

SJF NEWS

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Friday 8th March 2019 (Issue 23 - 2018/19)



Citizen of the Week

The week's recipient is **Oliver** in **Y6** who has shown exemplary determination and resilience in line with our 'Statement to Live By' this week. Oliver understands that making mistakes can help, if we learn from them. He has also experienced the greater satisfaction that can be had from finally achieving something that has taken lots of effort. This has increased his confidence and self-belief as he realises that in the end it is about him and *his* personal learning journey. It is *not* about comparing himself to others. This is an important lesson and will stand him in good stead for the future. It is also a great example to others! Congratulations Oliver!

Staff News

As you know, after 28 years' service, Mrs Battams will retire with effect from Friday 3rd May 2019. Governors have been busy working with Mrs Battams and Mrs Birch to review the roles and responsibilities within the School Office before advertising for a new School Finance and Administration Manager. In the end there were nine applications for the new post, and Governors shortlisted four exceptional candidates for a selection process that took place earlier this week. After a long and exhausting day for both the candidates and the Governors' panel, Mrs Louise Ramsden was selected. Our sincere thanks go to all the candidates and our congratulations go to Mrs Ramsden who will now work closely with Mrs Battams to effect a smooth transition.

Calendar Reminders

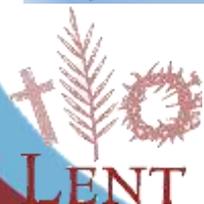
Our **SJF calendar** is available online on the Homepage of our website and in two formats via these links:

- <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)

11-03-19	• Day 1: Assessment Point 3 (full attendance is especially important this week) • Author Visit linked to World Book Day: Simon Adepetun – school assembly/visit to Years 2-6
12-03-19	• Day 2: Assessment Point 3
13-03-19	• Day 3: Assessment Point 3
14-03-19	• Day 4: Assessment Point 3 • No 'Liturgy of the Word' (Assessment Week)
15-03-19	• Day 5: Assessment Point 3 • Green Day – to mark the Feast of St Patrick (members of St Patrick's House can wear green) • Y3 Celebration Assembly (9.05am, School Hall) – Y3 family and friends are welcome
20-03-19	• FS2 educational visit to Aston Springs Farm
21-03-19	• Y1 Liturgy of the Word (9.05am, School Hall) – Y1 family and friends are welcome
22-03-19	• Y2 Celebration Assembly (9.05am, School Hall) – Y2 family and friends are welcome
28-03-19	• Curriculum Exhibition (08.45, School Hall) – all invited! • PTFA Easter Egg Competition 2019 – Details to follow
29-03-19	• End of Term 4 (SJF reopens Monday 15th April 2019 for the start of Term 5)

Term 4 Smiley Scores

St Andrew's House  84	St David's House  75	St Patrick's House  76	St George's House  64
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House News

Green Day

Sunday 17th March 2019 is the Feast of St Patrick, the Patron Saint of Ireland. At SJF We will mark this important day on **Friday 15th March 2019** by inviting the members of St Patrick's House (only) to dress down, and wear something green if they have it. Pupils in other Houses *must* wear full school uniform. Thank you.

Smiley Awards

Congratulations to Bronte, Charlie M, Daniel, Edie-Mae, Finn, Hannah, Lena, Priscilla, Ellie, Isabelle, Lily and Katy!

Collective Worship



Ash Wednesday Community Mass

On Wednesday the school community along with members of our wider parish family came together for our Ash Wednesday Community Mass. I would like to thank Fr Paul for leading the celebration of Mass; Mr MacInnes and the young people of Y5 for leading the liturgy; our altar servers and everyone who was able to join for the service.

I would like to especially thank Mr McGurrin (who was Headteacher of our school from 1982 to 2007) and Mrs Downes (who was a teacher with us from 2002 until her retirement in 2012) for kindly return to SJF in order to support our music liturgy alongside Mrs Barrett. We are all delighted, and both Mr McGurrin and Mrs Downes were full of praise for our wonderful children and their fantastic singing and behaviour!

Ash Wednesday marks the official start of Lent; a very special time of reflection and reconciliation when Christians look at their lives; say sorry for their sins and try to make those important changes that are needed to move forward and develop an even closer relationship with God. So Lent is a time of preparation for Easter, the greatest and most important Christian Feast. It lasts until Palm Sunday (which is on 14th April 2019 this year), the start of Holy Week and the final build-up to Easter.

