

SJF NEWS

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Friday 7th December 2018 (Issue 13 - 2018/19)



Citizen of the Week

The week's recipient is **Hibah** in **Y5** who understands the importance of finding balance in our busy lives to work, rest and pray in line with our 'Statement to Live By' this week. Hibah is a thoughtful and conscientious member of our community who lives our values each day and is therefore a wonderful role-model to others! Congratulations Hibah, we are all very proud of you!

Term 2 Smiley Scores

 <p>St Andrew's House</p> <p>338</p>	 <p>St David's House</p> <p>347</p>	 <p>St Patrick's House</p> <p>279</p>	 <p>St George's House</p> <p>313</p>
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Calendar Reminders – Countdown to Christmas!

The **SJF calendar** is available online on the Homepage and in two formats via these links:

- <http://www.st-johnfisher.org/parents-and-carers-zone/calendar/>
- [http://www.st-johnfisher.org/cmsfiles/items/downloads/doclett-20180713194822-9030/SJF%20CALENDAR%20%20\(2018-2019\).pdf](http://www.st-johnfisher.org/cmsfiles/items/downloads/doclett-20180713194822-9030/SJF%20CALENDAR%20%20(2018-2019).pdf)

10-12-18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assessment Point 2 (all pupils) – Day 1 • FS2 Nativity dress rehearsal (performed to pupils in school)
11-12-18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assessment Point 2 (all pupils) – Day 2 • Visit to the pantomime (Lyceum Theatre, Sheffield) – return 4.30pm – 4.45pm approximately
12-12-18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assessment Point 2 (all pupils) – Day 3 • FS2 Nativity Play (2.15pm, School Hall)
13-12-18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assessment Point 2 (all pupils) – Day 4
14-12-18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Curriculum Exhibition (8.45am -10.00am, School Hall) - NO CELEBRATION ASSEMBLY TODAY
17-12-18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Key Stage1 (KS1) Nativity Play dress rehearsal (performed to pupils in school)
18-12-18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • KS1 Nativity Play (2.15pm, School Hall)
19-12-18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • KS1 Nativity Play (2.15pm, School Hall)
21-12-18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Celebration Assembly (9.05am, School Hall) – Y4 family and friends • KS2 (Years 3-6) Community Carol Service (2.00pm, Our Lady of Lourdes) – all welcome • PTFA refreshments, mince pies and Christmas raffle (2.50pm, School Hall) – all welcome • End of Term 2

School Holiday

07-01-19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Start of Term 2 • Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) Week – Day 1
08-01-19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • STEM Week – Day 2
9-01-19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • STEM Week – Day 3
10-01-19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • STEM Week – Day 4
11-01-19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • STEM Week – Day 5 • New Year Mass (9.30am, Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church)

Parish and School Car Parks

Parents and carers are asked **not** to park in either the parish or school car parks unless authorised. This includes users of the before and after-school club. Those who have been given permission by Fr Paul to park in the Parish Car Park are given a special ticket to display in their cars. Thank you for your cooperation.



Advent & The Daily Advent Class Reflections

Our daily Advent class reflections will start on Monday week beginning **3rd December 2018**. This is a lovely way to remember that the season of Advent is all about getting ready for the birth of Jesus. There will be reflections in each class every day except PE days, Santa in school day and the day of the Lyceum visit.

Parents, carers, family and friends are all welcome to join us on the following days-

- **FS2:** Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday
- **Y1 & Y2:** Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday
- **Y3 & Y4:** Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday
- **Y5 & Y6:** Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday

Spaces are limited and should be booked on the day through the School. If you are attending, please arrive at **3.00pm** so you are on time for a 3.10pm start as we won't be able to interrupt once the reflection has begun. Thank you.



Panto 2018!

Performance

As you are aware on **Tuesday 11 December 2018** we are all off to the Sheffield Lyceum to enjoy the 1.00pm performance of this year's panto, 'Peter Pan'. The performances are later than in previous years so we will have to leave school at 12.00pm. The children will therefore enjoy an earlier lunch from 11.00am so that we are all ready to depart on promptly.

Our return time will have to be flexible dictated by:

- (i) length of performance
- (ii) time taken to depart the theatre and make our way to the coaches
- (iii) journey time back to school

The first afternoon performance is today and the theatre will let us know what the finish time was. We estimate that we will return to school between 4.30pm and 4.45pm. The playground gates will be opened at 4.15pm. We will contact parents/carers via email if we are expected back significantly earlier or later than these times.





