



St John Fisher Weekly News



Friday 22nd November 2013 (Issue 11 ~ 2013/14)

St Andrew's Day

It is the feast of St Andrew, the patron Saint of Scotland, on Saturday 30th November 2013. On **Monday 2nd December** the children in **St Andrew's House** are invited to come to school dressed in blue (rather than school uniform) to mark the feast day.

Please note that only the children in St Andrew's House can dress in blue however, I would appreciate it if this did not extend to face paints etc.

The children in the other three Houses are expected to wear full school uniform as normal. Thank you.

Blessing of the Advent Wreaths

Next Friday 29th November is our annual blessing of the Advent Wreaths liturgy in the school hall at 2.45pm. All welcome.

New Rainbow Rooms

If you are having a 'Christmas clear out' of toys or items your children no longer use, Miss Kiernan and Mrs Asquith are looking for the following resources to improve the learning and sensory opportunities they can provide for our school community:

- Touchy, feely books
- Floor cushion/bean bag
- Musical instruments e.g. shakers, bells, tambourines
- Wooden blocks
- Dressing up clothes
- Baby toys (this is for the sensory room so that we can open it up to parents with young babies)
- Farm/zoo animals

Please contact us if you can help. Thank you.

Rainbows Support Group

In January Mrs Asquith and Mrs Golland will be starting an after school 'Rainbows' group for any children who have experienced loss, perhaps through divorce and separation or grief after a bereavement. The Rainbows Programme fosters emotional healing at painful transition times in children's lives.

It will take place once a week in school and provides a safe setting in which children can talk through their feelings with their peers who are experiencing similar situations. Children are helped to articulate their feelings and build self-esteem and resilience. If you feel that your child might benefit from such a programme (which lasts between 12 to 14 weeks) or you just want further information please see Mrs Asquith.

Year 5 Tree Planting

As it will be 'National Tree Week' the young people of Year 5 have been asked to plant trees in school. This will happen on **26-11-13**. We would be grateful if they could bring suitable outdoor footwear to school with them, for example, walking boots or wellies as well as a waterproof coat and a change of trousers in case they get wet/muddy. Thank you.

School Dinners: Increased Charge

I would like to remind you that the cost of school dinners will increase after the Christmas holiday. Currently the cost is £1.90 and this will rise to £2 per day. If you feel that you might be entitled to free school meals and would like some more information please contact us as soon as possible and we will advise you in confidence about what you should do.

Visit of Bishop John

I would like to remind you that Bishop John will visit our school on **Monday 16th December** to open and bless our library and new administration wing. Further information will be sent out in due course. Thank you.

Mission Together

Thank you to everyone who has already returned their 'Mission Together' boxes. We would be grateful if any remaining boxes could be brought in on Monday.

Revised End of Day Arrangements for FS2, Year 1 and Year 2

Until the path to the F2 class has been properly laid we would be grateful if anyone collecting children in F2, Y1 and Y2 would wait on the main playground. A reminder that:

- **FS2 children** are being brought down to the playground *earlier* at 3.15pm
- **Y1 children** are being brought down the path to the playground at the usual time
- **Y2 children** are continuing to use the library exit at the usual time

These arrangements will be reviewed once the path is ready and parents can access the F2 area safely.

PTFA News

If you shop online please consider using the following link to access your preferred sites as this will generate money for school. All you have to do is use the link, find our school and then go to your preferred site.

<http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/panel/>

The PTFA is also looking for donations of toys to stock their stall at this year's bazaar at Our Lady of Lourdes.

Please bring your Christmas hamper raffle money into school for the PTFA before 11th December 2013 for the opportunity to win. Thank you.

Please sign the list in the new foyer if you can help with this year's first 'Santa in School Day' which takes place on 19th December 2013. The PTFA desperately need more volunteers to make it a success. Thank you.

Weekly Liturgy of the Word

I would like to thank Miss Rybka and the young people of Year 3 for leading this week's Liturgy of the Word, it was fantastic! Thank you to everyone who came to support the children.

Please note that there will be no liturgies for the next two weeks. Next week there is no liturgy because of the 'Blessing of the Advent Wreaths' liturgy on Friday and there will be no liturgy the week after because it is assessment week.

The next liturgy will therefore be on **Thursday 12th December 2013**, which will be led by the children of **Year 1**. The family and friends of our Year 1 children are very welcome and it will begin shortly after 9.00am.

Golden Children

The class teachers added the names of the following children to our Golden Book this week:

• F 2	Isla Atkinson for always listening well!
• Year 1	Laurie Paige for listening at carpet time and trying really hard with her number bonds to 10!
• Year 2	May Woodhouse for always being ready for learning and listening well!
• Year 3	Vinnie Ambrose for great writing in Read Write Inc and for developing his independent learning skills!
• Year 4	Kiera Swift for working really hard on her writing target to add description and detail!
• Year 5	Sophie Robinson-Oates for always having a great attitude to her learning!
• Year 6	Elizabeth Avelino for being kind and responsible – a perfect example to others!



Links Partnership Sport Stars of the Week

The following children have been identified by our sports coaches as stars this week: Abigail Watters, Gabriel Pinto, Finley Mappin, Amna Javid, William Ludlam, Ruben Jackson, Sam Wilson and Jacob Croft. Well done children, we are all very proud of you!

Writing Champions

The following children are our Writing Champions this week because they have really tried hard and made a personal leap forward as a result. Their fantastic writing can be viewed in our hall over the next week.

Year 1 Filip Dominiak	Year 2 Isabelle Walton-Hall	Year 3 Ashleigh Hurst	Year 4 Hannah Walton	Year 5 Alex Thompson	Year 6 Ella Harpin
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Parish News

The carol service takes place on Friday 6th December 2013 and this year will involve our new SJF Choir. Everyone is welcome and Miss Pendlebury would like all choir members to be present if possible. Thanks.

Weekly Attendance Winners

For the week ending 15-11-13 in first place are the girls and boys of Year 5 who achieved a 98.6% attendance - and will be visited by Bobbie Bear. In second place were the children of Year 1 with 98% attendance. They will receive a visit from Bertie Bear. In third place were the young people of Year 3 who managed 96.9% attendance and will be visited by Elvis the Owl. Congratulations all of you!

The average attendance was 95.6% which is below our target of 96%, please help us improve next week.

In Term 1 the average attendance was 97.3% which is above our 96% target, and the winning class was Year 2 with average attendance of 98.2%.

Achievements Outside School

Please remember to pass us details of any achievements outside of school.

Statement to Live By

Next week our statement to live by is: **"Simple things make us happy"**

Time to talk: It is important to reflect on the simple things that bring us happy. Perhaps it is a sunrise/sunset, the colours of Autumn, a family walk in the woods etc. What are the things that bring real joy to our lives that cost no money?

Have a great weekend,

Mr Barratt