



St John Fisher News

Friday 17th February 2017 (Issue 20 - 2016/17)



www.st-johnfisher.org
www.ourladyoflourdesfield.org.uk

★ Citizen of the Week

★ For only the second time since being introduced, this week's award goes to two children who understand the importance of cooperation and teamwork, in line with this week's 'Statement to Live' by. The recipients are **Fran Needham** and **Eden Hague** in **Y6**. Both have impressed staff with the way they work so effortlessly and selflessly as part of different teams and groups to supporting and enable others in order to complete tasks. They are brilliant role-models because they are also reliable and trustworthy. Congratulations Eden and Fran, and thank you, we are all very proud of you both!



Special Visit

Today we welcomed Bishop Ralph to our school as part of his weekend visit to Our Lady of Lourdes parish.

Bishop Ralph met lots of pupils during his tour of the school and also spent time with School Councillors and members of our Chaplaincy Team, learning about what it is like to be part of our community.

He also enjoyed a delicious lunch with the children, talking and listening to them and answering their many wonderful. I would like to sincerely thank Bishop Ralph for making the time to visit our school and spend time with us and Fr Paul who accompanied him.

Please note that he will be celebrating Mass at 10.30am on Sunday 19th February at Our Lady of Lourdes, and everyone is welcome.

Class Email Addresses

After the holiday, from **Tuesday 28th February**, we will start piloting a new email system intended to facilitate easier communication between parents/carers and class teachers. We have set it up so parents and carers can email non-urgent questions or share non-urgent information. Please note that class teachers will read and respond to emails after school (up to 5pm) and therefore emails will not be read or responded to:

- ✓ before or during school
- ✓ after 5pm
- ✓ over a weekend
- ✓ during the school holidays

If a matter is urgent or you would like to share a concern, make a complaint, discuss matters to do with your child's health, medication or individual care plans etc. please contact us directly by phone or email (enquiries@stjohnfisherlearning.co.uk) as you do currently.

Class teachers will always aim to respond within 48 hours, but a response might be later if teachers are not in school, for example if they are ill or attending a course etc. Also emails which the class teacher deems to be of a serious nature will be forwarded on to be dealt with by an appropriate member of staff.

We will monitor the system until the end of this school year, and if it works (and is used) as intended, we will adopt it on a permanent basis from September 2017. The class-based email addresses are:

| | |
|--------|--|
| FS2 | yearfs@st-johnfisher.org |
| Year 1 | year1@st-johnfisher.org |
| Year 2 | year2@st-johnfisher.org |
| Year 3 | year3@st-johnfisher.org |
| Year 4 | year4@st-johnfisher.org |
| Year 5 | year5@st-johnfisher.org |
| Year 6 | year6@st-johnfisher.org |

World Book Day 2017

When we return on Tuesday 28th February it will be Book Week. Here is a copy of the email I sent out earlier this week about ways parents and carers can get involved.

World Book Day is on Thursday 2nd March 2017 (the first Thursday back after next week's holiday). In addition to what our PTFA is doing for us we are organising a few special events for the children to mark 'World Book Day' and we need your help, so please join us and get involved!

Firstly, we would like to challenge you to be caught reading in the most unusual or interesting places. We call this extreme reading, though obviously we do not expect or require you or your children to do anything risky!

Please take a photograph of your child and then email it to your child(ren)'s new class email address(es). A prize will be awarded for the best photograph showing your child(ren) reading in the most imaginative place!

We would also like to see our pupils reading from lots of different sources e.g. books, magazines, maps, leaflets, kindles, tablets etc. You have the whole of next week's holiday to think of the craziest places to be 'caught' reading! Parents/carers can also join in too and send in their pictures, reading on their own or with their children.

Please note that the pictures you send in might end up being published in the class pages of our website (unless you have previously expressed a wish **not** to have pictures of your children published), so if you wish to change your mind either way, please let us know as soon as possible or when you send your pictures in.

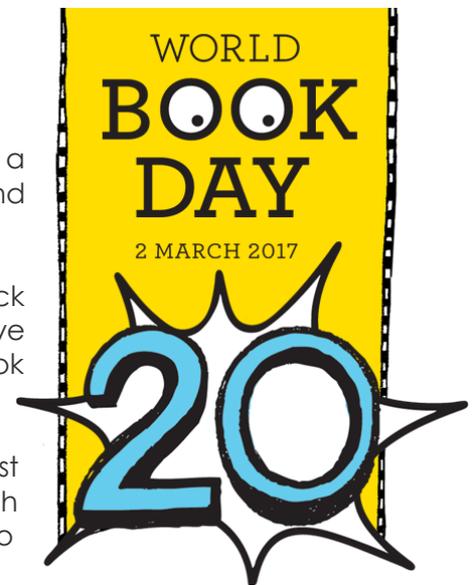
Secondly as well as dressing up in pyjamas, a onesie or as a book character we would like your child(ren) to bring a book or books to school which they no longer read, so that they can be used for a special school 'book-swap' we are planning. The idea is that unwanted books can be shared and taken home by different children at the end of the day so that they can be enjoyed and appreciated once more. The book swap will take place during the cake sale.

