



St John Fisher Weekly News



Friday 3rd October 2014 (Issue 5 ~ 2014/15)

Phonics Workshop

Since its introduction in February 2013 Read Write Inc. has transformed our provision and led to huge improvements. Last year 79% of the children who were then in Y1 passed the Government's phonics screening test, which was above the national average. Every child in Y2 last year children who did not manage to pass when they were in Y1 also passed. Read Write Inc. is a key element of our reading strategy.

On Wednesday we held a workshop to explain the Read Write Inc. approach to the teaching and learning and set out some of the ways parents/carers can support their children's learning. I would like to thank the parents/carers who were able to join us. Those I spoke to found it very informative and helpful.

I would like to thank my colleagues for running the workshop; Mrs Darken, Miss Speed, Mr Smith and Miss D'Roza. I would also like to thank Mr Broadhead and Mrs Drake for supervising (and entertaining) the children of those who attended.

FS2 Update Meeting

All parents and carers of children in **FS2** are invited to a special update meeting with the Teaching and Learning Team on **Tuesday 7th October at 3.30pm**. Lots of important information will be shared including useful tips for helping your child and contributing to 'Learning Journeys' etc. There will also be an opportunity to ask questions and find out more about how the children are learning.

Y5 Residential to Kingswood

Last week, Year 5 went on a residential to Kingswood Activity centre. They took part in lots of activities such as: lazar zone, the wobbly leap of faith, the amazing Jacobs ladder, the volcanic campfire which was named Bob and many more fantastic activities. They had a wonderful time.

Kingswood (2015) Information Evening

The parents/carers of children currently in **Y3** and **Y4** are invited to an information evening in order to find more about the Y5 adventurous two-night residential planned for September 2015 and the new Y4 one-night bush craft residential planned October 2015.

The meeting will take place on **Wednesday 22nd October 2014 at 3.30pm** in the Year 5 classroom. Children and their pre-school siblings can be looked after in the Y6 room by a member of staff.

Pupil Photographs

The children had their official school photographs yesterday.

Golden Children

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

| | |
|----------|---|
| • F 2 | Eleanor Checkley for always getting involved in class and being friendly to others! |
| • Year 1 | Isla Atkinson for being a fantastic listener and an excellent role model to others! |
| • Year 2 | Diana Nicula for encouraging her classmates to be positive and hardworking in their studies through her own wonderful example! |
| • Year 3 | Isabelle Walton-Hall for showing fantastic attitude and skills in her mathematics! |
| • Year 4 | Eden Hague for always setting the right example in everything he does! |
| • Year 5 | Daryn Tirol for being kind and helpful during the Kingswood residential. He put everyone before himself and was a great help ! |
| • Year 6 | Ellie Scott for having a fantastic work ethic and always giving the very best in all that she does! |

Top Table

The Robin 'family' were invited to sit at the 'Top Table' today by Mrs Bower and her team of midday supervisors. The children were chosen for displaying good table manners, for helping each other and for behaving with maturity. The members of the Robin family are: Reggie P, Dominic R, Imogen C, Hannah D, Kai T, Isaac P and Alex L.

Focus Group

Thank you to those who have responded. Your involvement and insight will be key to the process of reviewing the current format and coming up with something that is straightforward and 'parent-friendly'. Mr Smith will be contacting you about the first meeting soon. It is not too late to get involved, so if you are interested please contact him via his email address (i.smith@stjohnfisherlearning.co.uk). Thank you.



Weekly Liturgy of the Word

I would like to thank Mrs Drake's **Y3** class for leading the liturgy yesterday. Next week our liturgy will be led by the children of Y2 and will take place on **Thursday 9 October**. We invite the family and friends of our **Y2** pupils to join us in the school hall just after 9.00am.

Writing Champions

The children who have been named as champions this week for being enthusiastic and for making (or sustaining) improvements in their writing are:

| Foundation 2 | Year 1 | Year 2 | Year 3 | Year 4 | Year 5 | Year 6 |
|----------------|-------------|-------------------------|---------------|---------------|-------------|--------------------|
| Marisa Avelino | Hibah Javid | Reuben Hastings-Quainoo | Finley Mappin | Asia Robinson | Kiera Swift | Mia Pardo-Figueroa |

Parenting Puzzle Course

A key part of Mrs Asquith's role is to develop a supportive partnership with parents and carers. This course supports families seeking to get the best out of family life by looking at how parents nurture children and also themselves. The programme provides simple and effective tools that will help parents support children who might sometimes present challenges.

The six-week course will take place in the library on Tuesday evenings from 7.00pm to 9.00pm starting on Tuesday 7th October and lasting until Tuesday 18th November (with no session during the half-term holiday).

Achievements Outside School

- **Rowan Lodge** in Y2 passed his Stage 2 swimming award! Last week I wrote that it was Patrick (his brother) by mistake. Apologies to both boys for the error and congratulations to Rowan for the fantastic achievement!
- **Ola Dominiak** in Y3 achieved her Stage 2 swimming award! Well done Ola!
- **Poppy Walton** in Y3 achieved her 100m Rainbow Swimming Award! Congratulations Poppy!
- **Filip Dominiak** in Y2 achieved his 20m backstroke swimming award! Well done Filip!
- **Dominic Rolfe** in Y5 has achieved the 9th kup grade in taekwondo and has received his yellow belt! A fantastic achievement Dominic, you have worked really hard!

Weekly Attendance Winners

This week the girls and boys of both **Y1** and **Y3** were in joint first place with **99.7%** attendance and will be visited by both Bobby and Brenda Bear in turn! In third place were the children of **Y6** with **99.3%** who will be visited by Elvis the Owl. Congratulations all of you!

The average overall attendance for the week was **97.4%** which is above our target of 97%, thank you.

Harvest Mass Appeal

The Harvest Mass will be on the 24th October 2014. The St Wilfrid's Centre has asked for donations from school to allow them and Gleadless food bank to continue to provide for people in the city in need.

Suggested items include: potatoes, seasonal vegetable, fruit, tins of meat, tins of fish, tinned vegetables, crisps, drinking chocolate, flour, caster sugar, various baking ingredients, jam and marmalade, salad cream, tomato ketchup and brown sauce (in plastic bottles), pot noodles, olive oil, vegetable oil, sunflower oil, tinned fruit, rice pudding, dried fruit, biscuits, salt and pepper, instant mash and all varieties of stock cubes.

Please send you children to school with any of these donated items on the morning of the harvest mass.

School Garden

Miss Golland would like to say a big thank you to all the parents who helped out tidying up the school garden: a wonderful improvement to the school grounds.

PTFA Family Evening

On Friday 10th October there will be a PTFA Family Evening held in the school hall. Doors are open from 7:30pm – 11:00pm. There will be a bar and refreshments available. Quiz and disco by Big Al. Entry fee £1 per person. We hope that you can make it and support our hard working PTFA.

Book Bags

A request from Mrs Drake; please could children remember to bring their book bags into school every day? Thank you.

Statement to Live By

Next week our statement to live by is: **"I know what to do if I see someone being hurt!"**

Time to talk: Together you could think of some of the different ways people can be hurt. For example insulting someone can hurt just as much being hit or kicked. Why not make a list of the sorts of things you could do if you see someone being hurt? You could then decide what the most sensible thing to do would be. Remember, everyone at St John Fisher has the right to feel happy, safe and loved.

Have a great weekend,

Best wishes,
Mr Barratt