



St John Fisher News

Wednesday 22nd April 2016 (Issue 27 ~ 2015/16)



www.st-johnfisher.org

Citizen of the Week

The recipient of this week's award is **Zarnetta Moomba** (Y5) who understands why it is important to help others when they are in trouble in line with our 'Statement to Live By'. In so many ways Zarnetta is a model student who can be relied upon to give of her best make good choices. Never is this more apparent than when she is in a position to help, work with or look after others. A super role-model, well done!

Statutory End of key Stage Tests (SATs)

As you know, the children of Years 2 and 6 will undertake their final end of Key Stage statutory assessments in the coming weeks. These are often referred to as SATs. These assessments are very important for all schools because they are used as one way of measuring and judging performance and effectiveness.

You may well be aware from the media that there have been a number of significant changes in education in recent years, months and days which are having a huge impact on children and schools.

These changes include the removal of 'Levels' as a means of measuring pupil achievement; the introduction of a new National Curriculum with expectations significantly higher than its predecessor; and the transformation of the tests the children do at the end of Years 2 and 6.

In common with colleagues in schools everywhere, we have been working hard to adapt to the changes and prepare our children. We have reviewed our curriculum; our approaches to teaching and learning; and the way we track pupil progress and achievement so that we can help our young people meet the new national standards and expectations whilst remaining true to our ethos and core values.

Next week the young people of Y6 will be having a run through and so it is very important that they attend school every day. The actual Y6 assessments take place from Monday 9th May to Thursday 12th May 2016, and again it is vital that the children attend every day. Further information about the tests including revision materials is available via this link to the Y6 Blog on the website: <https://stjohnfishersheffyear6.edublogs.org/>.

The assessments for children in Y2 are different. Though they will do some tests to inform Mrs Broadhead's assessment of their knowledge and abilities, her final judgements can also take account of the knowledge and abilities they have demonstrated in class day in, day out leading up to this point.

As a community, we understand the importance of these assessments however we also never forget that each child is special and their welfare and happiness at school is very important. We therefore work hard to make the preparations as fun and engaging as possible and aim to ensure that our young people always feel valued, supported and affirmed. Whatever the outcome of the tests, we are very proud of them all.

Term 5 Smiley Scores So Far...

 St Andrew's House 316	 St David's House 281	 St Patrick's House 314	 St George's House 294
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Red Day

Today the community came together to mark the feast of St George (which is tomorrow) with activities in class this morning. In the afternoon members of St George's House enjoyed activities organised by Mr Hawley, the Head of House. I would like to thank Mr Hawley and everyone who supported him in making the activities so special for the children.

The Catholic Life of the School

Weekly Liturgy of the Word

Next week's Liturgy of the Word, which was due to be led by the young people of **Y4** has been cancelled because the Y6 pupils are having a special practise week for their forthcoming statutory assessments (SATs).

Weekly Celebration Assembly

Congratulations to all the children mentioned in today's assembly. Next week we invite the family and friends of our **Y6** children to join us in the hall at 2.55pm.

The Queen's 90th Birthday

Yesterday we celebrated the Queen's 90th birthday. The Student Councillors and Mrs Darken prepared and led a special assembly at which the children sang both the National Anthem and 'Happy Birthday'. At lunchtime the children enjoyed special birthday party food served by our two special guests...



Community History Project

Here is an important message from Mrs Holloway:

As part of our local (Birley) family of schools we made a successful bid to the 'First World War Now and Then Heritage Lottery Fund'! This means that over the next two years St John Fisher has the funding to support our Y5 children and whole community to research Sheffield's home front family stories related to the First World War. Stories of the home front are less well-known, so this is our chance to tell some of Sheffield's story.

The children will be asking research questions for members of the community to answer. There will be free opportunities for people in our community to be trained in research techniques by the Sheffield Library Service and take part in a visit to the Liddle Collection in Leeds.

Experts will be visiting our school, children will be sharing their new knowledge and there will be free community events and lots of opportunities for children to write.

Our particular area of research is: entertainment. The children have already come up with some research questions. They would like to find out about home entertainment (books, toys and music); going out (cinema and films); and sport – specifically football (including women's football) and horse racing.