Our Lenten Prayer: 'The Confiteor'

I confess to almighty God
and to you, my brothers and sisters,
that I have greatly sinned -
in my thoughts and in my words,
in what I have done,
and in what I have failed to do;

through my fault, through my fault,
through my most grievous fault;
therefore I ask blessed Mary ever-Virgin,
all the Angels and Saints,
and you, my brothers and sisters,
to pray for me to the Lord our God.



Parish Life in Lent and at Easter

If you are looking to make this year's Lenten season special for you please use the link below to the parish website for updates and details of Masses, services and opportunities to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation at Our Lady of Lourdes, St Anthony's and St Theresa's: www.ourladyoflourdessheffield.org.uk.

Lenten Class Liturgies

A reminder that there will be class liturgies in school during Lent right up to the next Sheffield school holiday. We therefore invite family and friends to join us from just after 3.00pm on the following days:

- **Tuesdays** (Years 3 and 4)
- **Wednesdays** (FS2, Years 5 and 6)
- **Thursdays** (Years 1 and 2)

As in previous years (and with our Advent class liturgies) parents/carers/friends are asked to book first through the School Office staff and then arrive at 3.00pm ready to go to class on time. Thank you for your support.

The Great SJF Penny War Fundraiser in Aid of 'The Good Shepherd Lenten Appeal' 2019

Mrs Barrett has organised our annual fundraising event to support the Bishop's annual 'Good Shepherd' appeal which traditionally supports the vital work of the small Diocesan charities and support services. These help the people of Hallam Diocese which covers South Yorkshire and parts of North Derbyshire and North Nottinghamshire.



Diocese of Hallam



We will do this by having our second 'Penny War'! We invite the children in every class to collect pennies and two-pennies. These will then be placed by the children into their class collecting tins at the beginning of each school day. A penny is worth one point and a two-pence coin is worth two points.

Silver coins can also be used by children to 'sabotage' another class' total. Any Silver coins deposited into the tin of another class will reduce their total. A 5p coin deposited will reduce the total by 5 points; a 10p coin will reduce that class' total by 10 points; a pound coin will reduce it by 100 points; and a two-pound coin will reduce a class total by 200 points - and so on...

The tins will be placed in the school hall at lunchtime for the children to add silver 'sabotage' coins if they want to. At the end of Holy Week the tins will be opened and the pennies and two pence coins will be counted. The silver coins in each tin will then be counted so that the deductions can be made. The class that manages to collect the most points *after* the deductions have been made will earn 'Golden Time' so don't forget to bring in your coins!

Weekly Liturgy of the Word

There will be no liturgy next week because the whole week is Assessment Point 3. Our next 'Liturgy of the Word' will therefore be on **Thursday 21st March 2019** and will be led by **Y1**. We invite our Y1 families and friends to join us in the School Hall just after 9.00am.

Celebration Assembly

Our next assembly is on **Friday 15th March 2019** just after 9.00m in the School Hall and we invite the family and friends of our **Y3** pupils to join us.

Writing Champions

FS2	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Marcus	Willow	Cavani	Filip	Jacob	Daisy	Rafal

Golden Children

The Golden children are chosen by teachers each week.

FS2	Sanaya for always trying hard to do the right things! She is a real superstar, who has made us all very proud!
Y1	Hugo for trying really hard to sit and listen at the right times and for setting an excellent example to all his classmates! What a superstar!
Y2	Katy for trying really hard with all her challenges this week! Keep it up Katy!
Y3	Jess for always doing the right things and for helping others in class too! What a star you are!
Y4	Caitlin for giving absolutely everything a go and having such a positive attitude! You are amazing!
Y5	Lily for having fantastic manners and for always being such a good friend to others! What a wonderful example you are!
Y6	Jack S for trying really hard - even when things get tough - in order to make great improvements in his learning! Well done superstar!

Sports Leaders' Blog

Use the links to check out our Sports Leaders' blog in order to keep up-to-date with SJF news and what is happening with the national 'School Games' programme:

- www.yourschoolgames.com
- <https://www.yourschoolgames.com/schools/st-john-fisher-catholic-primary-school-a-voluntary-academy/>





Parking Around School

We have again been approached by number of parents and carers concerned at the way some others are parking around school. The parking restrictions exist to protect our pupils and their families. Illegal parking increases the potential risks faced by them at either end of the school day. I therefore appeal to you to please park thoughtfully and legally. Thank you.