Lunch on Panto Day!

Information has already been shared about lunch arrangements on panto day, but a reminder that it will be a cold sandwich lunch. **There will be no hot lunches on panto day.** The children will either have a cold packed lunch prepared at home or at school. If you have not done so already, please make sure that you select **ONLY** the SANDWICH option; the choices are ham or cheese; a selection of chopped fruit; carrots and cucumber sticks; along with a muffin for dessert and a bottle of water.

- If your child wants a **ham** sandwich please select the option that says '**EGG**' (sorry for the confusion).
- If your child wants the **cheese** option please select '**Cheese**' as normal.

If you selected a lunch before the notifications about lunch on panto day, please log back into your 'ParentPay' account and amend or cancel your selection(s). Unfortunately we will **not** be able to provide extra lunches for children if parents/carers forget to place an order, so please ensure that you send your child with a packed lunch from home if this happens. Thank you

Achievements Outside of School

This week's achievements are:

- **Hugo** in **Y1** received a fantastic STA certificate for managing to swim 10 metres! What an incredible achievement Hugo, we are all very proud of you!
- **Alana** in **Y1** and **Alexia** in **Y2** prepared shoe boxes for 'Operation Christmas Child' / They will find out after Christmas where their boxes went! The girls have prepared another box for Sheffield's shoe box appeal; handpicking the items to include. They wrote a short letter which was included along with a teddy bear. Alana also helped write tags for all the other shoe box's donated by the children at Castle Martial Arts. A super helper! Well done girls!
- **Isabelle** in **Y2** has achieved the 'Proficiency Level 5' award in gymnastics last weekend! What a great achievement Isabelle! Well done!.

Important Reminders

Please remember to:

- ✓ order school Christmas lunch via ParentPay
- ✓ order school milk via ParentPay
- ✓ request tickets for the FS2 and Y1/Y2 nativity plays
- ✓ request the number of seats required for this year's Community Carol Service led by the children in Years 3-6 on the last day of term
- ✓ let the PTFA know if you can help with teas, coffees and mince pies in the School Hall, following the Community Carol Service

Terms 1 and 2 - Curriculum Exhibition

Our next showcase is on Friday 14th December in the School Hall from 8.45am until 10.00am. All welcome!



Uniform Reminders

Footwear

Children are required to wear proper black school shoes in school every day. Trainers (including all black trainers) and boots are not permitted. Children can wear them to and from school and at playtime but must have school shoes with them to wear for lessons.

PE Uniform

Children must wear the full school PE uniform on PE days. This can be the official uniform provided by one of our two uniform suppliers (with the school logo) or plain uniform in the correct colours which has been sourced from other places. Please note that items bought from places other than our official suppliers must be **completely plain**. Items should not be 'designer' (Nike, Adidas, Puma etc.), or have labels, pictures, slogans or any other embellishment. Please note that the colour of the sweatshirt/hoodie is burgundy and the colour of the jogging pants is light grey.

We have some donated PE uniform that we would be happy to pass on, please make enquiries with my colleagues in the School Office. Thank you.



All items are available from our official suppliers with school logo. Items can be purchased from elsewhere as long as they are PLAIN. No designer labels, images, slogans or other embellishments please.

Collective Worship

New Year Mass

You are all invited to our New Year Mass on **Friday 11th January 2019**, at Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church. Mass will start at 9.30am. Thank you.

Weekly Liturgy of the Word

Thank you to the young people of Y1 who led this week's liturgy. The next 'Liturgy of the Word' will be on **Thursday 17th January 2019**, and will be led by the young people of **FS2**. We invite their family and friends to join us in the School Hall just after 9.00am. Please note that there is no liturgy in the first week back because of the New Year Mass.

Celebration Assembly

There will be no celebration assembly next week because it is our curriculum Exhibition. Our next Celebration Assembly will be on **Friday 21st December 2018** just after 9.00m in the School Hall. The family and friends of our **Y4** pupils are invited to join us.

Advent Prayer

Throughout Advent we will focus on a prayer we called 'The Act of Contrition'. It is a special prayer in which we ask God to forgive us for our sins and to support so that we can move forward and do better. The prayer is also shared during the Sacrament of Reconciliation. The words are: **O my God, because you are so good, I am very sorry that I have sinned against you – and by the help of your grace I will not sin again. Amen**



Reading Volunteers

We are still looking for more reading volunteers willing and able to commit to coming in to school on a regular basis once or maybe twice a week in order to listen to readers, particularly in Y3. Reading Volunteers fulfil such an important role in school and make a huge difference to our children. We are so grateful to everyone who is supporting us currently, or who has supported us in the past. If you are interested in finding out more please speak to Mrs Barrett or email us (enquiries@st-johnfisher.org). Thank you.



