



St Michael & St John's RC Primary School

NEWSLETTER - 27<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

### **School Mission Statement**

Following months of work reviewing and consulting on our school mission statement, I am pleased to let you know that our new school mission statement is:-

**Following the example of Jesus, together we learn, love and respect one another to be the best we can be.**

The children have been central to this review process and the mission statement not only represents what we are all about at SSMJ but drives everything we do as a school and community.

After Christmas, we are planning to have a special launch of our new mission statement. In the meantime, please talk to your child, as we have done at school, about what this means and how they can live out this mission in school.

### **Advent & The Pupil Chaplains**

Once again, the countdown is about to begin - Christmas is coming. This Sunday we begin to celebrate the season of Advent, a word which means 'important arrival'. This is the time to start making preparations to celebrate Christ's birth. It is a busy but wonderful time of year in school.

Our Pupil Chaplains have sent you a letter to ask you to help us to celebrate Advent by allowing your child to wear an item of purple clothing for the next 3 Mondays, alongside the remainder of regular full school uniform. This could be a pair of purple socks, a purple cardigan (instead of our school jumper) or maybe a hair accessory.

### **Christmas Charity**

As you are aware, at this time of year our school raises money to support a Charity which is particular close to our hearts. This year we have decided to support two Charities, both in memory of ex-pupils from our school, who sadly died this summer. These Charities are Cancer Research in memory of Nicola Kerr and The Sally Hickling Trust, which is a new non-profit organisation whose goal is to support the mental well-being of young women in the UK. Both of these Charities have further information on social media.



Collections will take place at the Infant nativity concert, the Junior concert and at events where our school choir are singing to support our fundraising efforts.

### **Christmas Cards**

Children can bring in, to class, Christmas cards to send to their friends. Please remind your children to put the name clearly on the front of the envelope and, if the card is for someone in another class, then the name and class need to be provided to make sure it gets to the correct person!

### **Operation Christmas Child Appeal**

Well done and thank you for all the boxes received. Next Tuesday, a representative from Samaritan's Purse will collect 87 boxes from school which were provided by our families and also from St John's in Read. Our school council asked that we try to send love and hope in a box to someone this Christmas and this is exactly what you did. Thank you!

### **Holiday Pattern 2016-2017**

Please find attached the holiday list for the next academic year September 2016-July 2017. It has been decided in consultation with all staff, Governors, other local Catholic Primary schools and our cluster of Catholic schools including St Augustine's High School.

### **"Blue" Lunch for Anti-Bullying Week**

Thank you to Mrs Coar and her team for organising the special "blue" lunch for Anti-Bullying week, last Friday, for over 155 children!!

### **Thank you**

One of our parents has kindly passed on, a donated, crib for school. We would like to thank Mrs Golding and also the original donor for this lovely gift.

### **RVS Radio Project**

4 of our children from Year 6 have been working with the Grand to plan and prepare a Radio Show which they recorded on Wednesday. The broadcast can be heard by logging on to [www.ribblefm.com](http://www.ribblefm.com) at 4.00pm on Sunday.

### **Welcome back Mrs Brown**

As you may be aware, Mrs Brown broke her ankle in September and has been recovering since. The children and staff have been praying for her to fully recover and, this week, we welcomed her back to school. Wonderful to have you back Mrs Brown!

## Communication

As you are aware, we are more than happy to discuss any concerns or queries parents might have. However, this communication does need to take place at a mutually convenient time and cannot occur during the school day (8.45am-3.30pm) as this is dedicated teaching time and at this time, the children's learning must be the priority for teachers.

For the majority of parental queries, the class teacher is the most appropriate and most well informed person to answer your questions. However, if you have further questions following discussions with teachers or need to speak to a senior member of staff, you can speak to Mrs Monaghan, Mr Connolly or myself but please telephone school so an appointment can be made.

Please be assured that as a dedicated team of professionals, we will always contact parents if we have any concerns about your child.

## Toast

Next week, Thursday, 3<sup>rd</sup> December will be the last week of toast pre-Christmas.

## Next Week at School

Monday, 30th November	-	Last week of Sports Clubs
Tuesday, 1 <sup>st</sup> December	-	Year 6 Trip - Salford
Wednesday, 2nd December	-	Advent Class Mass - Year 2/Year 6 - 9.15am
Wednesday, 2 <sup>nd</sup> December	-	Last Swimming for Year 5
Wednesday, 2 <sup>nd</sup> December	-	Choir singing at Booths - 3.00pm-5.00pm
Thursday, 3rd December	-	Advent Class Mass - Year 1/Year 5 - 9.15am
Friday, 4th December	-	Advent Class Mass - Rec/Year 3/Year 4 9.15am
Friday, 4th December	-	No Celebration Assembly
Friday, 4th December	-	"Friends" Christmas Fair - 3.30pm Hall

This is a wonderful, but very busy time at school and all of our staff continue to work incredibly hard, both during the day and at after school/weekend events to provide wonderful opportunities for the children. I would like to thank them all for their continued commitment and dedication to our children.

Thank you for your continued support.

Kind regards

*Z Mabbott*

Mrs Z Mabbott

Headteacher