



St John Fisher News

Friday 28th June 2013 (Issue 36 2012/13)

Library Update

As you may or may not know our library is closed currently for refurbishment. The first phase of the redevelopment will be completed by September 2013. I am extremely grateful to the PTFA members who not only sourced free donations of paint and materials but have also given up their time to come into school and decorate the library! If you have some time to spare and would like to help in any way please contact us. The PTFA is always looking for new members and you would be welcomed.

Staff News

I am delighted to inform you that Governors have appointed Mrs Delia Evans as our new Acting Deputy Headteacher from September 2013. Mrs Evans works currently in a Catholic school in the centre of Bristol. As soon as the other new appointments are finalised I will update you.

Golden Tickets

At the end of playtime the class which lines up in the best way is awarded a Golden Ticket by the members of staff on duty at that time. F2 children are not actually part of this system because they now have continuous provision within their unit, which means that they don't have set playtimes. The system was conceived before the continuous provision was introduced which is why F2 is on the board in the hall. It will be removed.

New Parents and Carers Meeting

On Monday we welcomed the parents of the children joining our Foundation 2 class in September. Some were existing parents/carers and some were new. Also present were some Governors and members of the PTFA. It was wonderful to meet the parents and explain some of the changes being introduced in time for this intake, which include the following:

- a. Every child joining in September will now have **two** induction days in July which will include lunchtimes
- b. We have plans to extend the Foundation 2 outside learning area significantly so that it will also include a natural environment in which our F2 children can learn, play, explore and discover.
- c. We have plans to build a path linking the playground to the F2 classroom to make it more accessible to parents and carers. The aim is deliberate – to make parents feel more welcome and to encourage them to share the important learning that occurs at home and away from school with F2 staff next year. The emphasis is on building and nurturing strong home/school partnerships from the outset that will hopefully continue to develop and strengthen through the following school years.
- d. For the first few days of the new school year parents/carers will be invited to join their children in the classroom in order to reassure them and help them to settle. The youngest ten children will start first, followed by the next youngest a few days later and then the oldest ten a few days after that. There will continue to be opportunities for learning to be shared.

Year 6 Residential Visit to Hollowford

From Monday until Wednesday this week our Year 6 children stayed at the Hollowford Centre, Castleton for a residential educational visit. It was a fun-packed three day event in which they experienced a wide range of different activities. I popped down to see them on Tuesday evening and they were absolutely bursting with news, excitedly telling me about what they had been doing; what they had enjoyed; and what they were particularly proud of. The staff who travelled with and supported the children described them as a joy and were proud of the positive way they engaged with every activity and supported each other through them. Their manners were apparently also first class, which made me feel very proud. Next week's newsletter will include an article written by some children.

I am thankful to the Centre leaders who were first class. I am also very grateful to my dedicated colleagues who supported and encouraged our young people magnificently throughout the visit. Lastly I would like to thank our fantastic Year 6 children for getting stuck in and for making this trip so special. They were an absolute credit, not just to themselves but to our school.

Parent and carer Focus Group

The first meeting of the Focus Group takes place next Thursday at 3.30pm. Initially the group will focus on the feedback received from the recent parent/carer questionnaire. I have already emailed the parents who have offered to be part of the group, however if you are interested in getting involved please contact me (2485009 or enquiries@stjohnfisherlearning.co.uk). All are welcome. Thank you.

Golden Children

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

• F 2	Reuben Hastings-Quainoo for impressive reading this week. Reuben always tries hard to read with understanding and fluency, well done!
• Year 1	Sam Orbell for always trying his very best, especially when things are difficult. We are all very proud of you!
• Year 2	Zarnetta Moomba for always working hard and always listening and contributing well to class discussions. A true role-model for everyone in the class!
• Year 3	Reuben Jackson for trying very hard to become a better and more confident reader and managing to move up reading levels! Congratulations!
• Year 4	Mia Pardo-Figueroa for always smiling, treating others with respect and for having beautiful manners!
• Year 5	Finlay Morris for changing his attitude to learning and 'having a go!' He has produced some great writing with Mr Hawley in his group and we are all very proud of him!
• Year 6	Chloe Walton for challenging herself at Hollowford and proving that she CAN overcome any fears! A super role-model to others Chloe, well done!

Year 4 Sports Competition at the English Institute for Sport (EIS)

Here are recounts from two super Year 4 reporters:

On Thursday we went we went to the EIS. We did the high jump then we did a run. Then we did 'big' football then we did the long jump then we did the target throw, then we had our lunch.

After that we did the race. It was brilliant. Then we did the tunnel. I hurt myself then we had a break.

Then we had another race, it was 60 metres and I came fourth! After that we did have a race that was 200 metres and it was a brill day.

Thank you Miss Hardman. I would like to do it again thank you I like it, bye, see you again!

Our reporter is Reggie Pugh

On Thursday Year 4 went to the EIS! I'll tell you all about it, here we go!

First we came to school in our full PE kit. Next we got into our groups and I was in Miss Hardman's group with Sophie, Natasha, Mia, Reggie, Jacob, Hubert and Sahil.

After that we got on the coach. We were about half an hour before we finally got there and could get off the coach. Next a kind man brought us into the sports room. When we got there I was excited and nervous at the same time. Then we sat down and waited for other schools to arrive. Finally it started and our first game was high jump. It was really fun.

