



St John Fisher News

Friday 21st December 2012 (Issue 15 2012/13)

Dear Parents and Carers,

Community Carol Service

Yesterday the young people in Key Stage 2 (Juniors) led our Community Carol Service at the church of Our Lady of Lourdes. It was a truly joyous celebration. As a new headteacher I am still learning new things about our fantastic community each day, and so I was not totally sure what to expect. I have to say that yesterday's service surpassed all of my expectations, and underlined, for me, why St John Fisher is such a special school. The singing was beautiful and the readers read with such clarity and confidence. It was also great to see the church so full of our families and friends. You are all to be congratulated for supporting our children so well and for singing with such gusto!

I would like to thank Father Paul for leading the service; Mr Burt for preparing and leading the beautiful music; the children of the choir – who sang brilliantly; the readers and all the other children who represented school so proudly. Following the service it was wonderful that so many could join us for refreshments at school. My thanks go to all who contributed cakes and pies or who ran the stall.

School Logo

Thank you to all who got involved in deciding the logo. This is the design that was chosen. The circle represents the fact that God's love is eternal – and has no beginning or end. The cross proclaims our Catholic Christian heritage. The Ichthys is an early Christian symbol, often used to reflect Jesus' call to his disciples to be 'fishers or men'. This symbolises the school's mission to reach out to all people in our community. A fish also appears on the coat of arms of St John Fisher's family.



PLEASE NOTE: Our new logo is copyright protected and as we have signed a contract with our new uniform supplier, they are the **only** company authorised to reproduce the logo on items of uniform. The uniform with the new logo will be introduced from September 2013 and will be available to order during the summer term.

SJF PTFA

A group of parents met last Wednesday to elect a new committee in order to establish our new PTFA. Here is a message to you all from our new PTFA Chairperson:

Hi my name is Donna Murphy and I would like to introduce myself as the newly elected chair of the committee for the PTFA. We have a great deal of wonderful ideas for fundraising events at Saint John Fisher and we would like to welcome everyone wanting to get involved to our next meeting that will be held on Tuesday 8th January at 7pm in school. If you can't make the meetings but would still like to get involved and bring ideas forward you can find me and other members of the committee in the playground each morning and evening. Thank you

Today a group of our PTFA members visited St Mary's Catholic Primary School in Chesterfield where the PTFA there is running their annual 'Santa in School Day' for the children of the school. I know they came back full of ideas and enthusiasm and I am very grateful to them for going, as I am to all who are able to support our school in any way.

School of the Week

Following a nomination from one of our parents, the Hallam FM radio station has chosen St John Fisher to be their 'School of the Week' for the week commencing 7th January 2013 (the first week back after the Christmas holiday)! Representatives came into school this afternoon in order to record the different sections that will be played throughout the week. The names of four children were drawn from a hat to take part. So don't forget to tune into the Breakfast Show from Monday 7th January 2013! On Friday 11th Hallam FM will come to school to give each child a piece of fruit to mark the end of our time as the featured 'School of the Week'.

Staff News

Mrs Humphries will begin a phased return to work from Monday 7th January 2013 and we look forward to welcoming her back. I am delighted to be able to inform you that Mrs Stuart-Harris will continue to work in Year 2 during Mrs Humphries' phased return as we recognise the importance of providing our young people with as much continuity as possible.

Statement to Live By

Next week our statement to live by will be: ***'I try to love others as I love myself'***.

Time to talk: We revisit this statement as we think about our own new year resolutions. What kind of school will we have if everyone manages to achieve this statement? You could share ideas about why this is important as you reflect on what school would be like if everyone only thought about themselves.

Attendance

The classes with the best attendance for week ending 14th December were:

1. In first place was **Y5** - with a **99.4%** attendance
2. In second place was **Y4** with a **97.2%** attendance
3. In third place was **Y3** with **95%** attendance

On the first week back Bobby will again be visiting the girls and boys of Year **5**; Bertie will visit the children of Year **4** and Elvis will spend the week with the children of Year **3**. Congratulations to you all! For the week ending 14th December the average attendance was **95.1%** which was just below our target of 96%.

The overall winning class for Term 2 will be announced in the first newsletter of Term 3. The winning class will receive some 'Golden Time' in the form of extra playtime.

House Winners

The House that earned the most house points in Term 2 will also be announced in the first newsletter of the new term and the members of that House will also receive 'Golden Time' in the form of extra play time.

Finally...

I would like to thank everyone who has contributed so much to school life over the past two terms; my talented colleagues, our Governors, our volunteers, Fr Paul and our wonderful young people. I wish you all a very happy and peaceful Christmas and new year!

F Barratt
Headteacher