

SJF NEWS

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Friday 22nd December 2017 (Issue 15 ~ 2017/18)



Citizen of the Week

This week's recipient is **Christian Adeusei** in **Y6** who understands the importance of loving others in line with this week's Statement to Live By! Christian is so generous and kind, and always thinks of others before himself. He is gentle and sensitive to the thoughts and feelings of others. Quietly and without fuss Christian sets a fantastic example to others. Congratulations superstar, we are all very proud of you!

Term 2 Smiley Champions

St Andrew's House

731

St David's House

645

St Patrick's House

625

St George's House

647

Congratulations to the members of St Andrew's House – our Term 2 Champions, who were rewarded with 'Golden Time' next term!

Attendance this Week		
FS2	91.7%	Elvis the owl will be visiting next week
Year 1	94.2%	Brenda bear will visit next week
Year 2	89.6%	
Year 3	94.6%	Bobby bear will visit next week
Year 4	91.0%	
Year 5	87.1%	
Year 6	89.1%	
Target	97.5%	This week's average attendance: 90.9%
Attendance this Term		
FS2	95.0%	
Year 1	94.7%	
Year 2	95.0%	
Year 3	96.1%	
Year 4	95.5%	
Year 5	94.5%	
Year 6	94.1%	
Target	97.5%	This term's average attendance: 95.2%
Attendance this Year		
FS2	96.1%	
Year 1	96.0%	
Year 2	96.6%	
Year 3	95.7%	
Year 4	92.7%	
Year 5	92.1%	
Year 6	91.9%	
Target	97.5%	This year's average attendance so far: 96.5%

There is no question that the children have been affected greatly by the various viruses that have been circulating, and these have had a devastating impact on our attendance with no classes meeting the expected 97.5% attendance in the final week, Term 2 and the year so far.

Whilst attendance at school every day is very important, children cannot come to school if they are too ill.

As our overall figures have dropped significantly in recent weeks a Multi-Agency Support Team worker who specialises in attendance and punctuality matters will be visiting us in January in order to go through our data and offer support to children and families where attendance and punctuality is an issue.

Let us hope that the new year and a new term marks the end of these horrible viruses and marks a positive change of fortune in terms of attendance. Thank you.

Pupil Safety

We respectfully ask that photographs and videos of our children taken at the recent nativity plays and Community Carol Service are not uploaded to social media. We also request that photographs or videos of our children wearing school uniform are not posted on open/public social media platforms. It will not take long for someone to discover the whereabouts of the school, and therefore the child(ren) in the post. We appreciate your support with this matter. Thank you.

Calendar Reminders

08-01-18	✓ school reopens – start of Term 3
11-01-18	✓ No Liturgy (Mass on Friday)
12-01-18	✓ New Year Mass (9.30am, Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church) ✓ Celebration Assembly (2.55pm, School Hall) –family and friends of Y3 pupils are invited
15-12-18	✓ Young Voices
18-01-18	✓ Y1 Liturgy of the Word (9:05am, School Hall) ✓ Y2 Skipping Workshop (PE kit all day) ✓ No Celebration Assembly (Y2 Skipping Workshop) – Y1 & Y2 parents/carers invited on 26/01/18

Key Stage 1 Nativity

Congratulations to the pupils and staff of Key Stage 1 (Years 1 and 2) for this week's fantastic nativity play. The acting, singing and dancing was amazing! Every child was fantastic and made us all feel very proud. Thank you to everyone who came along to watch the performances and support the children!





FS2 Nativity



Collective Worship

New Year Mass

You are all invited to join us for Mass on Friday 12th January 2018 at Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church. It will start at 9.30am.

Weekly Liturgy of the Word

There will be no liturgy in the first week back because of the New Year Mass. The next Liturgy of the Word will be led by the children of Y1 on Thursday 18th January. The family and friends of our Y1 pupils are invited to join us in the School Hall at 9.05am.

Celebration Assembly

The family and friends of our **Y3** pupils are invited to join us for Celebration Assembly on **Friday 12 January 2018** in the School Hall from 2.55pm.

Please note that there will be **no** Celebration Assembly on **Friday 19th January 2018** (the week after) as indicated in the calendar. This is because there will be a special Y2 Skipping Workshop taking place all afternoon on that day. Thank you.

Advent 2017

Thank you to everyone who joined us for our special Advent reflections. Your support is always appreciated.

January Prayer

Our prayer for January is the Sanctus. This will be shared at assemblies and in class. The word 'Sanctus' means 'Holy' in Latin, and the prayer is shared during the most holy part of Mass, when the bread and wine is transformed in the Body and Blood of Our Lord. The words are:

**Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts.
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest**



Christmas in Our Lady of Lourdes Parish

Please check the parish website for details of Masses, confessions and services over the Christmas season. You can access the information via this link: www.ourladyoflourdesheffield.gov.uk.

Term 2 Reading & Sports Awards

These will be announced next term. Thank you.

Golden Awards & Writing Champions

These will resume next term. Thank you.

A Christmas plea from FS2

Here is a message from Mrs Darken:

If your children are lucky enough to receive a new scooter or bicycle for Christmas could I ask you to think of FS2 because we could do with some extra small balance bikes or scooters? We do not need pedal bikes though, thank you. All donated equipment will undergo a safety check prior to the children being allowed to use them and I promise that they will be well used.