First we had a practise. Then a horn went off and that meant it was time to start for real. I was second in line and I actually did it, even Miss Hardman did too. That was fun. The next event was the baton and hurdles and that was fun too but it wasn't my favourite game. Would it be yours?

Our third game was with a hoop and a bucket of balls and you had to take a ball and put it in the hoop, but when all the balls had been put in your hoop you had to bring them back. It started to get hot and I went to get a drink.

Next we went to do the long jump and that was my favourite game because it had sand and I had to take my shoes and socks off! Would you take your socks and shoes off? After that we went to a space hopper game and you had to hop around a cone and then run back. It was kind of hard.

Then we went to get our lunch and it was yummy. After lunch we went to do a skipping game and we had to step to a point and come back. Then we went to have a rest. Our last game was when we had to crawl through a tunnel thing but Miss Hardman didn't do this one! At the end we did a 60 metre and a 200 metre run which was hard!

Our reporter is Ciara Brady

Kwik Cricket

Here is a message from members of our fantastic Y5 Boys' Cricket team:

"The Y5 Boys' Cricket team went to Collegiate Cricket Ground to compete in the final of the Sheffield Boys' Cricket Competition. We were already one of the top 15 schools in Sheffield. It was the first time any team from SJF had reached the final! Unfortunately we only won one out of our three games, but we really enjoyed ourselves! We hope the girls do just as well in their final next week!"

Sports Day 2013

Sports Day takes place next Friday 5 July 2013. As it is a special full day of activities children are asked to arrive at school wearing their PE kits. If it is a hot day please apply sun block to your child before he/she arrives at school as staff are not permitted to do this for you. If it is hot next Friday it would also be good if your child could also wear an appropriate sun hat and bring their water bottle (water will be available for refills throughout the day).

In the morning the children undertake a range of exciting group activities organised by Miss Kipling. These include boccia (a Paralympic sport), basketball, hockey, seated tennis, javelin, sprint relay, hurdles relay, ling jump, volleyball and football. In the afternoon two events take place: the first for our younger children and the second for our older children.

The first event will start at 1.10pm involving the children of F2 and Years 1 and 2. The Key Stage 2 races for Years 3-6 will start later at 2.00pm. Spectators will be admitted from just after 1.00pm. We respectfully ask that all spectators remain in the designated area so that you and everyone else can enjoy the competition. It is really important that you support staff by doing this.

Every child will participate, and this year there will even be an opportunity for some willing parents/carers to take part in a silly race to wrap up the event. I would like to thank the members of the PTFA in advance who will be helping us on the day

After the Key Stage 2 races there will be an opportunity for you take your children home. The process will be the same as last year. The younger children will have already returned to their classrooms after their races. Once the Key Stage 2 event is finished they will also return to their classes in order to collect their belongings.

All children will then be brought to the playground by their teachers at 3.00pm approximately, and you will then free to take them home. Please note that younger children cannot be taken home straight after their event. Children who are not collected at this time will be supervised until the end of the school day.

I am very grateful to Miss Kipling for organising this special day. Though the organisation of this year's events will be the same as in previous years Miss Kipling is keen to develop them further following constructive feedback received after last year's event. If you have ideas or indeed if you are happy with them as they are please would you contact her after this year's sports day with your comments and suggestions. This can be in the form of a brief note or via our email address: enquiries@stjohnfisherlearning.co.uk. Please mark your response 'Sports Day'. Thank you.

Weekly Attendance Winners

The classes achieving the highest attendance were:

- in first place was Y5 with 99.4% attendance over the week;
- in second place was F2 with 99.3% attendance over the week
- In third place was Y1 with 98.7% attendance over the week

Over the week our average pupil attendance was 98.3% which is well above our target of 96%. This means that Bobby will visit Y5, Bertie will be visiting F2 and Elvis will be visiting Y1 next week.

After-School Football

A reminder that all girls and boys in Years 4, 5 and 6 of all abilities are invited to participate in specialist football sessions run by a qualified coaching from Sheffield United FC's renowned Community programme. The cost of each session is £3, but if your child(ren) would like to participate and they have free school meals please contact school. The £3 should be placed in an envelope labelled 'SUFC Football Coaching' with your child(ren)'s name and class and handed into school by Thursday morning each week.

Achievements Outside School

On 23rd June Holly Longden, Grace Woolhouse and Lily Mell took part in a huge cheerleading competition in Liverpool. They did extremely well to come third out of fourteen teams made up of young people of all different ages. Congratulations girls, we are all very proud of you!

Dominic Rolfe in Year 3 has fulfilled all the requirements of the 2nd stage of the Springwater Tigers Taekwondo syllabus and has therefore been awarded a Green Stripe Belt! What a fantastic achievement!

Oliver Peters in Year 4 received two trophies recently from his team, Charnock Ridgeway. He was voted 'Player of the Year' by his teammates! Congratulations Oliver, everyone at St John Fisher is very proud of you!

Statement to Live By

Our statement to live by when we return will be: **"I stand up for people treated unfairly."**

Time to talk: Together you can talk about this statement and why it is important. In how many different ways is it possible to stand up for someone else? What can you do if you see someone being treated unfairly? Who can stop people being treated unfairly and who can you turn to if you are treated unfairly?

I hope you have a great weekend,
F Barratt