



St Michael & St John's RC Primary School

NEWSLETTER - 20<sup>th</sup> November 2015

"I have come that they may have life and have it to the full." (John Ch10 vs10)

Dear Parents/Carers

### Parents' Evening Attendance and Feedback

Thank you to all the parents who attended our parents' evenings. We had a wonderful 99% attendance. At parents' evenings some of our Year 6 children surveyed the parents to ascertain their views. Overall, responses were extremely positive. I have included some of the comments below:-

- "Super school"
- "Thank you to all staff for your relentless work"
- "Very good sense of each child and strong sense of community around a solid learning environment"
- "Our children are happy and progressing well"
- "Children are happy/relaxed and love coming to school everyday"
- "We are happy with the school as it is, within our faith community helping us to develop our children in Catholic faith and life"
- "Great progress being made, keep it up, thank you"
- All children are cherished as individuals - thank you"

### Suggestions/Next steps

- In-house breakfast/after school club
- Outside area/playtimes - this was further developed during October half term. The children are thoroughly enjoying the new markings.
- Clearer information for both parents where separation exists - teachers are aware and aim to send two lots of information home. Please inform us if this is not happening.
- Practice tests for Grammar school
- More pictures on website - The website is regularly updated on an ongoing basis. We are currently considering the use of social media.
- Tackling any behaviour issues/more communication on child's behaviour/bullying plan of action - Our new behaviour policy in place and



available on the school website. Children are rewarded for making good choices with weekly Golden Time. Our new think sheets are encouraging children to reflect on their own choices and behaviour. We are closely monitoring any losses of Golden Time and the number of think sheets. Last half term 149 children kept all of their Golden Time, every single week, well done! There are a very small number of pupils who consistently lose their Golden Time and other additional strategies are being put in place for these children to provide support and to ensure that their learning and the learning of others is not affected.

- We have had a successful Anti-Bullying week this week. We have appointed Anti-Bullying ambassadors and signed up to an Anti-Bullying pledge.
- Challenge for more able pupils - Teachers differentiate lessons, in class, for all subjects. Mrs Monaghan has given out information to parents about workshops. Some Year 5 & Year 6 children have taken part in the Primary Maths challenge.
- More help for those who fall behind/better identification - a wide variety of interventions and small group additional sessions take place daily and weekly including maths, phonics and IDL (dyslexia). Children's progress is very carefully tracked so that we can implement additional support as and when this is needed. Some children also have individual support plans which parents are aware of.

As you can see a number of these aspects have been addressed already. Many others are being addressed on an on-going basis. However, we thank you for your feedback and welcome further parental feedback and suggestions.

If you would like to discuss any issues relating to your child individually, please make an arrangement to see the class teacher or Mrs Monaghan for any inclusion matters.

### **Anti-Bullying Week**

This week the children have enjoyed a range of activities to support their understanding of the types of bullying and the action they should take if they/or someone they know are being bullied. The whole school has signed up to the Anti-Bullying pledge and Anti-Bullying ambassadors have been appointed as follows:-

Year 1	Sam & Lucy
Year 2	Natalie & Jacob
Year 3	Bethany & Noah
Year 4	Evie R & Henry
Year 5	Gabriella & Will
Year 6	Reuben & Jenny

Today, Year 5 presented part of our Celebration Assembly. They did a wonderful job bringing our week to a close and sharing everything we have learnt on Anti-Bullying. The children will be given a wristband "What would Jesus do?" to remind them that Anti-Bullying is not just about this week.

Thank you to Mrs Jackson for all her hard work in organising and arranging all the events which have taken place this week.

### **Church - Cleaning**

Can you help? Our Church needs a 'deep clean' in preparation for Advent and Christmas. If you could help on Monday, 30<sup>th</sup> November, after Mass, at approximately 9.30 am for about an hour, this would be most appreciated.

Also, if you are able to help with Church cleaning on a regular basis, volunteers for this are needed too.

### **"Friends" Photo Shoot**

Thank you to the "Friends" and to Mrs Watson for organising another successful photo shoot. Also, to all the parents and families who supported and to Mr Moon for opening school on a Saturday!

### **Junior Film Night**

Junior Film night was a huge success. Thank you to all the "Friends" and members of staff who gave up their time to support this event, which the children thoroughly enjoyed.

### **Staffing**

We welcome Olivia Haswell-Shaw to the SSMJ team. Olivia will be working in Reception class everyday. We also welcome Mrs Holt-Johnson who has been appointed as a Welfare Assistant temporarily to cover a maternity leave at lunchtime.

Finally, you may have already met Mrs Kathryn Wilkinson, who we also welcome to the team. The Governors appointed Mrs Wilkinson to the post of school bursar. Mrs Wilkinson will begin full time, in January, but will be working in the school office on a Monday, Wednesday and Friday until Christmas.

We would like to thank Mr Partington who was temporarily covering the post, in the school office, for his efforts whilst at SSMJ.

## Tubs 4 Tablets Vouchers

We are collecting Tubs 4 Tablets vouchers which are found on tubs of Flora margarine on sale at Tesco. If you are able to collect these and send them in to school this would be appreciated. Please send them to the office or Mrs Jackson.

## Next Week at School

Wednesday, 25<sup>th</sup> November - Year 5 Swimming  
Friday, 27<sup>th</sup> November - Celebration Assembly - Year 3  
Friday, 27<sup>th</sup> November - Collection of Samaritan's Purse Shoeboxes

## Diary Dates for the remainder of the Autumn term (reminder)

Monday, 30<sup>th</sup> November - Last week of Sports Clubs  
Wednesday, 2<sup>nd</sup> December - Advent Class Mass - Year 2/Year 6 - 9.15am  
Thursday, 3<sup>rd</sup> December - Advent Class Mass - Year 1/Year 5 - 9.15am  
Friday, 4<sup>th</sup> December - Advent Class Mass - Rec/Year 3/Year 4 9.15am  
Friday, 4<sup>th</sup> December - No Celebration Assembly  
Friday, 4<sup>th</sup> December - "Friends" Christmas Fair - 3.30pm Hall

Tuesday, 8<sup>th</sup> December - Infant Nativity - 2.00pm  
Wednesday, 9<sup>th</sup> December - Infant Nativity - 10.00am  
Thursday, 10<sup>th</sup> December - Pantomime, Grand  
Friday, 11<sup>th</sup> December - No Celebration Assembly  
Friday, 11<sup>th</sup> December - Infant Party

Monday, 14<sup>th</sup> December - Choir to sing at Mearley Fold - 1.30pm  
Tuesday, 15<sup>th</sup> December - Junior Carol Concert in Church - 6.30pm  
Wednesday, 16<sup>th</sup> December - Music Concert - 9.15am (Parents welcome)  
Wednesday, 16<sup>th</sup> December - Christmas Dinner Day  
Wednesday, 16<sup>th</sup> December - Christmas Jumper Day  
Thursday, 17<sup>th</sup> December - Junior Party  
Friday, 18<sup>th</sup> December - Christmas & Advent Recital - 1.30pm  
Friday, 18<sup>th</sup> December - School closes for Christmas - 2.30pm

Monday, 4<sup>th</sup> January - School Inset Day  
Tuesday, 5<sup>th</sup> January - School re-opens to pupils

Thank you for your continued support.

Kind regards

*Z Mabbott*

Mrs Z Mabbott  
Headteacher