The second half of the project involves a young people's writer who will work with the then year sixes to create a script which they will perform after their SATs. We hope to hold a massive celebratory event for all the community to watch the play and look at an exhibition of the children's work and the research.

So we need you! Any small contributions of your time would be most welcome. Do you have stories to tell, information we can look at? Do you have any family war time recipes we could try out? Please let us know. Please contact Mrs Holloway if you are interested in being involved in any way at all.

The Good Shepherd Appeal

Last Tuesday, the Y5 Chaplaincy Team members, accompanied by Mrs Holloway and Mrs Walton, travelled to the Mother of God Catholic Church along with representatives of other Catholic schools in the Diocese of Hallam in order to present the money we had raised for the Bishop's 2016 Good Shepherd Appeal.

"During this very special service, we remembered and celebrated how Jesus helped the poor and how we can do that in our own schools and communities today. We listened to the Gospel and Bishop Ralph blessed our donations. Altogether we raised £120. Thank you."

With Bishop Ralph in the photograph are (left to right) Kimi Hardy, Isaac Woolhouse, Emma Watters and Abdullah Al-Rammahi.



Achievements Outside of School

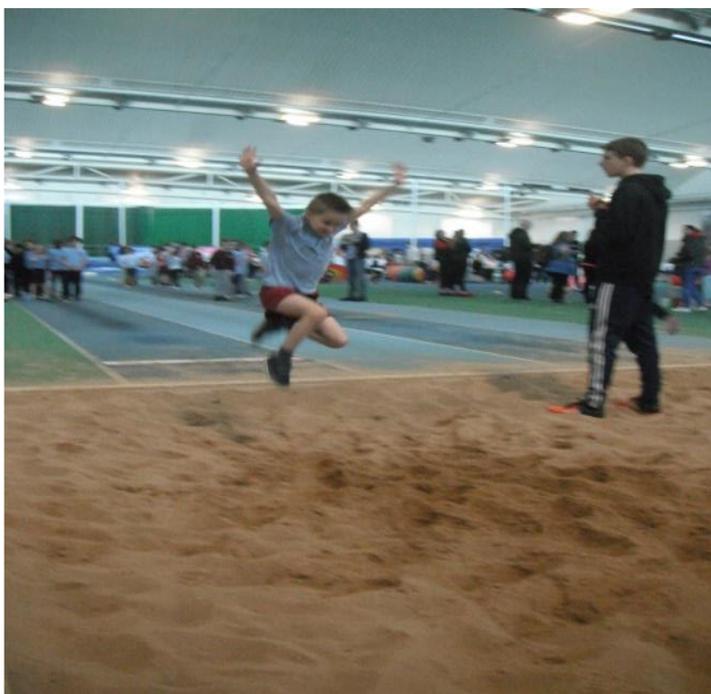
Phoebe Kilbride in **Y1** achieved Level 2 in gymnastics last week. She has now passed all the levels from 8 through to 2 and is now working towards her Level 1 award! Congratulations!

Top Table Award

This week the 'family' chosen to sit on the Top Table at lunchtime was the Kingfisher family Congratulations to Daryn, Oliver, Patrick, Dominic, Kimi, Isaac, Bertie, James and Daniel. We are very proud of you all!

Inter-School Sports

This week children from Years 2, 3 and 4 joined pupils from other Sheffield schools to take part in special sports days organised by our 'Links' partners at the English Institute of Sport (EIS). They participated in a range of activities including the long jump, hockey, and ball skills. Some children even managed to watch Jessica Ennis-Hill train! All our young people were amazing and tried their very best. The Y3 pupils even managed to win their tournament! The behaviour of our children was excellent and we received feedback from members of the public about their manners and how smart they looked in their school PE kits. I would like to thank them and our staff and volunteers who looked after them, including a number of parents. I would especially like to thank Mrs Broadhead for enabling our children to have this fantastic opportunity.



Pupil Safety

Play Equipment

The children are really enjoying the new playground equipment but when they use it at school or KIDZONE they are supervised by staff. The equipment should not be used at any other time – including before and after school. Governors will not accept responsibility for injuries that occur when the equipment should not be in use.

