



St John Fisher Weekly News



Friday 4th October 2013 (Issue 5 ~ 2013/14)

Meet the Governors: Mr Jon Ball

I'm Jon Ball, a newly-appointed foundation governor, and as well as being new to the governing body, I am new to the area and school. I hope this will enable me to bring a fresh perspective and some new ideas.

I am married to Catherine, a fellow journalist, and our eldest daughter, four-year-old Sophie, has just started at the school. She is already looking forward to her younger sister Jessica, aged two, joining her.

I have been a journalist since I left Sheffield University many years ago, working in Norwich, Cambridge, Telford, Stoke-on-Trent and now for The Star here in Sheffield.

I have experience as a primary school governor at a school in Newcastle-under-Lyme. During my time there, I worked with the school to raise its profile and worked with pupils to produce a school newspaper.

I am looking forward to help SJF return to being the outstanding school we all want it to be.

I'll be around the playground most mornings bringing Sophie to school, so feel free to stop me if you have anything you wish to discuss, or drop me an email at jon_ball33@hotmail.com

Academy Conversion

This week you received a letter informing you that school will convert to an Academy sponsored by the Catholic Diocese of Hallam on **Sunday 1st December 2013**. I would like to remind you that there will be a parent/carer consultation meeting about this on Monday 7th October between 5pm and 6pm in the church hall. All welcome.

New Administration Block

This week work on the new entrance was completed – and on schedule. We are delighted with the high standard of work. This represents the first phase of the redevelopment of our school which has been undertaken in partnership with AEDAS. The new block enables us to have:

- a more secure entrance;
- a pedestrian entrance which removes the need to access the school playground through a car park;
- a designated meeting room;
- a larger office for our admin team;
- a dedicated work preparation area for staff;
- a disabled toilet; and
- increased storage for resources

The new block will be in use from **Monday 4th November**, after the half-term holiday. Further works are of course planned - post academy conversion - and I will keep you informed of developments.

Year 3 and 4 Viking day

Last Wednesday our school was invaded by a formidable army of Vikings led by their merciless chieftains; Miss Rybka and Mrs Evans! The children (and staff) looked fantastic in their costumes and all entered into the spirit of the day enthusiastically, having lots of fun as they explored different aspects of Viking life. I would like to thank my colleagues for helping to create such a wonderful learning experience that I am sure our children will remember for years to come. I would also like to thank our children who were incredible.

Year 5 Kingswood Residential

Last week the children of Year 5 travelled to the Kingswood Centre in Dearne Valley for their residential visit. It was an opportunity for them to work and learn together in unfamiliar surroundings away from school and families; try new and exciting activities and learn new things about themselves. By all accounts the children were superb and great ambassadors for our school. I would like to thank them for engaging so positively with activities in order to get the most out of them. I would also like to thank Ms Robinson, Mrs Asquith and Mr Andrews for looking after the children so well. Finally I would like to say a special 'thank you' to Miss Kipling for coordinating the whole visit.

INSET Day Reminder

Please note that school is closed to all children on Friday 25th October 2013 as it will be a staff training day.

Parent/Carer Drop In

Our lead on inclusion; Miss Kiernan, will be available each Friday afternoon from 3.00pm to discuss any matters relating to the inclusion needs of any children with special educational needs; children in receipt of the Pupil Premium; children with short or longer-term emotional or academic needs etc. Until the new Administration block is open you are asked to use the main entrance.

Pupil Premium & Free School Meals

Please contact us if you feel that you might be eligible. Please also get in touch if you were eligible at any point in the last six years – even if you are not in receipt of them now. Thank you

Visit of the HMI

The letter from Mr Ali (our HMI) is being emailed to you alongside this newsletter. His first visit was simply to scrutinise our actions since inspection and the school and local authority action plans. I am delighted to report that they were both deemed to be 'fit for purpose'.

Weekly Liturgy of the Word

Next Thursday our simple liturgy will be led by the boys and girls of Year 2. The liturgy will begin at 9.00am and the parents and carers of children in Year 2 are very welcome to join us.

Golden Children

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

• F 2	Sami Hardy for trying really hard to do the right thing!
• Year 1	Noor Khan for being well behaved, honest and kind and for having an excellent attitude!
• Year 2	Sam Orbell for working extremely well with Miss Hardman on developing his sounds!
• Year 3	Evie Stamford for making an excellent effort in her writing – coming with wonderful descriptions!
• Year 4	John Genita for trying really hard to join in with whole class learning and some number work!
• Year 5	Ellie Scott for really stepping out of her 'comfort zone' at Kingswood and challenging herself on the 'Leap of Faith'!
• Year 6	Sam Wilson for demonstrating a mature attitude to learning and to school life!

House Points

St Andrew	St David	St George	St Patrick
Smilies This week			
63	72	88	91
Term 1 Running Total			
456	356	475	518



Links Partnership Sport Stars of the Week

The following children have been identified by our coaches as stars this week:

Elizabeth Avelino and Joseph Stamford (for the second week!), Jack Oadley, Alexander Jasinski, Matthew Ford, Ricardo Mwale, Jack Wadron and Eden Hague! The following children received special mentions for making an outstanding effort in PE and/or extra-curricular sport: James Fitzpatrick, Jensen Gough, Cole Hague, Jun Wu and Amelia Jackson-Werchez. Congratulations!

Writing champions this Week!

The following children have been identified as 'Writing Champions' this week. This means that they have worked hard to make a positive leap forward in their own writing. We feel it is important to recognise and reward their fantastic efforts. The work will be displayed in the hall until next Friday for parents/carers to view.

Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Rowan L	Daniel D Calum H	Francis N Kayleigh C	Keira B Jasmine G	Sophie R-O Thomas W	Sam W

Achievements Outside School

- Isabelle Walton-Hall and Evie Flint successfully completed the 'Creepy house Challenge'. Evie also scored two goals in her first match for Sheffield Wednesday, contributing to a magnificent 10-1 victory!
- Abigael Collins in Year 4 has achieved her Levels 1 and 2 BGA awards for trampolining! Abigail has also achieved the Brownie interest badge 'Out and About'
- Joshua Mercer in Year 4 passed his Karate grading last week and graduated to a yellow belt! Fantastic!
- Brody McConaghy in Year 4 received the 'Man of the Match' award after playing for Drakehouse Dragons in their match against Southey Green on last Sunday morning.
- Sophie Robinson – Oates in Year 5 has won an award at the annual presentation night for 'Stepz Dance Academy' based in Frecheville. She was named as the "Best New Junior Contemporary Dancer 2013"

Parish News

The Next Children's Mass at Our Lady of Lourdes is on Sunday 20th of October. Rehearsal - Friday 18 Oct 6.00pm in church hall. All children who want to join in with the Mass are asked to attend the rehearsal.

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 relaxing weekend

Best wishes,
Mr Barratt