



St John Fisher News

Friday 13th February 2015 (Issue 21 ~ 2014/15)



www.st-johnfisher.org

Citizen of the Week

The recipient for the last week of Term 3 was **Willis Stoeman** (Y2) who was chosen for remembering this week's statement to live by: '**I try to appreciate the beauty and wonder in the world around me**'. Willis has impressed Mrs Broadhead, Miss May, Mrs Golland and all the staff by the way he is really trying hard to focus and work hard. He has also shown that he appreciates the world around him by the way he looks after his classroom and by the answers and opinions he shares in class. Congratulations Willis!

Student Council

The elected members of the new Student Council received their badges of office at a special assembly. Congratulations go to Stella Avelino (**Y6** Councillor and **Chair** of the council); Ciara Brady (**Y6** Councillor and **Vice-Chair** of the Council); Oliver Peters (**Y6** Councillor and **Treasurer** of the Council); Harry Siner (**Y6** Councillor and **Secretary** of the Council); John Genita and Jasmine Green (**Y5** Councillors); Abdulla Al-Ramahi and Olivia King (**Y4** Councillors); Lily Sanders and Jack Stacey (**Y3** Councillors); Evie Ramsden and Reuben Hastings-Qainoo (**Y2** Councillors); Erin Gent and Isla Thompson (**Y1** Councillors); and Sophie Hemming and Charlotte Fitzpatrick (**FS2** Councillors).

The Student Council will have a small budget to manage and will meet each week with its coordinator, Mrs Darken. One of the first key decisions is to do with the design of the bright new playground equipment we are bidding for, which we are aiming to introduce in stages from this year - with the support of the PTFA.

Yellow Day!

On Monday 2nd March 2015 (the second Monday of Term 4) we are celebrating the feast of St David, Patron Saint of Wales (as the actual feast is on Sunday 1st March). As it is a special day for the children of St David's House they will **not** have to wear uniform. Instead they are invited to come to school wearing something yellow. **Please note that the children in the other Houses must wear normal uniform.** Thank you.

e-Safety

The e-Safety section of the website has been updated with lots of information and links to keep you informed about the risks and the steps you can take as parents and carers to minimise/eliminate those risks.

Technology is advancing at a tremendous rate and has never been so accessible to children and young people. When used safely and appropriately it can be extremely positive, however the greater the access – the greater the threats. Sadly it is all too easy for children to be exposed to the risk of viewing inappropriate material, cyber-bullying and other forms of exploitation through their use of their own or others' mobile phones, PCs, tablets, iPods and even X-Box/Playstation-type systems that enable users to connect via the internet. It is not always to establish the identities and motives of the people they can connect with.

The link to the section is: <http://www.st-johnfisher.org/parents/esafety/> .

At St John Fisher we take e-Safety very seriously. The children have been learning about e-Safety this term as part of their computing curriculum and in the last week of term they have been shown the new section on the website - which contains age-appropriate information and activities. A CEOP link is also now available at the bottom of each page of website enabling you to report anything risky directly to the authorities.

We are planning some further parent/carer workshops for later this academic year and are developing ideas for an annual 'Be Safe/Be Happy Week' which will take place each November from 2015 (to coincide with anti-bullying week) in which a whole range of issues – including e-Safety - will be explored to compliment the on-going work done throughout the year. I do hope as many of you as possible will sign up for the parent information workshops when they are announced. Thank you.

Parking Complaints

Since Christmas I have received a number of complaints from local residents about parking at the beginning and the end of the school day. Two particular concerns are:

1. grass verges being churned up because cars are parked on them
2. residents' driveways being completely or partially blocked by parked cars so they cannot enter/leave

The complainants who phoned me described occasions when they have not been able to leave for work on time or have been late for important appointments at the hospital because cars parked cars at the beginning and/or end of the school day have blocked them in or prevented them from returning.

I know that finding a parking space is a huge challenge, but would be really grateful if you would try to bear in mind the feelings of local residents when you do park your vehicles. Thank you for your understanding.