Christmas Cards

There will be a post box in the reception area of the main office from next week (Monday 3rd December). All cards should be posted in here and not handed out in class. Please ensure that every card has: Recipient's first name, last name (if known) and class. The Y6 monitors will sort and deliver the 'post' each day.

Christmas Lunch 2018

This year the children will enjoy their Christmas lunch on **Wednesday 19th December 2017**. Please do not forget to order your child(ren)'s meal(s) in time!

Attendance this week			
1 st	Y1	100%	Bobby Bear will visit next week
2 nd	FS2	98.0%	Brenda Bear will visit next week
3 rd	Y4	96.7%	Elvis Owl will visit next week
4 th	Y2	96.0%	
5 th	Y3	95.6%	
6 th	Y6	95.0%	
7 th	Y5	92.8%	
Target = 98%		Average Attendance = 96.3% ↓	



Get Set, GO!			
1 st	Y6	93%	
2 nd	FS2	92%	
3 rd	Y1	90%	
3 rd	Y2	90%	
5 th	Y5	86%	
6 th	Y4	84%	
7 th	Y3	75%	
Average = 87%		↓	

Study Hub

Every child in Years 3-6 can access the lunchtime study hub on a Monday, Wednesday and Friday. The children can do homework or further research linked to whatever they are learning in class at the time. Children can also access Bug Club, my maths or read their reading books. Mrs Raynes and older children are on hand to support any child who needs additional help.

Santa in School Day 2018!

Today we were visited by Santa! All the children and staff looked brilliant dressed in Christmas jumpers! The day started with Santa's arrival on the school roof! The children visited Santa in his amazing grotto and the many Christmas market stalls with their buddies, and all had a brilliant time! It was fantastic!

I would like to thank the PTFA for their hard work in again organising this special event. They have been planning it all through the year and worked so hard to make the day so special for all the children. Their effort in all things is astounding! I would also like to thank the volunteers who also gave of their time so generously in order to support the PTFA so the children had a fantastic time!

I would like to thank Fr Paul for allowing the PTFA to transform the Parish Centre into a magical Christmas Wonderland!

Events like this – which contribute so richly to our children's experience of school - do not happen by magic. If you are able to help the PTFA in the future please do get in touch. All offers of help are very much appreciated. If you want to find out more about our PTFA please get in touch. New members and their ideas are always welcomed and appreciated.

An amazing event which the children loved! Thank you everyone!









Lozenges

We would like to republish a message from Mrs Pickering regarding cough sweets and lozenges:

"We have noticed that a few children are bringing in cough lozenges to school. Whilst we understand that parents/carers are giving these in order to ease their children's cough/sore throat symptoms, they are a form of medicine and so have the potential to cause harm. They also present a potential choking risk.

We have strict procedures regarding the use of medicines in school and a healthy eating philosophy that does not allow children to have sweets. Our concern also is that lozenges brought in to school without the knowledge of staff will be shared and consumed by children as if they are sweets.

We are looking at the impact of this and the legal and practical obligations and implications.

Whilst this is ongoing, we ask that you do not send lozenges into school. Thank you for your support."

Extreme Weather & School Closure

I would like to take this opportunity to remind you of what happens in the event extreme weather. We will always endeavour to open, even in bad weather, however if the weather is extreme I will also give careful consideration to the safety of children, their families and colleagues travelling to and from school.

If the weather is extreme then there are three options open to me:

1. to open school as normal
2. to open school with a later start time and/or earlier or staggered finish time
3. to close school completely

A decision will always be based on the information available, including the latest weather information and official advice from the local authority and emergency services.

I will also take account of what neighbouring schools are doing – and it is often the case that there is always a flurry of calls between Headteachers early in the morning when we all face extreme weather conditions.

I repeat, our priority is to provide an education to our children so we would always try and open.



ParentMail

We will use the **Parentmail** service to contact parents/carers by text AND email – to inform you of our decision. This is one of the reasons why it is important to inform us of any change of details (including mobile telephone numbers and email addresses).

If your details are NOT up-to-date, please contact us as soon as possible!

We will also share information on our website: www.st-johnfisher.org.

