

SJF NEWS

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Friday 13th December 2019 (Issue 14 - 2019/20)



Citizen of the Week

 There has been no Celebration Assembly today because we hosted our first Curriculum Showcase of the academic year. The Citizenship award will be carried forward to next Friday (20th December) and shared along with the recipient for next week. All parents and carers are invited to join us next week. Thank you.

Term 2 Smiley Scores

St Andrew's House  394	St David's House  354	St Patrick's House  328	St George's House  333
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The smiley scores for this week will be added to next week's totals in order to determine the Term 2 champions!

Calendar Reminders

The **SJF calendar** is available online on the Homepage and in two formats via these links:

- <http://www.st-johnfisher.org/parents-and-carers-zone/calendar/>
- [http://www.st-johnfisher.org/cmsfiles/items/downloads/doclett-20180713194822-9030/SJF%20CALENDAR%20%20\(2018-2019\).pdf](http://www.st-johnfisher.org/cmsfiles/items/downloads/doclett-20180713194822-9030/SJF%20CALENDAR%20%20(2018-2019).pdf)

16-12-19	• KS1 Nativity Play (dress rehearsal for school)
17-12-19	• KS1 Nativity Play (2.15pm, School Hall) – there will be a raffle to raise funds
18-12-19	• KS1 Nativity Play (2.15pm, School Hall) – there will be a raffle to raise funds • Times Table Rock Stars – The Term 2 Grand Final • Last day of class Advent liturgies
19-12-19	• KS2 (Years 3-6) Community Carol Service (2.00pm, Our Lady of Lourdes) - all welcome! • PTFA refreshments, cakes and mince pies (2.45pm, School Hall) - all welcome
20-12-19	• Additional Celebration Assembly (9.05am, School Hall) – everyone is invited • Spelling Bee – The Term 2 Grand Final • End of Term 2 & Non-Uniform Day (Christmas jumper/party clothes)

School Christmas Holiday (23-12-19 to 03-01-20)

06-01-20	• INSET Day (school closed to pupils for staff training)
07-01-20	• Start of Term 3 (School reopens to pupils with Wake Up Shake Up at 8.40am)
09-01-20	• No Liturgy (New Year Mass on 10-01-20)
07-01-20	• New Year Mass (9.30am, Our Lady of Lourdes – led by Y6)
16-01-20	• Y1 Liturgy (9.05am, School Hall) – family and friends of Y1 pupils are invited
17-01-20	• Y5 Celebration Assembly (9.05am, School Hall) – family and friends of Y5 pupils are invited • Y3 & Y4 visit to the Yorkshire Farming Museum (all day)

Local Christmas Day Masses (<http://www.st-johnfisher.org/news/local-christmas-day-masses-2019/>)

Our local Catholic churches of Our Lady of Lourdes (Hackenthorpe), St Theresa's (Manor Top) with St Anthony's (Gleadless) are now grouped within a family of parishes overseen by Fr Paul O'Hara.

Here are the times of local Catholic Masses for Christmas Day 2019:

- **CHRISTMAS EVE** (Tuesday 24th December 2019)
 - ✓ 5pm at St Theresa's Church, Prince of Wales Road, S2 1EA
 - ✓ 6.30pm at Our Lady of Lourdes Church, Spring Water Avenue, S12 4HJ
- **CHRISTMAS DAY** (Wednesday 25th December 2019)
 - ✓ 10am at St Anthony's Church, Sandby Drive, Gleadless, S14 1DF



Catholic Life

December Prayer

During Advent we prepare for Christmas by saying sorry for our mistakes and trying hard to make those changes that we need to make. Our prayer is called the Act of Contrition.

**O my God
Because you are so good –
I am very sorry that I have sinned against You,
And by the help of Your grace –
I will not sin again.**



Why is one candle pink (or 'rose') on the wreath and not like all the others?

Advent and Lent, are seasons of penitence. On the Advent wreath, the three purple candles mark our preparations while awaiting the arrival of Christ on Earth at Christmas. Unlike Lent, Advent is a happier season. The Third Sunday of Advent, called Gaudete Sunday. The word '**Gaudete**' is Latin for '**rejoice**'. From the third Sunday of Advent we light the rose-coloured candle on our wreaths. Priests also wear rose-coloured vestments at Mass on the third Sunday of Advent. Pope Francis was talking about the difference between happiness and joy when he said: "**To be happy is good, yet joy is something more. It's another thing; something which does not depend on external motivations, or on passing issues: it is more profound. It is a gift.**"

If joy is a gift from the Lord, then the Lord Himself is our first and greatest gift, and the only one that will never tarnish, break or fade. Gaudete Sunday reminds us that the gift has not yet arrived, but is very near.

