



St John Fisher News

Friday 5th December 2014 (Issue 13 ~ 2014/15)



www.st-johnfisher.org

Advent

At 3.10pm each day of Advent the children and staff will take part in a simple Advent liturgy in each classroom. Candles will be lit and the children will share prayers they have written as part of our preparations for Christmas.

Parents, friends and family of the children are invited to be part of the daily liturgies. Numbers are limited to two per class per day. If you would like to secure a place for an advent liturgy please book through the School Office rather than directly with your child's teacher, thank you.



Forthcoming Events

Please see calendar which is also available on the website: www.st-johnfisher.org

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| • Tuesday 9 th December 2014 | ✓ End of theme exhibition (hall from 9.00am). Refreshments available from PTFA |
| • Friday 12 th December 2014 | ✓ Foundation Stage 2 Christmas Concert (School Hall at 2.30pm) |
| • Monday 15 th December 2014 | ✓ KS2 (Years 3-6) Community Carol Service at Our Lady of Lourdes Church at 2.00pm followed by refreshments in the school hall provided by the PTFA. All welcome. |
| • Tuesday 16 th December 2014 | ✓ KS1 (Years 1 and 2) Nativity Play (School Hall at 2.15pm) |
| • Friday 19 th December 2014 | ✓ PTFA Santa in School Day (non-Uniform) |

The SJF Invasion of Jorvik!

Years 3 and 4 had a fantastic day out at Jorvik this week. They loved the sights, sounds and smells of Viking York, and really enjoyed the workshops about battle tactics and Viking sagas – we may have some budding actors at St. John Fisher! Well done to them all for being so well-behaved and representing the school in a very positive manner. Mrs Drake and Mr Broadhead would like to extend a huge thanks to Miss D'Roza, Mr Hawley, Miss Roe-Parkin, Mrs Murphy, Mrs Ramsden, Mrs Watters, Mrs Ambrose and Mrs Ludlam for accompanying us and for their help on the day – it was very much appreciated. I would also like to thank Mrs Drake and Mr Broadhead for all their hard work in bringing the theme alive for the children.



Opening up the Library

Thanks to the hard work of our amazing PTFA and my colleagues the library has been transformed into a striking and inspiring place where the children love to be. I have an ambition to open it up for about half an hour before and after school so that parents/carers can have an opportunity to enjoy a book with their children. To make this possible we are looking to recruit a small team of volunteers to cover a session on a rota-basis now and again. No books will be taken home during this time it would just be about supervising and being on hand. Initially we will trial it for just one day per week to see what the response is. If you are interested in helping please speak to Mr Smith or contact us via the school email address (enquiries@stjohnfisherlearning.co.uk). Thank you.

PTFA News

Santa in School Day

On Friday 19th December Santa is taking time out of his busy schedule to visit our school. His elves have confirmed that his ETA is 8.50am and he will be on the library roof for ten minutes with his trusty elf PA. If the weather is bad we will take heed of elf and safety concerns and arrange for Santa to wave from the library window instead.

For information:

- the PTFA would like £3.50 per child which can be given to committee members directly in the playground at the end of the day or sent into school in an envelope marked clearly 'PTFA Santa in School'
- if you want to help set up, clear up, run a stall or help escort children to and from the Spa View Community Church please speak to Donna Murphy (07769941473) or Sally Watters (07866306757) or any member of the committee on the playground
- children can bring some pocket money to buy treats and gifts (there is a gift wrapping service)
- children can wear their party clothes or Christmas-themed clothes
- raffle ticket money needs to be in by next Wednesday 10th December (draw will take place on 12-12-14)

KS2 Community Carol Service & Refreshments

On Monday 15th December 2014 the PTFA will be selling refreshments after the carol service and would appreciate any donations of mince pies and cakes. Please see Donna Murphy or one of the committee members. Thank you.

Citizen of the Week

★ This week's recipient is **Mike Masuka** (FS2) who was chosen for remembering this week's statement to live by: 'simple things make me happy. Mike loves school and is always very enthusiastic. He is also kind to other children and gets so much joy from the very simplest of things because he has a wonderful imagination. He is a wonderful role-model and friend to the others in his class and we are all very proud of him! Congratulations Mike!

Blue Day

The children of St Andrew's House enjoyed coming to school dressed up in something blue to mark the feast day of their patron last Monday. In the afternoon the staff in St Andrew's House laid on some activities and snacks for the members to enjoy.

Golden Children

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

• FS2	Jacob Nelson for always being ready to learn and for offering good ideas and comments in class! Well done!
• Year 1	Maksymillian Jasinski for making lots of good choices in class and the playground and for being a superstar in the nativity rehearsals!
• Year 2	George Marsden for trying really hard to learn his lines for the nativity play and for singing his heart out!
• Year 3	Dadiso Bandawa for being so enthusiastic about everything we do, and for settling in so quickly at SJF!
• Year 4	Zarnetta Moomba for always wanting to join in class discussions and for coming up with good ideas to solve class problems!
• Year 5	Daphney Adebayo for trying really hard in the Mathematics quiz this week! Keep up the good work!
• Year 6	Caitlin Grayson for always thinking of (and looking after) others in everything she does. She is an amazing friend!

Top Table

Congratulations to the children in the Parakeet Family who were chosen by Mrs Bower and the midday supervisors to sit on the Top Table today for having good table manners and for helping each other. The members are: Lily M, Bitanga K, Harry S, May W, Marcus M, Jack O, Jia R and Tamzin S.

Links Partnership Sports Stars of the Week

This week's the stars chosen by the coaches were Max Jasinski and Odette Paige. Well done children!



Writing Champions

These are our champions this week:

FS2	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Daniel Hill	Daisy Parkin	Jack Oadley	Dadiso Bandawa	Isaac Thompson	Max Smith	Reggie Pugh

Our Lady of Lourdes Carol Concert

The "Immaculata" Children's Group would like to invite everybody to come to their Christmas Carol Concert at Our Lady of Lourdes Church, which takes place after the Advent Children's Mass on 21st December 2014 at 10.30am.

Achievements Outside School

- **Vinny Ambrose** in **Y4** has just achieved his 25m distance swimming award! Congratulations Vinny! This is an amazing achievement and we are all very proud of you!

Attendance Winners

This week the girls and boys of **Y5** were in first place with **97.9%** attendance and will be visited by Bobby Bear! In second place were the children of **Y4** with **97.2%** who will be visited by Brenda Bear. In third place with **96.8%** were the young people of FS2 who will be visited by Elvis the Owl.

Our overall attendance for the week was **93.8%** which is well below our 97% target.

Weekly Liturgy of the Word

I would like to thank Mrs Broadhead and the children of Y2 for leading this week's liturgy so beautifully. The Y6 liturgy planned for next week will not now take place.

The next liturgy will therefore take place on **Thursday 15th January** and will be led by the young people of **Y5**. We would like to invite the family and friends of our **Y5** pupils to join us on that day in the school hall just after 9.00am.

There is no liturgy on 8th January because we have a new year Mass on Friday 9th January at 2.00pm Our Lady of Lourdes church. Thank you.

Statement to Live By

Next week is the first week of Advent and our 'statement to live by' is "**I try to love others as I love myself**"

Time to talk: Advent is a time of getting ready for Christmas. Getting ready does not just mean decorating the house or buying cards and presents for our family and friends, it is about preparing ourselves as well. One of the ways we can do this is to try and put others first, this is one way that we can show that we love them as we love ourselves.

Best wishes,

Mr Barratt