Thirdly, you are all invited to join us in school on the evening 2nd March, between 5 and 7pm in order to take part in a new 'Reading Den' building event!

You are invited to bring materials from home in order to build your own unique and fantastic Reading Den with your children in different places around school. We will share what we have but you might also find it helpful to bring in items like blankets, old duvets, sheets, pegs, cushions and torches (**which you will take back home with you when you are finished**).

Once the Reading Dens are built, and you are all cosy inside, you will have the chance to read favourite books together from school or from home. Throughout the evening refreshments will be available, thanks to the PTFA, and if you can help with serving them please let us know.

The idea is to make World Book Day 2017 something that is very special and memorable for all our children, and to give you some precious time to enjoy books together. This is of course open to all children and their families from **Y6** to **FS2**. I hope you will try to get involved if you can. Thank you



Assessment Workshop

Thank you to everyone who attended the workshop this week. There was a good turnout of parents and carers to the earlier session where the SJF approach to assessing progress and attainment was explained in detail. We also explained the format of both the short interim update report and the full end-of-year report. The workshop provided parents/carers with a valuable opportunity to ask questions and share feedback which my colleagues and I found really useful. We are now looking at ways to take on board the points and ideas which were shared. We will also convene a second assessment 'Focus Group' later in the year in order to review and test new developments before they go live. Membership of the group will be open to all.

Our Catholic Life

Ash Wednesday

You are all invited to join us for a special Mass to mark Ash Wednesday and the start of the liturgical season of Lent on **Wednesday 1st March at 9.30am** at Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church. The children who usually have PE on that day can wear their PE uniform.

Weekly Liturgy of the Word

Our next Liturgy of the Word will be led by the young people of **Y3** on **Thursday 9th March 2017**. The family and friends of our Y3 children are therefore invited to join us in the School Hall just after **9.00am**. Please note that there is no liturgy in the first week back because our Ash Wednesday service is taking place that week.

Celebration Assembly

We invite the family and friends of our **Y2** children to join us for our Celebration Assembly next **Friday 3rd March 2017** in the School Hall at **2.55pm**.

Parish News

You are also invited to the next children's Mass on **Sunday 19th February at 10.30am**. The Mass will be celebrated by Bishop Ralph Heskett who is visiting the parish this weekend, and everyone is welcome. Please note that information about different services and events is available via the parish website: www.ourladyoflourdessheffield.org.uk. Thank you.

Forthcoming Events

Don't forget that our calendar is on our website or via this link: www.st-johnfisher.org/parents/school-dates/

Parent Advice and Support – Drop-in Sessions

Please remember that all parents and carers can access advice and support from the MAST Parent Support Team. There are weekly drop in sessions in the school library from **8.30am on Thursday mornings** which are open to everyone.

Advice can be on a wide range of issues – general or specific to you or your family circumstances - so if you would like an appointment please speak to Mrs Asquith.

Advice and support
for children and
families



Contact MAST when
your family needs
some extra help

Admission to St John Fisher

Governors would like to remind everybody that St John Fisher warmly welcomes children from Catholic families, families who are members of other Christian denominations and world faiths and who do not subscribe to a specific faith. Admission is based on criteria set by the Catholic Education Service. If you know anyone interested in finding out more about our special school please ask them to get in touch.

Term 3 Smiley Scores So Far...

| St Andrew's House | St David's House | St Patrick's House | St George's House |
|---|---|--|---|
|  |  |  |  |
| 440 | 500 | 472 | 427 |

Congratulations to St David's House; our Term 3 Champions! Members will receive 'Golden Time' next term!

Yellow Day

The Feast of St David is celebrated on Wednesday 1st March, however as we are at church and there is PE on that day the members of St David's House will mark the feast day on **Friday 3rd March 2017** instead. On that day the members of St David's House can come to school wearing something yellow instead of their usual school uniform. If you are not sure what House your child is in please speak to your child's teacher. In the afternoon on 3rd March, the members will enjoy special activities organised by Mrs Asquith, the Head of House. Members of all the other Houses are required to wear full school uniform as usual. Thank you.