We will also notify the local authority and BBC Radio Sheffield and details of the arrangements will be shared on to their websites.

We will only notify the local authority and BBC Radio Sheffield if we have a later start or are closing earlier. Please note that we will **not** notify them if we are opening as normal.

Sometimes when we are open weather, conditions deteriorate during the school day. If this happens, we will use Parentmail in order to notify parents/carers that school is closing earlier. Again, we will update the website and also contact the local authority and Radio Sheffield.

We do not normally contact parents and carers if school is open as usual.

Late Start

A decision on the time of the late start will be made on the day based on the information available to me. Typically, a later start time will either be 9.30am or 10.00am. This means that children can arrive right up to the *later* start time without being marked as 'late' in the register. Children can also be dropped off before the later start time and will be looked after by staff in school, where it is warm. JPAC will operate as normal, and will contact customers directly or through our Parentmail service if their information changes.

Early Finish

The timing of an earlier finish will again depend on the weather conditions and the information I have to hand. We will contact parents/carers via Parentmail and ask them to arrange for their children to be collected from a certain time or as soon as possible. If children are left, staff will obviously remain to care for



them until they are collected. However your cooperation is expected and appreciated because if the weather becomes particularly difficult I also have to consider how my colleagues will get home safely once the children are collected. If children are just left with us, it could cause staff significant additional problems.

If you are not contacted and there is no information on the website then it is safe to assume that school will be closing at the normal time. **No need to phone.**

Phoning School

We have one telephone line. In the event of extreme weather, it is **VERY** important that parents/carers read the text messages and emails sent to them and refer to the information shared on the school, BBC and local authority websites - rather than just call in.

It is important that the phone line is left as free as possible so that colleagues are able to make/take important calls.

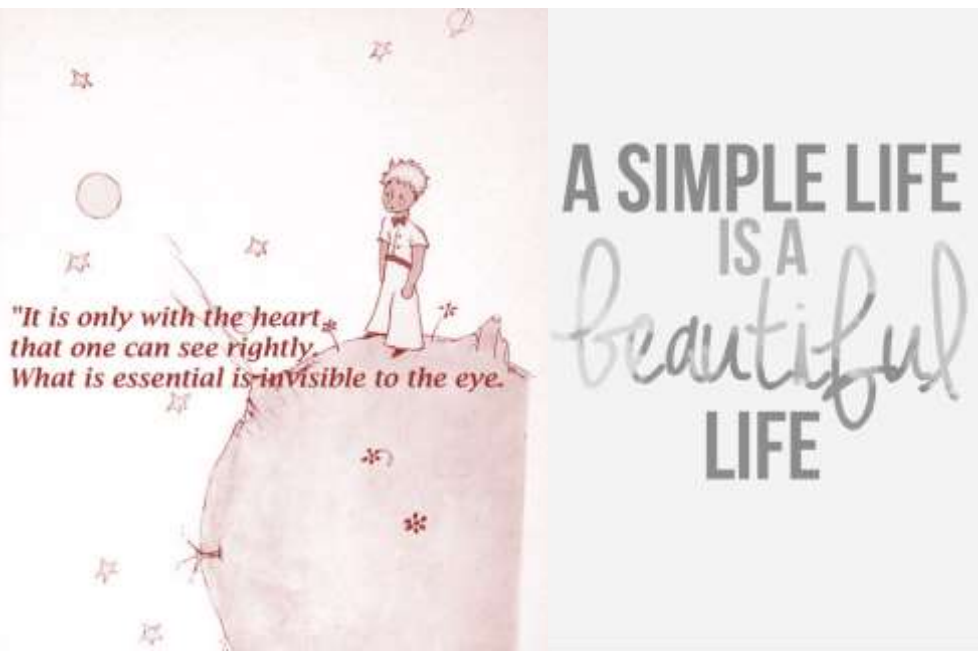
In the past, the line has been clogged up by some parents/carers phoning school merely to confirm information already shared via text/email, or to ask if school is closing early etc before a decision is made.

Please help us by only calling if it is important or an emergency. I thank you in advance for your support and cooperation.

Statement to Live By

Next week our 'statement to live by' is '**Simple things make me happy**'

Time to talk: At this time of year, as we thoughts turn to presents, we have been thinking about the true meaning of Christmas as we journey through the season of Advent. The children have been thinking about those important things in their lives that money cannot buy. Try to list some. Why not think about simple ways to make others happy. What is it or who is that make our lives happy and special?



Best wishes,
Mr Barratt