The children are invited to come to school dressed as their favourite book character for a donation of £1 to our fantastic new PTFA. The day will be special with the children of Key stage 2 (Years 3-6) spending time with authors Cid and Mo and using extracts from their new book 'The Janksters and the Talking Slug' to inspire and support them with their own writing. On the day children will have an opportunity to buy signed copies of all children will have the opportunity to do different book-themed activities in their own classes.

## **Y2 Liturgy**

A reminder that the Year 2 liturgy planned for Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> March at 10.00am has been postponed. We will inform you of the new date shortly.

## **Parent/Carer Meetings**

I would like to remind you that the parent/carers meetings postponed because of the poor weather take place next Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> March 2013. All appointments will be at the same time.

## **INSET Day**

Staff and Governors met on Monday at the Hallam Diocesan Centre in Attercliffe to explore our vision and mission as a Catholic school. The 'Vision' is our aim as a Catholic learning community and our 'Mission' is what we do each day in our community to achieve it.

Staff and Governors are now in the process of reflecting on - and bringing together - the various ideas which will be shared with the children and with you shortly. The aim is that, together, we renew and build a lasting vision and mission that is relevant to our school and means something to all of us.

## **Year 6 Residential Autumn 2013 – Current Y5 children**

Thank you to everyone who attended the information meeting on Wednesday regarding **2013/14** Year 6 residential due to take place next October 2013. It was good to see so many of you there. If you have a question or would like further information please email us on [enquiries@stjohnfisherlearning.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@stjohnfisherlearning.co.uk). If you are in receipt of benefits and/or your child is entitled to free school meals it is possible that you will be entitled to some financial support, so please contact us for further information. Letters will be sent out shortly. Thank you.

## **Message from our PTFA**

Here is a message from our PTFA Committee.

We would like to remind you that the draw for our raffle will take place at the rescheduled Parent's Evening on **Wednesday 6th March** with the winners being notified soon after. Again the PTFA will be selling tea/coffee, juice and biscuits during parents evening for just 50p. You will be able to find us at the servery just up the main stairs and around the corner by the staff room. Please come and support us.

'Rags R Us' visit school on **Monday 4th March**, so if you are planning a clear out we would be very grateful if you would put your items to one side and bring them to school on the collection morning.

Don't forget your donations of Christmas wrapping paper, decorations etc for our Santa in School 2013.

Thank you

## **Statement to Live By**

Next week's statement to live by: "I try to appreciate the beauty and the wonder in the world around me."

**Time to talk:** You could take some time just to sit together in the garden or a local park – very still – and observe what goes on. Perhaps you will see different sorts of birds flying, mini-beasts, spiders on their webs, cats exploring etc. What sounds can you hear? What can you smell? What do you feel? Is it cold? Warm? You could focus on a particular tree or a plant or flower or even a cloud in the sky - and really look at it. What shape is it? What patterns and colours can you see? You could talk about the things you find special or beautiful and together offer a simple prayer of thanks.

## **Raffle Ticket**

A raffle ticket belonging to Evie Stamford in Year 2 –awarded for good effort and behaviour was drawn on the last day of last term. Evie received £20 as her prize. Well done Evie!

## **Citizenship Award**

The winner of the Citizenship Award goes to Cerys Bradbury for being a superb role model to others. Cerys is always helpful, kind and polite and always tries her best, even if she finds something hard. What a great example you are Cerys, well done!

## **SJF Art Competition (2012-13)**

I was delighted by the numbers of children who entered this year's competition and by the quality of work produced. It was amazing! The finalists' work was displayed so that the children and staff could take a good look and decide on their favourites. Everyone then had the opportunity to vote for their favourite produced by a child in Key Stage 1 (Years 1 and 2) and Key stage 2 (Years 3 to 6). The winners were:

### **Key stage 1**

1<sup>st</sup> Ashleigh Sigauke

2<sup>nd</sup> Poppy Walton

3<sup>rd</sup> Isabella Ramsden

### **Key Stage 2**

1<sup>st</sup> Chloe Walton

2<sup>nd</sup> Jasmine Green

3<sup>rd</sup> Alex Thompson

I would like congratulate the artists who secured the most votes as well as everyone who entered the competition. I would also like to thank my colleague Mrs Cooper for all her hard work in coordinating it.

## **Achievements Outside of School**

Grace Woolhouse and Holly Longden recently took part in the Northern Cheerleading Competition in Blackpool with their group and managed to come a very creditable 5<sup>th</sup> – winning a large trophy for their efforts! They informed me that the day was exciting and lots of fun. They are now looking forward to competing in another competition in Manchester on 11<sup>th</sup> May. Holly has also achieved Stages 5 and 7 on the trampoline! A fantastic achievement! Well done girls, what stars you are!

Benjamin Cartwright in Year 2 has passed his Stage 1 Swimming. Congratulations Benjamin!

Sonny Wilson and Callum Foster in Year 6 both play for Beighton Magpies Under 11's FC and have been instrumental in helping the team win the 'A' Division. Well done boys!

## **Weekly Attendance Winners**

The classes achieving the highest attendance for the week commencing 11 February were:

- In first place was Y4 with 97.2% attendance over the week
- In second place was Y5 with 97.1 % attendance over the week
- In third place was Y3 with 96.9 % attendance over the week

Over the week our average pupil attendance was 95.4% which was below our target of 96% - oops!

This means that Bobby will be visiting Y4, Bertie will be visiting Y5 and Elvis will be visiting Y3 next week.

Best wishes to you all  
F Barratt