

Dear Parents and Carers,

Petition

Thank you to everyone who has signed the petition against the local authority's proposal to remove the faith school transport subsidy. If you would like to add your name, there is still time, and both parents/carers in a family can sign separately. Please go to the library via the playground door before or after school on Monday and Tuesday. If you have already signed the petition at church please *do not* sign the school one as well. If we manage to secure 5000 signatures from across the city we can trigger a full debate. Every single signature is therefore important, whether your family is directly affected or not. I would therefore be extremely grateful if you do manage to take a few minutes to support us by signing the petition or by contacting the council directly to raise your objections.

The address is:
Inclusion and Learning Services,
Floor 3 Howden House,
Union Street, Sheffield.
S1. 2SH.

You can also email via:
admissionsconsultation@sheffield.gov.uk

School Development & Governorship

In the last newsletter I talked about school improvement and told you about the roles colleagues had in school to support this. Governors also play a very crucial role in the life of our school and we are blessed to have the governors we have, who are as committed to school improvement as I am. In the newsletter in the coming weeks I will introduce the individual governors and explain what their different roles are in the life of our school.

PTFA

I would like to remind you that there is a second meeting for those interested in setting up a PTFA. It will be on Wednesday 28th November 2012 at 6.00pm and take place in Mr Smith's Year 6 classroom. I am delighted that we will be joined by representatives of an established and successful PTFA who will share information, ideas and tips on how we could develop our own PTFA. The meeting is open to anyone who is interested in getting involved in small ways or big - you are *all* very welcome.

New Contact Information

A reminder that our new email address for general enquiries is: enquiries@stjohnfisherlearning.co.uk

Rededication of St Marie's Cathedral

This morning I attended a special Mass to celebrate the rededication of St Marie's Cathedral in Sheffield. The service was an opportunity for different groups from across the Diocese of Hallam to come together for this important celebration. All Headteachers were invited to take two children to represent their communities. I was joined by two children from Year 6; Anna Jaworska and Sonny Wilson, who were a real credit to our school – very smart, polite and well behaved. The service was celebrated by Bishop John Rawsthorne and every parish was represented. Our school and the parish of Our Lady of Lourdes were both well represented by Father Paul and some parishioners and by Cerys Bradbury and Niamh McGreal who served on the altar, and were also an absolute credit. The Cathedral looks stunning following its extensive refurbishment and the clergy and various Diocesan were also joined by representatives of other Christian denominations, the High Sherriff, The Lord Mayor of Sheffield and Mayors of the other towns of Hallam Diocese as well as the Queen's representative; the Lord Lieutenant. It was a very memorable occasion.

Poppy Appeal

The Royal British Legion has been in touch to confirm that the amount raised from this year's appeal in school was £64.67. I would like to thank everyone who contributed to this important appeal.

Statement to Live By

For the first week back after the school holiday our statement to live by will be: **“Simple things make me happy”**.

Time to talk: Together you could explore why it is important to focus on those things that we really do (and should) treasure. Together make a list of the things you treasure. Think about the things that make your lives happy and special; family, friendship, joy, happiness, kindness, respect, laughter, togetherness etc. is it possible to have any of these things without love? If God is love, what does that mean for us and our lives? What could happen if we treasure material things most?

Attendance

The classes with the best attendance for week ending 16th November were:

1. In first place was **Y5** - with a **99.4%** attendance
2. In second place was **Y6** with a **98.9%** attendance
3. In third place was **Y2** with **98%** attendance

This week Bobby will remain with the girls and boys of Year 5; Bertie will visit the children of Year 6 and Elvis will have fun learning with children of Year 2. Congratulations to you all! For the week ending 16th November the average attendance was 96.1% which is just above our target of 96%. Thank you.

Achievements Outside School

- Ciara Brady in Year 4 achieved her blue belt in karate gaining a special certificate and trophy in the process! Congratulations on your fantastic achievement Ciara.
- Evie Flint in Year 4 was received the 'Player of the Match' award following a fine performance in which she scored three goals in her team's 9-0 victory. Well done Evie!
- Matthew Ford in Year 1 achieved his 25m swimming award on 21st November! Congratulations Matthew, we are all very proud of you.
- Jasmine Green in Year 3 achieved her 200m distance badge for swimming using a combination of breaststroke, backstroke and front crawl. What a star you are Jasmine, good girl!

Please can I remind parents to write on a piece of paper, or e-mail, any information of your children's achievements outside school and forward it to the school office so that the details can be included on the Newsletter. Children are welcome to bring certificates, awards or trophies into school just to show their teachers but these will not be presented in assemblies. Thank you.

Rags-R-Us

Don't forget to bring your unwanted clothes/rags to the van in the school playground on Tuesday morning (8.30am – 9.15am). We raise funds for school for every kilo donated!

Reply Slips to be Returned

Last week each child was given a few letters to bring home (all stapled together with their name on the front slip!) which need a reply before Friday this week (30 November). Please could you ensure that these are returned ASAP, thank you:

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| F2, Y1 & Y2 | Diner Menus for next term |
| | Milk Letter for Next Term |
| | Infant Concert Letter |

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|-------------------|-----------------------------|
| Y3, Y4, Y5 &Y6 | Diner Menus for next term |
| | Milk Letter for Next Term |
| | Junior Carol Service Letter |

F Barratt
Headteacher