



St John Fisher News

Friday 22nd May 2015 (Issue 33 ~ 2014/15)



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★ Citizen of the Week

This week's recipient is **Jenson Pugh** (Y4) who was chosen for remembering our statement to live by: '**I know how to show I am sorry**'. Jenson is trying really hard to make good choices and we are all pleased with his efforts. No one is perfect though and if Jenson does make a mistake he shows that he is sincerely sorry by telling the truth and admitting fault. He then tries to do something positive to make it up - so that everyone can move on. Well done Jenson, to show that you are sincerely sorry takes real courage, and we are proud of you for being a good example to others! Good lad.

It's All Good

I apologise for the delay in sending out this newsletter but I have been waiting for the Ofsted report which was actually due out last Thursday. It was released earlier today and I have attached a copy of the final report to this email for your information.

I am delighted to tell you that St John Fisher was rated 'Good' in every category. Inspectors not only recognised where we are now, but also the incredible journey we have been on.

I am pleased that the report is positive about our wonderful children and recognises the contributions of everyone involved in earning us these fantastic judgements.

I have dreamed about being able to write a notice like this to you for so long. For me, the part that I am most proud of, is the line that says "relationships are very good in this happy school." I believe that this has been core to our success because strong relationships make an ethos visible.

Our Catholic ethos has underpinned each and every improvement. There has been nothing superficial about the strides we have made as a community. It has never been about ticking boxes. Each positive step forward has had depth and integrity. As a community relationships are very good and together we have held on to an unshakeable belief in our will and capacity to bounce back strongly.

I would therefore like to recognise the hard work of those who helped make this possible: my exceptional colleagues; our Governors, the PTFA and Focus Group members who have each played a part in helping us to build a community in which our children can not only thrive but also feel happy, safe and loved every day.

I would like to thank John Cape, Jamie Kilner and the Diocese of Hallam as well as Diane Stokes and the Local Authority for their constant support and encouragement. Before his retirement, Bishop John Rawsthorne was always very encouraging and supportive and kept our community in his prayers. I would also like to thank Fr Paul for supporting the liturgical life of our community so generously.

Lastly I would like to thank you the parents and carers for standing by us; for believing in us and for trusting us with the care of the most precious people in your lives. I am delighted that your faith in us has been rewarded with a report that also acknowledges your passion and enthusiasm for our school.

Inspectors felt that we are well positioned to continue growing and developing. The only key issue identified was writing and inspectors were very positive about the steps we have taken so far and the plans, already in place, to further develop this aspect in the future.

So the hard work will continue and never stop – but after a few well-earned days of r & r first!

Thank you everybody.



Good Shepherd Appeal

Many thanks to everyone for supporting the appeal by dressing down in the last week. The children's efforts raised £290 in aid of the Diocese of Hallam Caring Services.

On Wednesday 20th May, two of our Y6 students; Luke Murphy and Annabel Langley attended the annual Good Shepherd service at the Mother of God church (along with representatives of all diocesan schools) in order to present the money to the Bishop.

I would like to thank everyone who donated money for the appeal and specifically Abigail, Luke and Mrs Holloway for representing us so magnificently at the service last week.



Y5 Forensic Science Morning

All Saints
Catholic High School



On Wednesday 20th May four of our Y5 students: Joshua Mercer, Sam Devoti, Kiera Beck and Abigaël Collins attended a special Forensic Science Challenge morning organised and facilitated by our friends from All Saints Catholic High School. The children had great fun learning about all the different ways of using scientific techniques in order to discover evidence.

The children had such a fantastic time and were absolutely buzzing when they returned.



I would like to thank Mrs Scott, Mrs Grant and the staff of the Science Department for providing our children with this amazing opportunity. It was very much appreciated by us all.

PTFA News

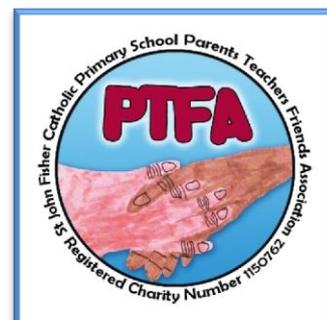
This year our 'BIG Lunch' event will be transformed in to the 'SJF Friday Fayre'. This is to support the Y5 pupils entering the 2015 PTFA-sponsored 'Y5 Enterprise Challenge Cup'.

The date has been changed too and the event will now be on **Friday 3rd July**.

The event will be open to pupils from 2.30pm to 3.15pm and to parents, carers and friends of the school from 3.25pm onwards – once the gates have been opened. Please bring family members and friends along to support this important fund-raising event.

A planning meeting will take place in the Community Room of the new Drakehouse ASDA on 9th June from 7.00pm-8.30pm. If you can spare a little time your support would be most welcome. Please join us!

If you shop at ASDA please don't forget to ask for the special green tokens. The PTFA could win £200 for school if we get the most tokens! Thank you for your ongoing support.



Curriculum Overviews & Annual Reports

The Term 6 Curriculum Overview will be sent out during the first week back. You are reminded that there will be no mini-report as this is the term that the main annual report is sent home. Colleagues are working on the reports currently and they will be emailed to you in due course. If you require a paper copy or an adapted version, e.g. larger print, please notify us. Thank you.

Writing Champions

The following children were chosen by their teachers to be 'Writing Champions' because they have been enthusiastic and have worked really hard to improve and enjoy their writing.