Birthday Cakes

There is no expectation that parents/carers will provide cakes/treats for classmates when their children have a birthday. I know that this can be an unwanted additional expense for some and I do not want anyone feeling under pressure to buy/make food for classmates. We always make a fuss of children on their birthdays in class and at Celebration Assemblies regardless of whether they have brought in treats to distribute.

If you would like to send something in, please limit it to individually wrapped cakes or small packets of sweets, so the ingredients are clear and visible. This will be easier to manage both in terms of safeguarding children with allergies, storage (some cakes are large and need to be refrigerated) and distributing at the end of the day. Recently some parents/carers have sent in huge complete cakes which staff have then had to portion plate up and share out. This also takes precious time. Thank you in advance for your cooperation and support.

The Great St John Fisher Spelling Bee

As you know our first 'Spelling Bee' has been launched across the school (Years 1 to 6). The children have their spelling lists to learn in readiness for the competition. The classes will continue in readiness for a 'Spelling Bee' competition in each class to find the individual year-group champions.

The class champions will then be challenged to spell more words from their lists in a school-wide competition. The pupil managing to spell the most words correctly will be 'The SJF Spelling Champion of Champions!' Please support us by helping your child to learn their spellings. Thank you.



Attendance in the last week of Term 2			
1 st	Y3	99.5%	Bobby Bear will visit
2 nd	Y5	98.9%	Brenda Bear will visit
3 rd	FS2	98.6%	Elvis the Owl will visit
4 th	Y4	98.5%	
5 th	Y1	98.2%	
6 th	Y2	96.7%	
7 th	Y6	95.6%	
Target = 98%		Average Attendance = 98.0% ↓	



Get Set, GO! from 8.45am		
1 st	Y2	95%
2 nd	FS2	88%
3 rd	Y1	88%
4 th	Y4	87%
5 th	Y3	86%
6 th	Y5	82%
7 th	Y6	82%
		Average = 87% ↑

Achievements Outside of School

These can be posted in the foyer or emailed (enquiries@st-johnfisher.org). This week's achievements are:

- **Katie** in **Y1** was the team mascot for Sheffield United last week when they played away at West Bromwich Albion and had an amazing day! Wow Katie, how exciting!
- **Luca** in **Y1** received a medal from his football class recently for outstanding achievement and effort in 2018. Well done Luca!
- **Amelia** in **Y5** represented Sheffield in the Yorkshire Swimming Championships; her team making it all the way into the finals. Congratulations Amelia!
- **Tamzin** in **Y5** achieved distinctions in her tap and ballet dancing exams recently! Super achievements Tamzin!
- **Rebecca** in **Y6** has been selected to be part of Sheffield's elite climbing squad and is now in training, three times per week! Congratulations Rebecca! What an incredible achievement!



World Book Day 2019

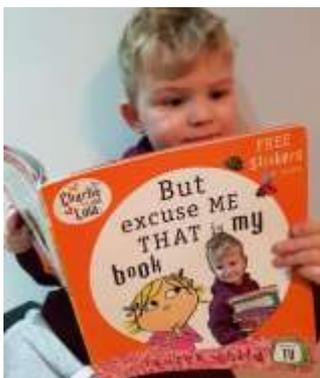
This year's World Book Day was a great success! The children had a great time and looked fantastic in their pyjamas and onesies for our 'Bedtime Reading' theme to emphasise the importance of children enjoying a book before they go to sleep.

Author Visit

On Monday we welcome Simon Adepetun, a children's author. He will lead an assembly and then deliver workshops with children in Years 2-6, concluding the day by reading a story to the children in Y1. Children will have the opportunity to buy Simon's new book, *The Bee Hive*, and have it signed by the author himself! They will also be able to have their photo taken with Simon if they wish. The book sale and signing will take place in the school library from 3:30pm. The price of *The Bee Hive* is £6. If you would like your child to buy Simon's book, then please ensure money is placed in a marked envelope.



Extreme Reading Challenge 2019



I would like to thank everyone who has sent in an entry so far for this year's competition. We will extend the competition deadline to **Thursday 14th March 2019**.

Think of the weirdest, strangest and funniest place to read a book and then take a picture and email it to us (enquiries@st-johnfisher.org). You can also send in 'photo-shopped' pictures!

Please do not take any risks though!