Front Wall/Fence

I would also like to take this opportunity to ask you not to let your children walk on the wall or climb on the fences that run along the front of school. Thank you for your support.

Sun Smart

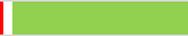
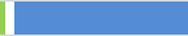
As the weather gets (hopefully) warmer and sunnier I would like to invite you to send your child to school with a suitable sun hat to wear in the playground and for learning outside. Sun block is a highly effective way of protecting your children when they are in the sun. However we are not allowed to apply it to the children on your behalf. Our advice is that you liberally apply sun block in the morning before your child comes to school.

Attendance This Week

FS2		98.4%	Brenda Bear will visit next week!
Year 1		97.4%	
Year 2		100.0%	Bobby Bear will visit next week!
Year 3		95.8%	
Year 4		96.9%	
Year 5		96.3%	
Year 6		98.0%	Elvis the Owl will visit next week!
Weekly Target		97%	This week's Average Attendance 97.5%

The overall attendance figure is above our 97% target for the second week in a row – thank you.

Writing Champions

FS2	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
						
Marika de Caro	Sophie Hemingway	Xiomara Gregory	Alice Curtis	Sam Orbell	Eden Hague	Kiera Beck

Golden Children

This week's Golden Children are:

FS2		Jessica Ball for her amazing writing! We have enjoyed eight pages of her Cinderella story! Jessica is using her sounds brilliantly to write her sentences!
Year 1		Valeria Siameli for being a super special member of Y1! She always tries her best and is a great friend to lots of the children! We wish her lots of luck in her new school!
Year 2		Sophie Ball for being determined to try everything at the EIS this week! Great teamwork!
Year 3		Rowan Lodge for showing a good and mature attitude towards learning and teamwork!
Year 4		William Ludlam for having a wonderful ' <i>I believe in myself</i> ' attitude to his work!
Year 5		Jack Waldron for working very hard in class. He is a great role-model and knows when to be ready!
Year 6		Byron Siameli for being a great member of Y6! He is a great friend and role-model and will be missed by us all.

Statement to Live By

Next week our 'statement to live by' is "I try to forgive people when they hurt me."

Time to talk: Together you could think about what forgiveness really means and why it is important. Why is it so hard to forgive someone who hurts us? How does it feel to forgive? Weak? Strong? Why? How can an act of forgiveness help us and the person who hurts us? Can you think of a time when you hurt someone and then asked them for forgiveness? Was it difficult? Why? How did it feel to be forgiven?



"People are often unreasonable, illogical and self-centered.

FORGIVE THEM ANYWAY.

If you are kind, people may accuse you of selfish motives.

BE KIND ANYWAY.

If you are successful, you will win some false friends and some true enemies.

SUCCEED ANYWAY.

If you are honest & sincere, people may deceive you.

BE HONEST & SINCERE ANYWAY.

What you spend years building, someone could destroy overnight.

BUILD ANYWAY.

If you find serenity and happiness, they may be jealous.

BE HAPPY ANYWAY.

The good you do today, people will often forget tomorrow.

DO GOOD ANYWAY.

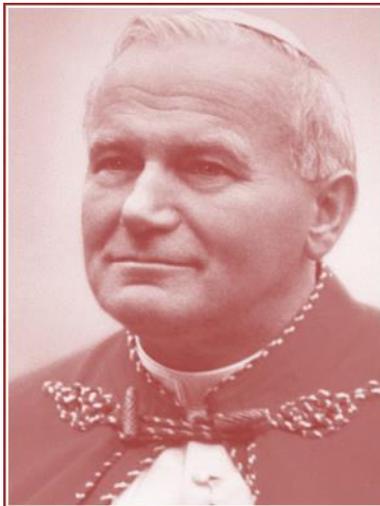
Give the world the best you have and it may never be enough.

GIVE YOUR BEST ANYWAY.

In the final analysis, it is between you and God;

IT WAS NEVER BETWEEN YOU AND THEM ANYWAY."

- Mother Teresa



Forgiveness is above all a personal choice, a decision of the heart to go against the natural instinct to pay back evil with evil.

— Pope John Paul II —

hate is heavy,
let it go.

r.m. drake

Have a great weekend,

Best wishes,
Mr Barratt