FS2	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6
Caitlin Hardy	Freya Jones	Lola Pardo-Figueroa	Ben Forgo	Kayleigh Collins	Daphney Adebayo	Luke McKernan

This Week's Golden Children

• FS2	William Denham for making an excellent effort to improve his understanding of phonics knowledge in the Read Write Inc. sessions. William is trying hard to use his sounds to read words!
• Year 1	Freya Jones for being a good role-model to others and for always sitting beautifully and for trying hard with her frog life-cycle information booklet!
• Year 2	Amna Javid for trying really hard to become a more independent learner, especially when writing. Amna remembered to include the key points for creating a non-chronological report!
• Year 3	Alfie Saxton-Clayton for developing an excellent attitude to his learning and his work. He managed to be even more independent, focused and determined this week! Well done!
• Year 4	Isaac Thompson for always trying to be extremely helpful, kind and thoughtful. Well done!
• Year 5	Nicole Mercardo for doing really well in a recent Mathematics quiz! She did not to rush and remembered to show her working out whilst working methodically and carefully. Well done!
• Year 6	Jacob Croft for an excellent attitude in his examination preparation!

Achievements Outside of School

- **May Woodhouse** in **Y3** recently became a Level 4 swimmer! Congratulations May, what an achievement!
- **Ellie Cheetham** in **Y4** has achieved the 'Gold Level' in freestyle ice-skating! How fantastic! Good girl!

Please do not forget to let us know about your child(ren)'s out-of-school achievements so we can publicise and celebrate them. Thank you.

Weekly Liturgy of the Word

I would like to thank the children of **Y5** for leading the last liturgy. The liturgy in the first week of Term 6 will be led by the young people of **Y4**. As usual, the family and friends of our Y4 pupils are invited to join in the hall for just after 9.00am.

Attendance

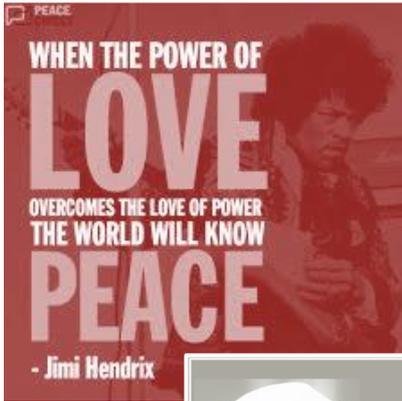
This week the girls and boys of **Y2** were first with an incredible **99.3%** attendance and will receive a visit from Bobby Bear! In second place were the children of **Y5** who managed a very respectable **98.6%** and will be visited by Brenda. In third place were our **Y6** students with a creditable 97.6% attendance and they will receive a visit from Elvis the Owl.

Our whole-school average attendance dipped this week to **96.6%** which is sadly below our 97% target. Please help us improve this next week, thank you.

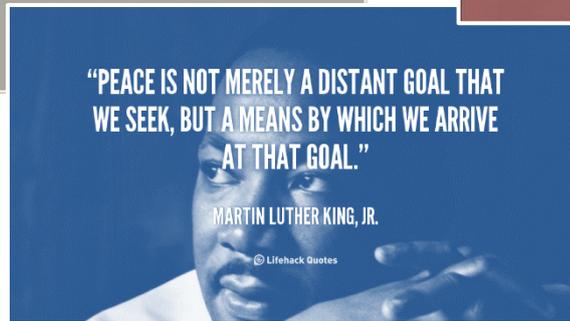
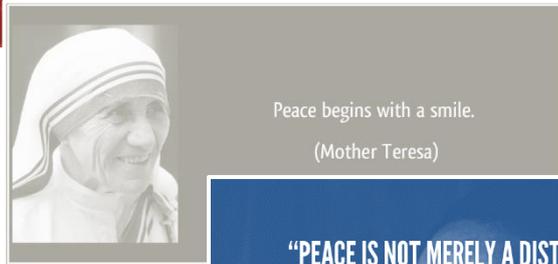
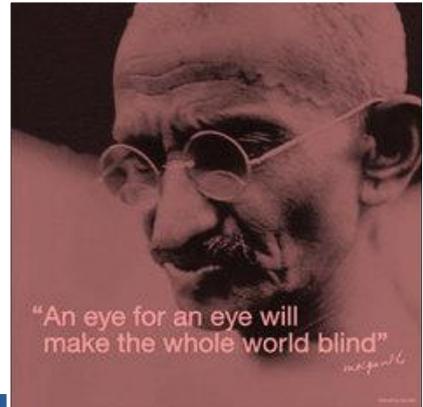
Statement to Live By

Our next 'statement to live by' will be "**I understand the importance of peace**"

Time to talk: What is peace? Can you describe it in your own words? What is peace like? Why do we aim for peace in our lives, in our families, in our school, in our country and in our world? What needs to happen before we can have peace? Can you have peace without love and love without peace?



There is no path
to peace. Peace
is the path.
Gandhi



Finally

We bade farewell to Mrs Drake on the last day of Term 5. I would like to thank her for her hard work and utter commitment to our community – and specifically the Y3 children - over these past few months. We wish Mrs Drake every happiness and success in the future. We welcome back Mrs Evans and Miss Kiernan who will now take over the Year 3 class from the beginning of Term 6.

We also think about Miss Speed, or Mrs Bishop as she is now known, and her new husband who are currently enjoying a well-earned and relaxing honeymoon in the Maldives.

I hope you all have a wonderful break whatever you have got planned.

Best wishes,

Mr Barratt