Weekly Liturgy of the Word

Our next 'Liturgy of the Word' will be on **Thursday 16th January 2020**, and will be led by the young people of **Y1**. We invite their family and friends to join us in the School Hall just after 9.00am.

Celebration Assembly

Our next Celebration Assembly is on **Friday 20th December 2019**, the last day of Term 2. *Everyone* is invited. We will be presenting three citizen awards. It will start just after 9.00am in the School Hall. Thank you.

Advent & The Daily Advent Class Reflections

- **Monday 16th December 2019**
 - ✓ in Y3, Y4, Y5 and Y6
 - × **not** in FS2 (KS1 Nativity Play dress rehearsal followed by PE activities)
 - × **not** in Y1 and Y2 because of their dress rehearsal
- **Tuesday 17th December 2019**
 - ✓ in FS2 (library), Y3, Y4, Y5 and Y6
 - × **not** in Years 1 and 2 because of their nativity play
- **Wednesday 18th December 2019 (the last day of the 2019 class liturgies)**
 - ✓ in FS2 (library), Y3, Y4, Y5 and Y6
 - × **not** in Years 1 and 2 because of their nativity play



Please book through the School Office if you wish to attend and arrive in time for a prompt start at 3.10pm.

KS2 Community Carol Service 2018

The family and friends of our children in **Years 3-6** are invited to our annual Community Carol Service on **Thursday 19th December 2019**, at Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church. The Service will start at **2.00pm**. The children in FS2 and Years 1 and 2 will not be attending because they will be very tired at the end of a long term. Also space in the church is limited and we want to ensure that there is sufficient room to accommodate the families and friends of our older children who wish to come along and support the event. Thank you.

Mince Pies & Refreshments

EVERYONE is invited to join us for refreshments and mince pies provided by our PTFA in the School Hall from 2.45pm. So whether you attend the Carol Service or not, please do try to come along. It is a really nice way to mark the end of both the term and 2019 in school. If you can help the PTFA, please let us know. Thank you!

New Year Mass

You are all invited to our New Year Mass on **Friday 11th January 2019**, at Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church. Mass will start at 9.30am. Thank you.





Panto 2019!

On Tuesday the whole school community travelled to the Lyceum Theatre, Sheffield, in order to watch Cinderella. We travelled on four coaches which were funded by our brilliant PTFA from the money raised by various events throughout the year! Everyone had a fantastic time and really enjoyed themselves.

During the interval every child was able to enjoy snacks and treats, again provided by the PTFA. I would like to thank our PTFA for all their hard work and for funding the expensive transport and for providing interval snacks and drinks for every child!

I would like to thank Mrs Barrett, Mrs Ramsden and Mrs Birch for all their hard work behind the scenes to make this special trip possible.



Finally I would also like to thank our volunteers, trainees and my fantastic colleagues who all worked so hard on the day in order to make everything special and memorable for our amazing children! Again we received glowing feedback from a number of people at the theatre, including the Deputy Theatre Manager and members of the public, impressed by the behaviour, manners and appearance of our pupils as well by the way staff, trainees and volunteers took such good care of them. Thank you everybody! We have already booked for next year's pantomime (Sleeping Beauty) to ensure that our seats are together.

Uniform Reminders

Footwear

Children are required to wear proper black school shoes in school every day. Trainers (including all-black trainers) and high boots are not permitted. Children can wear them to and from school and at playtime but they must wear proper school shoes in school at all times.

PE Uniform

Children must wear the school PE uniform on PE days. This can be the official uniform from one of our two official suppliers (with the school logo) or a plain alternative in the correct colours sourced from elsewhere. Please note that items bought from places other than our official suppliers must be completely plain. Items must not be 'designer' (e.g. Nike, Adidas, Puma etc.), or have any labels, pictures, slogans or any other embellishments. The colour of the sweatshirt is burgundy and the colour of the jogging pants is light grey.

Labelling Uniform

Please ensure that all items of uniform are labelled clearly with your children's names. We have had an issue lately because a number of items of FS2 uniform were not labelled and so it was difficult to return when some items were mixed up when the pupils changed for their Nativity Play. Please also label shoes. Thank you.