Wear a Hat Day

On Friday 27th March 2015 all the children in the Birley Family of Schools (which includes us) are invited to wear a hat in support of brain tumour research. The PTFA has kindly agreed to collect £1 donations from the children on our behalf; all of which will be passed on to the charity. As it is a special day the children will not have to wear uniform and can dress down if they choose. They can wear any sort of hat e.g. their favourite beanie or bobble hat or they can even make a hat at home if they choose. It is just a fun way to support a very serious cause. Further information is available via: www.braintumourresearch.org/wearahatday. Thank you.



Golden Children

The class teachers added the names of the following children to our Golden Book this week:

• FS2	Summer Marsden for doing fantastic writing and for enjoying reading all her Read Write Inc. words. Summer is doing lots of work at home and we are all very proud of her!
• Year 1	Evan Siner for making the right choices in class; in both his writing and mathematics work! You are trying so hard, well done!
• Year 2	Charlie Ogden for trying hard to appreciate everything around him! There have been lots of lovely comments about Charlie having good manners and remembering to say 'Thank you'
• Year 3	Owen Pack for working really hard to achieve outstanding results in his reading assessment! Congratulations!
• Year 4	William Oadley for being a quiet and hardworking young man! William never complains or makes a fuss but will always ask for help if he needs it, and so is a super example to others!
• Year 5	Brody McConaghy for trying hard to improve the presentation of his work! Keep up the hard work Brody because it is really paying off!
• Year 6	Ciara Brady for always trying her very best; for being kind and for always being respectful to all!

Weekly Liturgy of the Word – Change of Details

I would like to thank the children of Year 1 for leading the liturgy so beautifully in the last week of Term 3.

Please note that the next liturgy – to be led by the young people of FS2 – will be on **Wednesday 25th February** and not Thursday 26th February as stated in the calendar. This is because Cid & Mo are leading a special assembly on Thursday. The family and friends of our **FS2** pupils are invited to join us on Wednesday in the school hall just after 9.00am.

Building Works

Please note that the new classrooms are due to be handed over on the first day after the holiday so the children in Years 1 and 2 will use their temporary classrooms on the first day back.

I would like to thank Fr Paul for his generosity in allowing us to use the Community Meeting Room. His kindness has really helped us during the building works and is greatly appreciated by us all.

Term 3 Reading Awards

The children who will receive a certificate after the holiday as recognition for excellent home reading in Term 3 were:

- Sophie Hemingway
- Daisy Green
- Chloe Musngi
- Oscar Diaz
- Bethany Beatson
- Maya de Sousa
- Phoebe Kilbride
- Evan Siner
- Lorenzo Dizon
- Amna Javid
- Jack Oadley
- Laurie Paige
- Willis Stoeman
- Ellie Cope
- Matthew Ford
- Nadia Kamolli
- Finley Mappin
- Lily Sanders
- Poppy Walton
- Arianne Alfonso
- Melissa Clayton
- Olivia King
- Jenson Pugh
- Faye Curtis
- Jasmine Green
- Luckie Musngi
- Kiera Swift
- Thomas Wood
- Caitlin Hardy
- Mike Masuka
- Jacob Nelson
- Frederick Antwi
- Harry Cawthorne
- Amelia Denham
- Sam Mappin
- Rafal Boratyn
- Filip Dominiak
- Joseph Kandare
- Charlie Ogden
- Odette Paige
- Jack Swain
- Daniel de Sousa
- Benjamin Forgo
- Saffron Kilbride
- Samuel Orbell
- Alfie Saxton-Clayton
- Isabelle Walton-Hall
- Vincent Ambrose
- Jensen Gough
- Francis Needham
- Evie Stamford
- Ruben Jackson
- Patrick Lodge
- Oliver Nelson
- Alhasan Al-Rammahi
- Sophie Robinson-Oates
- Alhamzah Al-Rammahi
- Lottie Fitzpatrick
- Eleanor Checkley
- Vilius Bogdanas
- Mitchell Clayton
- James Hopkinson
- Tamzin Samba
- Alice Curtis
- Reuben Hasting-Quainoo
- Rowan Lodge
- Oliver Ost
- Lola Pardo-Figueroa
- Nedas Bagdonas
- Ola Dominiak
- Calum Hardy
- Alexander Ludlam
- Kayla Osei-Badu
- Ashleigh Sigauke
- Jared Ward
- Benjamin Cartwright
- Jack Green
- William Oadley
- Jack Waldron
- Lily Mell
- Nicole Mercado
- Anca Nicula
- Annabelle Langley
- Mia Lovelock
- Jacob Genita
- William Denham
- Sophie Ball
- Emily Cowlshaw
- Maksymilian Jasinski
- Archie Saxton-Clayton
- Eesaa Din
- Aleksander Jaskinski
- Diana Nicula
- Fraser Owens
- Evie Ramsden
- Joel Broadhead
- James Fitzpatrick
- Ruby Hayward
- William Ludlam
- Isaac Patterson
- Jack Stacey
- Dadiso Bandawa
- Ellie Cheetham
- Julia Kepinska
- Lucille Owens
- Daphey Adebayo
- Hannah Moomba
- Noora Moshtael
- Dominic Rolfe
- Natasha Sanders