We are always on the lookout for old toys or games such as cars, trains, animals, dolls, superheroes, jigsaws or puzzles. The children also love dressing up costumes, especially different boys' costumes. Please note that we do not need old Halloween costumes however. Thank you.

Also if you have a strong water holder for camping, that you no longer require, would you consider donating it to us? It will not be used for drinking water but as a means of accessing water in the new outdoor mud kitchen. Thank you in advance for your continued support. We are very grateful for any donations.

Thank you.

Christmas Dinner 2017

I would like to thank our catering staff; Mrs Walton and Mrs Roper, as well as Lunchtime supervision team; Mrs Bower, Mrs Gregory Mrs Hollingworth, Mrs Seaton, Mrs Thomas and Miss Brothwell for all their hard work this year and for making the children's Christmas lunch yesterday as very special. Everyone had a great time!



Curriculum Exhibition

Today we welcomed family and friends to join us for an exhibition celebrating the children's learning and work in Terms 1 and 2. The displays were wonderful, and the pupil curators from every class were sharing proudly information about all the work they had done and about all the fantastic things they have been learning about. I would like to thank the PTFA for providing refreshments and everyone who was able to pop in!







PE Swap

Currently Y5 pupils have PE on Wednesdays and Y2 pupils have PE on Thursdays. Next term the sessions will swap meaning that from January until the February holiday Y5 PE will be on a Thursday and Y2 PE will be on a Wednesday.

This is a temporary change for Term 3 only. It has been forced on us because the coaches from Sheffield United FC who are taking the Y5 PE lessons next term are available on Thursdays only.

Community Carols Service 2017

Today the children of Years 3-6 (Key Stage 2) led our annual Community Carols Service, and it was wonderful. The children sang, played instruments and read beautifully. The whole church resonated with sound of carols and Christmas songs as the children retold the events leading up to the birth of baby Jesus in their own words. I would like to thank everyone involved in making today happen. Miss Pendlebury for leading the beautiful music, Mr Smith for accompanying the singing on the euphonium, the musicians, percussionists, readers and of course Fr Paul for supporting us and enabling us to use the church. I would like to thank everyone who came along to support us.

Afterwards we returned to the School Hall for refreshments and buns laid on by our PTFA. I would like to thank the PTFA for their ongoing and generous support and everyone who donated buns.

Statement to Live By

When we return after the holiday our 'statement to live by' is **'I try to follow school and classroom rules'**

Time to talk: Why do we have rules? Do they help us? What would happen if there were no rules? How do rules help us and others to feel happy, safe and loved? What rules do you have at home? What rules does Jesus give us so that we can grow closer to Him?

POPE FRANCIS' FIVE FINGER PRAYER



1.) THE THUMB IS THE CLOSEST FINGER TO YOU, SO START PRAYING FOR THOSE WHO ARE CLOSEST TO YOU. THEY ARE THE PERSONS EASIEST TO REMEMBER. TO PRAY FOR OUR DEAR ONES IS A "SWEET OBLIGATION."

2.) THE NEXT FINGER IS THE INDEX. PRAY FOR THOSE WHO TEACH YOU, INSTRUCT YOU AND HEAL YOU. THEY NEED THE SUPPORT AND WISDOM TO SHOW DIRECTION TO OTHERS. ALWAYS KEEP THEM IN YOUR PRAYERS.

3.) THE FOLLOWING FINGER IS THE MIDDLE. IT REMINDS US OF OUR LEADERS, THE GOVERNORS AND THOSE WHO HAVE AUTHORITY. THEY NEED GOD'S GUIDANCE.

4.) THE FOURTH FINGER IS THE RING FINGER. EVEN THOUGH IT MAY SURPRISE YOU, IT IS OUR WEAKEST FINGER. IT SHOULD REMIND US TO PRAY FOR THE WEAKEST, THE SICK OR THOSE PLAGUED BY PROBLEMS. THEY NEED YOUR PRAYERS.

5.) AND FINALLY WE HAVE OUR SMALLEST FINGER, THE SMALLEST OF ALL. YOUR PINKIE SHOULD REMIND YOU TO PRAY FOR YOURSELF. WHEN YOU ARE DONE PRAYING FOR THE OTHER FOUR GROUPS, YOU WILL BE ABLE TO SEE YOUR OWN NEEDS BUT IN THE PROPER PERSPECTIVE, AND ALSO YOU WILL BE ABLE TO PRAY FOR YOUR OWN NEEDS IN A BETTER WAY.

The secret of being
Happy
is accepting where
you are in life and
making the most
out of everyday.

Three simple rules in life

1. If you do not GO after what you want, you'll never have it.
2. If you do not ASK, the answer will always be NO.
3. If you do not step forward, you'll always be in the same place.

In Our Home
Always be honest
PROVERBS 12:22

Forgive and forget
MICAH 7:18

Be kind hearted
EPHESIANS 4:32

Keep your promises
ROMANS 4:21

Work hard
COLOSSIANS 3:23

Be thankful
1 THESSALONIANS 5:18

Never give up
PHILIPPIANS 4:13

But most important
Love One Another
1 PETER 1:22

Finally

I would like to thank all my colleagues for their continued hard work and dedication; the Governors, Fr Paul, the PTFA and all volunteers who help us in any way. I would like to thank you, the parents and carers for the support you give school. Finally I would like to thank our fantastic children. We really are blessed as a community with our children, they are amazing!

I wish you all a very peaceful Christmas, and I pray that you all can look forward to a very happy, prosperous and healthy new year.

Best wishes,
Mr Barratt