School Trends

Follow either of the links below:

<https://www.logoleisurewear.com/index.php?route=product/category&path=113>

<https://www.schooltrends.co.uk/uniform/StJohnFisherCatholicPrimarySchools124HJ>

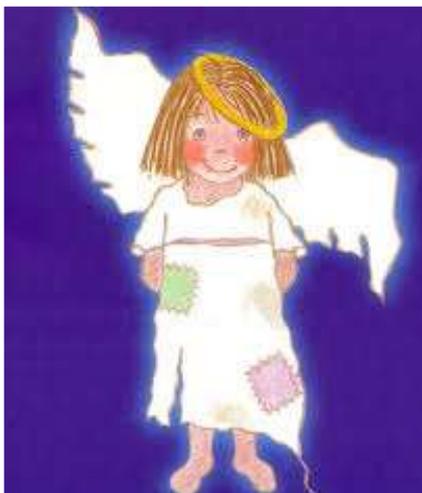
Christmas Dinner 2019

On Wednesday the children enjoyed a delicious Christmas dinner. I would like to thank Mrs Walton and Mrs Roper in the kitchen and Mrs Bower and her special team of lunchtime supervisors, who decorated the School Hall; made special place settings with the children; and who set the tables and served the children. They made sure that everyone enjoyed themselves! The children all looked fantastic in their Christmas jumpers and party clothes! Some had even made crowns to wear! It was a very special day for everyone!



FS2 Nativity 2019

On Thursday our youngest children in FS2 performed in their beautiful play 'Whoops-A-Daisy Angel' and it was amazing! The children spoke, sang and danced with such confidence – and clearly enjoyed themselves, which is the most important thing. We need to remember that these children have only been with us for a few weeks, and during that time they have settled in so well, and come so far. I would like to thank the FS2 team and especially Mrs Prentice who worked so hard to support and encourage the children as they shared the story of the nativity. More pictures are available via the link: <http://www.st-johnfisher.org/news/nativity-783/>



Curriculum Showcase

On Friday we showcased the children's work at our exhibition in the School Hall. It was a fantastic celebration of the children's learning and achievement and it was wonderful that so many of you were able to join us. Thank you to my dedicated colleagues and our trainees on placement who all worked so hard and late on Thursday evening in order to help set it up. Please follow the link to see more pictures:

<http://www.st-johnfisher.org/news/curriculum-showcase/>



Achievements Outside of School

At St John Fisher we celebrate all achievements in and out of school. Whether achievements are big or small we love to publish and celebrate them. Please email them in via: enquiries@st-johnfisher.org. This week's achievements are:

- **Phelan** in **FS2** achieved his yellow belt in martial arts recently! A fantastic achievement superstar!
- **Isabelle** in **Y3** achieved her blue belt in martial arts recently! Congratulations! An amazing achievement!

Beat Your Best

The SJF Weekly Personal Challenge! Mr Johnson says:

This week's 'Beat Your Best' personal challenge was designed to test and improve throwing and catching skills. Working with a partner the children had just twenty seconds to complete as many chest passes as possible.

This was a fun challenge that lots of children attempted with many doing really well. This activity improved students' throwing, catching and time-keeping skills as they had to be as accurate as they were quick.



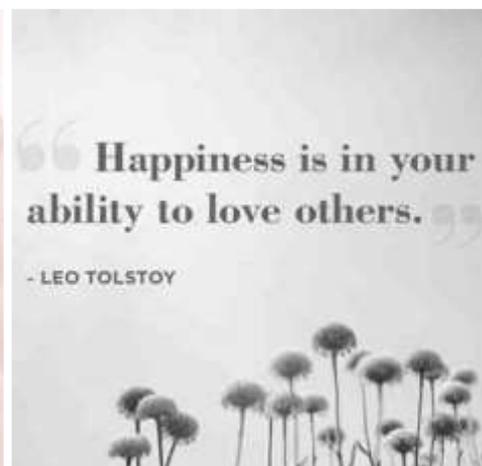
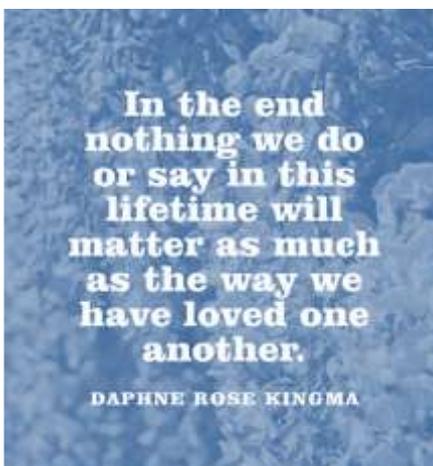
Well done to everyone who took part! Congratulations to the following who managed to beat their best!

FS2	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
	Lillyann Marcus	Eliana Hugo	Alexia Bronte	Phoenix Riley	Faith Phil	Emily Isla

Statement to Live By

Our 'statement to live by' is '**I try to love others as I love myself**'

Time to talk: Why do some people think they are better than others? What can happen when people put themselves above others? Are they right to do this? Will this attitude help others to feel happy, safe and loved? What would our world be like if everyone treated everyone else better? Would there be wars or famine if people reached out to one another and loved them as they loved themselves? Would our world feel safe? Would people be happier? Why?



Best wishes,
Mr Barratt