We do not want any of our children injured in the pursuit of the perfect photograph! Winners will receive Book Vouchers.

Please confirm that you are happy for photos to be posted on the website (names will not be added). Thank you.





Boot Camp Notice

Mr Cross would like to say a big thank you to parents and pupils for the participation in the boot camp after-school club. He would like to let other parents and students know there are still places available if they would like to join in. So if you are interested in coming down on a Thursday night for an accessible, fun and light-hearted circuit session, just let him or my colleagues in the School Office know, and complete and hand in a slip.

BOOT CAMP



Beat Your Best!

The SJF Weekly Personal Challenge!

Mrs Cross' challenge this week was the sit-down 'Tennis Keepy-Up Challenge'. The idea of this challenge is for pupils to do as many soft hits to themselves whilst sat down on a chair – being sure to keep the ball under control.

The challenge develops the hand/eye coordination of the participants. Lots of our pupils took part in the challenge this week which was great to see. The following children are the ones who managed to beat their best previous score, which was recorded earlier in the week. Congratulations to Ethan (Y3), Rosie (Y4), Faith (Y4), Jacob (Y4), Sam (Y5), Joseph (Y6), Rosie Lavell (Y4), Joseph (Y6), Marcus (Y6) and Kacper (Y6). Thanks to all the Sports Leaders and Majors who helped organise it.

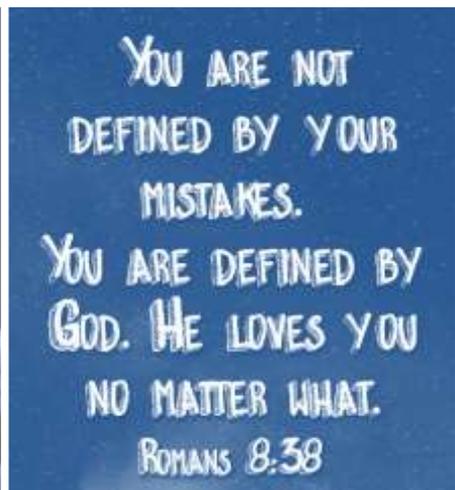
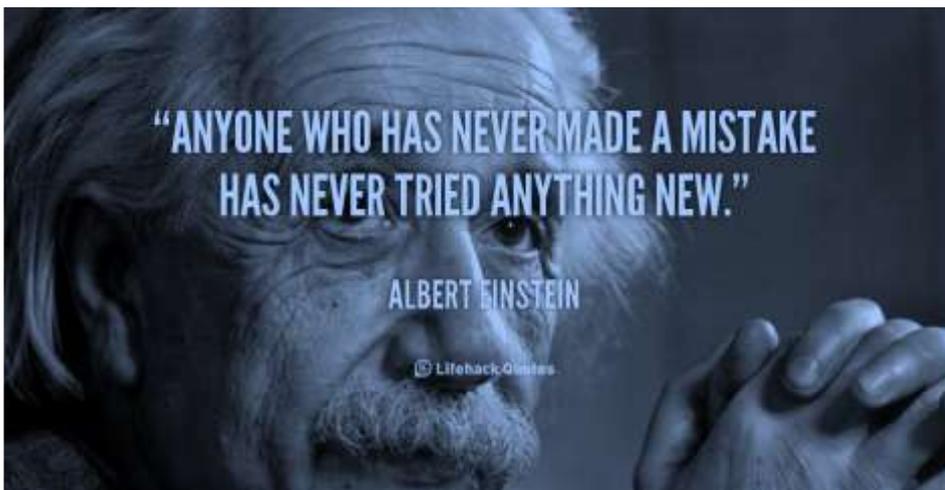


Statement to Live By

Next week our 'statement to live by' is **'I know it is ok to make mistakes'**

Time to talk: We know that making mistakes is part of learning and is therefore ok. We make mistakes as we start to understand and learn something new and our reaction to making mistakes is key. If we see mistakes as purely negative we will become fearful learners who play safe and struggle to reach our potential. If we have a positive attitude to making mistakes and are prepared to continue stepping out of our comfort zones in order to struggle productively, then we will probably still make a few mistakes along the way – but we will, most definitely, also learn and as we do so, we will also become more resilient too. Less and less will daunt us with our learning and so we will be more likely to reach our potential.

Can you think of a mistake that you made that ended up spurring you on to be better?



Best wishes,
Mr Barratt

