



# St John Fisher Weekly News



Friday 7<sup>th</sup> February 2014 (Issue 20 ~ 2013/14)

## School Server

I regret to report that at the beginning of the week our school server 'died' unexpectedly despite our best efforts to revive it and keep it going. We therefore have had to move quickly in order to replace it with something more robust that will better meet our needs both now and in the future. The new server is being built currently and we hope to have it up and running by the end of next week. It has amazed us how reliant schools have become on technology over the past decade or so, and it is only when it is not available that you realise...

The cost of the new server is significant. This means that I have been left with no choice but to divert some of the funds which I had put aside for the path linking the playground to the FS2 classroom. It remains my intention to sort the path as soon as we have the funds, but it will now take a little longer than I had previously hoped. I know this news will disappoint some of you and sincerely I apologise for the inconvenience caused.

The lack of a server means that we cannot access emails in school for example, so I ask that for the next week or so you send in notes, phone or speak to us in person - until the new server is up and running. This includes notes for the newsletter. Again, I offer my apologies for any inconvenience.

## Pupil Progress & Achievement

Over the next week the children are being assessed so that we can judge their progress since Assessment Point 2 (in December). This information will be shared with you at the next parent/carer evenings – and you will be given a report to take home with you after the meetings.

For your information the next consultation meetings take place on:

- Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> February 2014 (2.30pm – 5.00pm)
- Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> February (6.00pm – 8.00pm)

I am very grateful to the PTFA who will again provide refreshments and supervise children in the Y6 classroom. There will again be an opportunity for you to tell Ofsted what you think about our school by filling out the online Parent View questionnaire.

If your appointment is on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> February *before* the end of the school day you will be able to take your child(ren) home straight after your appointment(s). Children are encouraged to take part in all or part of the meetings however if you would prefer your child not to be present then please let his/her teacher know when you meet with them.

## Parish News

The next children's Mass at our parish church of Our Lady of Lourdes will take place on Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> February at 10.30am. All parents, carers and children are welcome to attend this special children's Mass.

## Maths Workshops for Parents and Carers

One of the consequences of having no server was that our first maths workshop had to be postponed. This will now take place on **Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> March 2014** and you are all welcome. It will be the first of a series of workshops planned to cover different areas, and this one will focus on subtraction. There will be a 30 minute demonstration which will then be repeated. This means that you will have the opportunity to visit different demonstrations if you have children in different year groups. Please contact us in confidence if you require any additional support.

## INSET Days

I would like to remind you that Friday 14<sup>th</sup> February is **NOT** an INSET day. It is a normal school day and children will be expected to attend school as normal. This information was originally shared in the newsletter sent out on 10<sup>th</sup> January.

## PTFA News

### • *PTFA Red Day Cancellation*

Please note that the 'dress up in red' non-uniform day planned by the PTFA for Friday 14<sup>th</sup> February has been cancelled. A different event will be planned for later in the school year. A 'Red Day' is already planned for later in the year for the members of St George's House.



### • *World Book Day*

The children and staff will be invited to come to school dressed as their favourite book character on **Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> March**. All we ask is for a small donation of £1. On the day the PTFA would like to set up a quality second hand book stall and are looking for donations of suitable books that are in a good condition. There will be further information nearer the event about how, where and when books can be donated.

### • *World Book Day Costumes*

If you have quality costumes (and dressing up clothes) that your children no longer use please consider donating them to the PTFA. If you bring them into school the PTFA will sell them at the parent's evenings for a small fee which will be used to bolster their funds. Thank you.

I would like to add that World book Day is about championing books and enabling our children to have fun dressing up as a favourite character. We really do not want parents and carers put under any unnecessary stress trying to buy or make elaborate or expensive costumes. If you search "World Book Day costumes" you will see lots of offers; some of which are very expensive indeed.

There is absolutely **no** pressure for costumes to be of a certain standard etc. They will **not** be judged, because we want every child to feel equally special in whatever they come to school dressed as. I would therefore strongly advise you to keep 'costumes' as simple as possible, using what you already have at home where possible. For example, Alex Ryder is a character in a popular series of books who is a teenager who wears *normal* clothes. Please do not feel under any pressure to spend money on expensive costumes.

### Miss Kiernan's 'Drop-In'

I would like to remind you that Miss Kiernan is available every Friday from 3.00pm in the library to chat about anything 'inclusion' related. This could involve a long-term educational concern or anything else to do with your child(ren).

### Golden Children

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

• F 2	<b>Mitchell Clayton</b> for always being ready to learn and for listening really well!
• Year 1	<b>Finlay Jones</b> for working really hard and moving up a reading level! Well done young man!
• Year 2	<b>Matthew Ford</b> for being a great role-model to others because he has an excellent attitude to learning and always tries hard in class! What a star you are Matthew!
• Year 3	<b>Olivia King</b> for always working really hard. Her work is always excellently presented and she is always polite! Olivia is just an all-around role-model!
• Year 4	<b>Zak Pilkington</b> for always sharing his lovely smile and positive attitude! He is making great progress and we are all very proud of him! Keep it up superstar!
• Year 5	<b>Sahil Yunis</b> for always being such a positive, cheerful and hardworking member of our school community. Sahil actually leaves us today as his family is moving to Huddersfield and we wish him and his family all the luck in the world for their new beginning! We will miss him.
• Year 6	<b>Oliver Wallace</b> for making a real effort to expand the amount of detail in his paragraphs so that his writing is more interesting! Keep it up Oliver!



### Links Partnership Sports Stars of the Week

The children who were identified as Sports Stars this week were Travis Beresford and Evie Flint. Congratulations both of you!

### Weekly Liturgy of the Word

The liturgy next **Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> January 2014** will be led by the children of **Year 1** and will start just after 9.00am in the school hall. Friends and family members of our Year 1 pupils are very welcome to join us. Thank you.

### Weekly Attendance Winners

Unfortunately we are not able to access the attendance data because the server was down. We will publish the figures in next week's newsletter.

### Achievements Outside School

Apologies if you have emailed through achievements. We will publish them in the newsletter as soon as the new server is up and running. Thank you.

### **A Special 'Thank You'**

A grandparent of one of our children fell in the playground last week and she has asked us to pass on her sincere thanks to everyone who helped her back on her feet and offered to take her home. She was greatly touched by your kindness and compassion.

### **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:

<b>Foundation 2</b>	<b>Year 1</b>	<b>Year 2</b>	<b>Year 3</b>	<b>Year 4</b>	<b>Year 5</b>	<b>Year 6</b>
Bethany Beatson	Alice Curtis	Sam Orbell	Jensen Gough	Lilly Cox	Sam Jephson	David Sayers
			Asia Robinson	Their writing will be displayed in the hall over the next week.		

### **Smilies Update**

<b>St Andrew</b>	<b>St David</b>	<b>St Patrick</b>	<b>St George</b>
This week			
	208	199	141
Term 3 Running Total			
	812	772	793
<b>Dress in House Colour Day</b>			
Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> December	Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> March	Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> March	Wednesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> April

### **Statement to Live By**

Next week our statement to live by is: **"I know it is ok to make mistakes."**

**Time to talk:** Why do we all say, here at St John Fisher, that making mistakes is an important part of learning? What should we do if we make a mistake? Who can we turn to for help? How can making mistakes help us?

Have a great weekend,  
Mr Barratt