Though it is very important for parents/carers to read with their children we do understand that you lead busy lives and circumstances can make this difficult occasionally. If you do find it hard to read at home with your child(ren) for, whatever reason, please let us know. Please also remember that the Homework Club runs every lunchtime and children can choose to use this time in order to read with an adult or older child if they know they will not be able to do it at home for one reason or another.

Attendance

Since September 2014							
FS2	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6	Average
97.4%	97.1%	94.7%	96.6%	96.5%	96.8%	95.5%	96.3

Term 3							
FS2	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6	Average
97.1%	97.1%	94.2%	97.3%	96%	96.7%	94.3%	96.1

09-02-15 to 13-02-15							
FS2	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6	Average
92.9%	89.2%	95.8%	97.5%	93.3%	95.7%	91.4%	93.7

- ✓ The children of **FS2** will enjoy some 'Golden Time' for having the best attendance since September
- ✓ The children of **Y3** will enjoy some 'Golden Time' for having the best attendance in Term 3

This girls and boys of **Y3** will receive a visit from Bobby Bear when we return from holiday for having the best attendance in the last week of Term 3. The boys and girls of **Y2** were second and will receive a visit from Brenda. The children of **Y5** were third and will be visited by Elvis. The average was well below our 97% target.

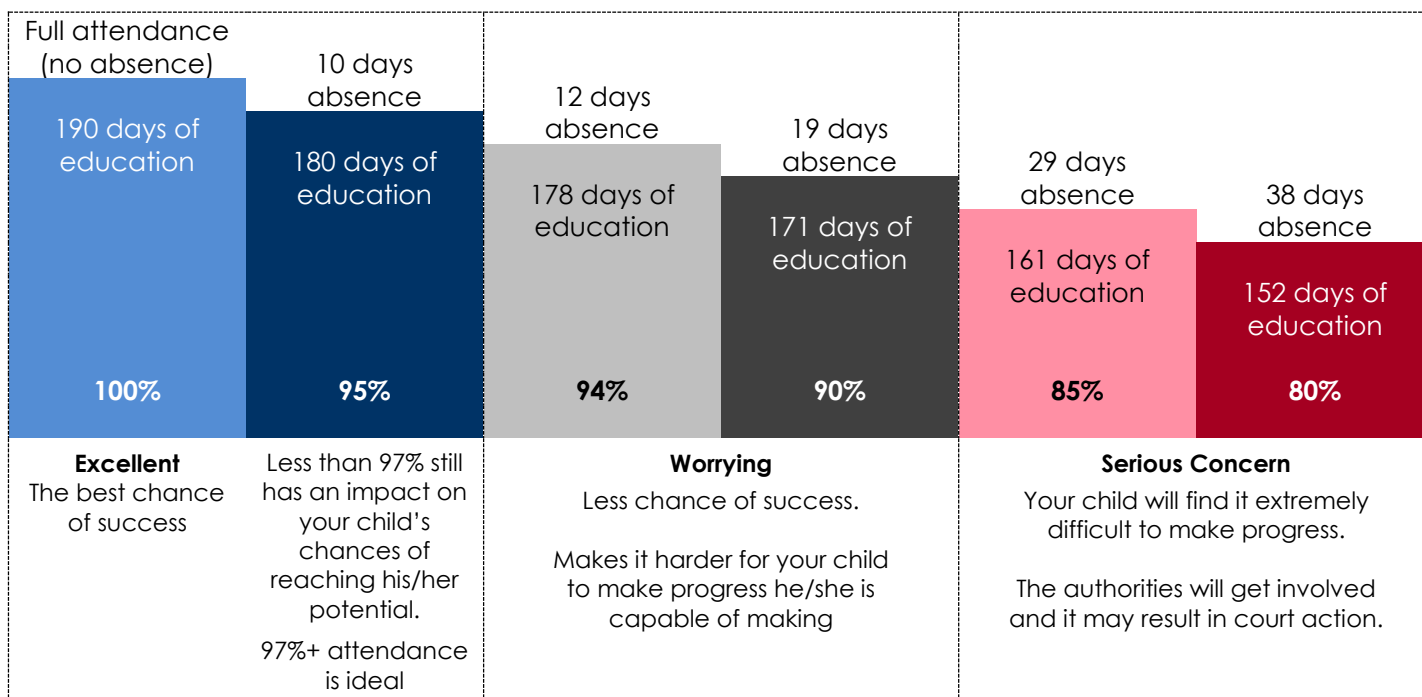
There have been some nasty cold viruses going around which have inevitably led to a number of children needing to be off school. However it is the unauthorised term-time holidays that have the biggest impact.

Of the 365 days in a year only 190 are spent in school. Though some absence during this time can be unavoidable it does mean that there are 175 days to spend as a family for visits, breaks and holidays.

The attendance data of schools and academies are scrutinised closely by the authorities and also form a key part of the evidence considered by Ofsted when judging the effectiveness of a school or academy. The following tables have been produced to illustrate the impact of persistent absence:

Every Day Counts!