Writing Champions

| FS2 | Year 1 | Year 2 | Year 3 | Year 4 | Year 5 | Year 6 |
|------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|----------------|---------------|----------------------|---------------|
| Fin Horsfield | Lacey-Lou Lockey | Lottie Fitzpatrick | Sophie Ball | Oliver Ost | James Fitzpatrick | Lucas Diaz |

Golden Children

| | |
|--------|--|
| FS2 | Priscilla Asumadu for writing lots of amazing books in class! Priscilla always works very hard! |
| Year 1 | Courtney Nyamande for her perseverance with all her tasks and for super writing this week! |
| Year 2 | Faith Tough for working really hard in class! She is showing great <i>behaviour for learning</i> and is a super role-model to others! |
| Year 3 | Emily Cowlshaw for being very positive and for demonstrating that she cooperates well with other children in class! Well done superstar! |
| Year 4 | Lola Pardo-Figueroa for having a great attitude towards learning, in particular in Mathematics, where she has shown great perseverance in order to achieve success! |
| Year 5 | Alfie Saxton-Clayton for offering some excellent explanations in Mathematics this week! Well done! |
| Year 6 | Arienne Alfonso for working really hard in all subjects and for showing a great understanding of reasoning problems in Mathematics! What a star! |

Achievements Outside of School

- **Keira Ambrose** in **Y4** achieved the Level 8 at 'Super Swimmers' award! Congratulations!
- **Jack Swain** in **Y4** achieved the Level 8 'Super Swimmers' award, which involves lane swimming. He is working on improving his technique in backstroke, breaststroke and front crawl! What an achievement!
- **Vinny Ambrose** in **Y6** achieved the Level 7 at 'Super Swimmers' award! What a superstar, well done!

50p Friday

Thank you to everyone who contributed 50p+ for our four House charities. If you forgot, and would like to, please send it in after the holiday. Thank you.

| Attendance This Week | | | |
|----------------------|-----|---------------------------------------|---|
| FS2 | | 97.7% | |
| Year 1 | | 98.2% | Elvis the Owl will visit in the first week back |
| Year 2 | | 97.0% | |
| Year 3 | | 98.3% | Brenda Bear will visit in the first week back |
| Year 4 | | 98.1% | |
| Year 5 | | 97.5% | |
| Year 6 | | 99.1% | Bobby Bear will visit in the first week back |
| Weekly Target | 97% | This week's Average Attendance | 98.0% |

All classes beat the 97% target this week! Well done! Thank you everybody!

| Attendance in Term 3 | | | |
|----------------------|-----|---------------------------------------|--------|
| FS2 | | 96.5% | |
| Year 1 | | 96.0% | |
| Year 2 | | 98.8% | First |
| Year 3 | | 98.6% | Second |
| Year 4 | | 97.4% | |
| Year 5 | | 97.0% | |
| Year 6 | | 98.0% | Third |
| Weekly Target | 97% | This week's Average Attendance | 97.5% |

The overall average in Term 3 is above the 97% target! Thank you everybody!

| Attendance in 2016/17 So Far | | | |
|------------------------------|-----|---------------------------------------|--------|
| FS2 | | 97.2% | |
| Year 1 | | 96.4% | |
| Year 2 | | 98.7% | First |
| Year 3 | | 97.6% | |
| Year 4 | | 97.9% | Second |
| Year 5 | | 97.5% | |
| Year 6 | | 97.9% | Second |
| Weekly Target | 97% | This week's Average Attendance | 97.6% |

The overall average in this year so far is also above the 97% target! Thank you everybody!

Sparkle

Sparkle Sheffield's next coffee morning for parents of children with diagnosed or suspected Autistic Spectrum Conditions will be in the Parish Hall of Our Lady of Lourdes Church on **Tuesday 28th February** at **9.30am** (the hall will be open from 8.50am). We look forward to seeing you there!



Term 3 Reading Awards

These will be shared next term.

The Big Sing 2017

The children of Y6 took part in the Big Sing at Notre Dame Catholic High School today. There will be a full report in the newsletter after the holiday.

Statement to Live By

Next week our 'statement to live by' is "**I try to use words that make the world better.**"

Time to talk: Why is it important to use kind words when we talk to (and about) others? Why is it wrong to say unkind words or share lies? How does it feel when people say positive things? How does it feel when they don't?

Finally

We are now at the half way point of the school year! It has flown by! I would like to thank my colleagues and Governors for all their hard work and dedication this term. I would also like to thank Fr Paul for all his support as well as all the parents and carers who help, encourage and support us - in class, by reading with children, on visits etc. Finally I would like to thank our amazing children!

Have a restful and safe holiday and I look forward to welcoming you all back on Tuesday 28th February 2017.

Best wishes,
Mr Barratt

KIND WORDS CAN
BE SHORT AND
EASY TO SPEAK,
BUT THEIR ECHOES
ARE TRULY
ENDLESS.

MOTHER TERESA

