



St John Fisher Weekly News



Friday 15th November 2013 (Issue 10 ~ 2013/14)

Community Service of Remembrance

Last Monday afternoon the parish and school communities came together for a special act of remembrance to mark Armistice Day. The service was led superbly by the young people of Year 6. I would like to thank the Y6 children and Mr Smith for preparing them and for playing 'The Last Post' so movingly. The children behaved brilliantly and our Year 4 and 5 children were perfect role-models for their younger buddies. I felt very proud of them all. My hope was for the service to be prayerful and dignified and it surpassed all my expectations. I would like to thank Mrs Dewsnap's son, Lewis for joining us along with so many parents, carers and friends of the school. As they left, many parents commented on how much they had appreciated the service and how well they thought the children had behaved.

School Dinners: Increased Charge

The cost of school will have to increase when we return after the Christmas holiday from £1.90 to £2 per day. This is because Catering Department at All Saints Catholic High School – which prepares our meals – have had to put the price up. This means that the cost per child per week is now £10.

If you feel that you might be entitled to free school meals and would like some more information please contact us as soon as possible and we will advise you in confidence about what you should do.

The new menus for next term will be available next week. As all options meet government nutritional standards I urge you to discuss them carefully with your children so that they are happy with the choices made. Children really do need a good meal at lunchtime and it is difficult when they end up with a choice they are unhappy with. Thank you.

Revised End of Day Arrangements for FS2, Year 1 and Year 2

Plans are in hand to lay a proper path to link the playground and the FS2 classroom (Reception) as the current path, designed and laid by the Probation Service and their 'Community Payback' workers has not worked. We are hoping to make a start on the new path after we become an academy on 1st December. In the meantime we have revised the routine at the end of the school day.

We would be grateful if all adults collecting children could now wait on the playground. This will minimise congestion in the small KS1 outdoor learning area and the path linking it to the main playground.

From next week:

- **FS2 children** will be brought down to the playground at *earlier* at 3.15pm to limit congestion
- **Y1 children** will be brought down the path to the playground
- **Y2 children** will continue to use the library exit

Obviously when the new path is finished we will review the end of day arrangements again, but if you can support us with these arrangements in the meantime, my colleagues and I would be very grateful.

We understand though that there will be times when parents/carers need to speak to a member of staff. However, I would ask you to be patient and wait until my FS2, Y1 and Y2 colleagues have made sure that every child in their respective class has either been collected by the right person or gone to the after-school club before speaking to them. At 'home time' staff need to be particularly vigilant and focused and I am sure that you will appreciate that this is difficult if a parent/carer is trying to speak to them at the same time. Thank you for your understanding.

Visit of Bishop John

I am delighted to inform you that Bishop John will be visiting our school on Monday 16th December to officially open and bless our library and new administration wing. He will meet the children, members of staff and PTFA who have been so instrumental in helping us to redevelop the library. I also very much want to find time for parents and carers to meet the Bishop. More details of the arrangements will follow when they have been finalised, but I would be grateful if as many parents, carers and friends of the school could be present for this special event which signifies a stage of the great journey we are on and how far we have come in such a short time.

2013 Nativity Play

A reminder that this year the nativity play for children in FS2 and Years 1 and 2 will take place at **2.15pm** on **Tuesday 10th December** and **Wednesday 11th December**.

PTFA News

Do you ever shop online? Do you want raise money for school at the same time? Our PTFA has registered school with "Easy Funding". Whether you buy online with Marks and Spencer, Amazon or whoever, if you go through the following link "Easy Funding" will make a donation to school. Some schools make hundreds and even thousands of pounds from this, so please use the link, find our school and then go to whichever shopping site you wish to use.

<http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/panel/>



The PTFA are also looking for donations of toys for their stall at this year's Our Lady of Lourdes Christmas Bazaar.

A reminder that the 'Santa in School Day' takes place Thursday 19th December 2013 and the PTFA are desperately looking for volunteers to help beforehand and/or on the actual day itself. If you are interested please sign the list in the foyer. Thank you.

Thank You

I would like to thank the PTFA for organising last Saturday's table-top sale. It was great to see so many people brave the weather to support them. If you would like to get involved please get in touch as the PTFA is always looking for new members with ideas and energy. Whether you want to get involved in big ways or small your input would always be appreciated and you would be made to feel most welcome. Thanks you.