If your child misses...	that equals...	which is...	and over 13 school years that's...
• 1 day per fortnight	• 20 days per year	• 4 weeks per year	• nearly 1.5 years
• 1 day per week	• 40 days per year	• 8 weeks per year	• over 2.5 years
• 2 days per week	• 80 days per year	• 16 weeks per year	• over 5 years
• 3 days per week	• 120 days per year	• 24 weeks per year	• nearly 8 years



If you are worried (or would just like to talk to us) about your children's attendance please get in touch. Mrs Asquith is responsible for monitoring attendance and should be your first point of contact. Sometimes family circumstances have a huge impact but there are usually things we can do to help improve a situation if we work together.

Term-time holidays will not usually be authorised unless there are compelling exceptional circumstances backed up with additional supporting information where appropriate. Further information is available in the Parents & Carers section of our website:

<http://www.st-johnfisher.org/parents/accidents-illness-absence/>

Further information available via this Department for Education (DfE) link:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-data-highlights-true-picture-of-school-absence>

Achievements Outside of School

- **Benjamin Cartwright** in **Y4** quickly followed up his last achievement by gaining his 400 metre swimming badge! Well done Benjamin, we are all proud of you!

Statement to Live By

Next week our 'statement to live by' will be **"I know that it is ok for me to make mistakes"**

Time to talk: Making mistakes is part of learning – part of life. The famous author George Bernard Shaw wrote; "A life spent making mistakes is not only more honorable, but more useful than a life spent doing nothing."

He also wrote: "Success does not consist in never making mistakes but in never making the same one a second time."

So the key thing is to remember that if mistakes are an important part of any journey to success then learning from them is also key. The first time you do something is a mistake the second time you do it is arguably a choice.

Why don't you talk about lessons you have learned from the mistakes you have made?

Have a brilliant holiday,

Mr Barratt