Children in Need 2013: 'SJF Spotty Day'

Today the children (and staff) looked resplendent in their spots and Pudsey gear as the community marked Children in Need day. Thanks to everyone who donated cakes and thanks to the PTFA for selling them!



Days like this, our support for Mission together and events like the Community Service of Remembrance are part of our wider mission to make our children aware, in an appropriate way, of the world around them and the lives others live – especially those who are less fortunate than themselves.

Weekly Liturgy of the Word

I would like to thank Miss Kieran, Mrs Evans and the boys and girls of Year 4 for leading this week's Liturgy of the Word. Unfortunately I was at a Sheffield Headteachers' conference, but Ms Farrow informed me that it was really good. Thank you to everyone who came to support the children. On Thursday 21st November our Liturgy of the Word will be led by the children of Year 3. The family and friends of our Year 3 children are welcome and it will begin at 9.00am.

Feedback

A reminder that if you would like to share feedback on what you think about our school you can register and give your feedback via Ofsted's 'Parent View' website. www.parentview.ofsted.gov.uk/ You will need to register if you have not done so already. I sincerely hope that if you do ever have a concern, question or suggestion about school, that you feel able to come and speak to me or one of my colleagues, and that we will listen and respond appropriately.



Golden Children

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

• F 2	Phoebe Kilbride for always being friendly, kind and helpful!
• Year 1	Cole Haigh for sitting down and doing some jobs with everyone else in class. He made a lovely poppy for the class wreath!
• Year 2	Owen Pack for working well in English and for identifying his new learning!
• Year 3	Imogen Cranston for working really hard in all lessons and for really improving her handwriting!
• Year 4	Assiah Ruffy-Gordon for trying to get started with his work more quickly and getting much more done as a result!
• Year 5	Libby Hurst for having a really positive attitude towards her learning and for making great progress as a result!
• Year 6	Sophie Tyree for always giving 110% in everything she does, making a real difference to her education!



Links Partnership Sport Stars of the Week

Joseph Hurst and Evie Stanford were identified by our sports coaches as stars this week.

Well done children, we are all very proud of you!

Writing Champions

The following children are our Writing Champions this week because they have really tried hard and made a personal leap forward as a result. Their fantastic writing can be viewed in our hall over the next week.

Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
T Alexis	J Broadhead	V Ambrose J Kapinska	J Holmeshaw	C Cope	L Kilbride

Parish News

Our Lady of Lourdes are holding a community carol service on Friday 6th December 2013. Miss Pendlebury and the SJF Choir will also be present. All members of the school and local community are invited to attend this special parish event. Miss Pendlebury has asked the parents/carers of all children in the choir to make a special note of the date and to try and support the event. Thank you.

House Points this Term

St Andrew	St David	St George	St Patrick
Smilies This week			
62	111	116	132
Term 1 Running Total			
141	148	223	291

Weekly Attendance Winners

For the week ending 08-11-13 in first place are the girls and boys of Year 6 who achieved a 99% attendance - and will be visited by Bobbie Bear. In second place were the children of Year 3 with 97.8% attendance. They will receive a visit from Bertie Bear. In third place were the young people of Year 2 who managed 96.7% attendance and will be visited by Elvis the Owl. Congratulations all of you!

The average attendance was 96.4% which is back above our target of 96%. Thank you for your support.

Achievements Outside School

- Poppy Walton in Year 2 received a very smart certificate for attending the 'Anti-Bullying and Social Safety Awareness Workshop' recently. Well done Poppy!
- Lola Pardo-Figueroa in Year 1 achieved her very first certificate for swimming 5 metres using front crawl! It is so important to learn how to swim so huge congratulations to you Lola, well done!
- Corey Goodinson in Year 6 is an elite diver for the City of Sheffield who attended an international diving competition in Southampton recently. Only the top divers are invited, so it was a huge honour for Corey. In the Preliminary Stage Corey managed to secure 3rd place in both the 1m and 3m board competitions. He also managed 4th place in the 5m platform competition. In the finals Corey achieved a silver medal for his platform and 4th place medal on the 3m board and a 6th place medal on the 1m board. Corey could now be selected by the GB Talent Programme! What a fantastic achievement Corey, we are all very proud of you!

Statement to Live By

Next week our statement to live by is: **"I can I can work, play, rest and pray each day!"**

Time to talk: Together you could talk about why it is important to find time to do these things every day.

Have a great weekend,

Mr Barratt