



St Michael & St John's RC Primary School

NEWSLETTER - 5th February 2016

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

Dear Parents/Carers

Ash Wednesday Mass

On Wednesday, 10th February the whole school will attend Mass at 9.15am for Ash Wednesday and will receive the ashes. Please join us if you can.

Lent and St Joseph's Penny

As Lent begins next week, in school we will be helping the children to prepare for the great celebration of Easter. We help them to understand that Lent is about trying to become closer to Jesus through prayer, penance and Alms giving. Penance can also be a positive act, so rather than giving up something, the children can be encouraged to be more like Jesus. Perhaps they could help at home, be more patient with others or, in this the Year of Mercy, be merciful in their actions.

Your child should have brought home their St Joseph's Penny box which is our Lenten collection and we ask the children to try to put 'some of their pennies' in throughout Lent.

We have also decided to have "Purple Thoughtful Thursdays", throughout Lent, where the children are invited to wear an item of purple clothing/hair accessory alongside the remainder of their full school uniform and bring 20p to support our fundraising for St Joseph's Penny.

Football Match at Accrington Stanley

The cancelled football match which was due to take place, at half time, at Accrington Stanley has now been re-arranged and will take place tomorrow Saturday, 6th February.

The Big Question This Week

Following our assembly on Monday which was all about the Year of Mercy, this week we are asking:-

"In this, the Year of Mercy, how can we show mercy to others"

Please discuss this with your child.



The Edge

Once again, our Year 6 children have been invited to The Edge sessions. These commence on Wednesday, 24th February from 6.30pm-8.00pm for 4 Wednesdays. These are evenings of faith and fun and are exciting, engaging and enjoyable faith experiences for young people.

This is a joint collaboration between St Mary's, Langho and Our Lady of the Valley Parishes and the venue will be St Mary's Parish Hall, York Lane, Langho, Blackburn. BB6 8DW.

Assessment Meeting

You may be aware that the way children are assessed has changed nationally and schools no longer use levels to assess children's attainment. In addition, the end of year assessments for Year 2 and Year 6 children have also changed. As a result we will be holding a parents' meeting, in March, to update parents. More details to follow.

E-Safety Week: Week commencing 8th February

The children will be completing different activities, throughout the week, including two Year 6 children attending the Grand for a workshop on Monday morning, 8th February. They will then return to school and inform the rest of the class about what they have done.

E-Safety Parents' Workshop

A parents' workshop giving information on "how you can keep your children safe on the internet" is being held on Tuesday, 9th straight after school (3.30pm) in the IT Suite. This should only take about half an hour. Parents will be able to buy cakes from the cake sale first.

Year 6 Cake Sale

Year 6 will be hosting a cake sale on Tuesday, 9th February at afternoon break and after school raising funds for a Scout Jamboree. Cakes will be on sale, therefore, please ensure your child brings some money into school should they wish to buy a cake!

Gymnastics Competition

Well done to the St Michael and St John's gymnastics team who competed on Monday evening. Our coach, Catherine Crewe couldn't have been more proud of the 5 gymnasts who performed on the evening Evie, Francis, Henry, Isabel & Monica.

"Friends" of SSMJ Disco

The disco takes place tonight in the Parish Centre from 7.00-9.00pm

Children must be accompanied, by an adult, either from their own family or with a parent of a friend. Unfortunately, the "Friends" are unable to let unaccompanied children attend for safety reasons.

Milk - Payment

Just a reminder, as half term approaches, any parents wishing their child to have milk from Monday, 22nd February will need to sign up and pay via the Milk4Life's website: www.milk4life.com The discount code for our school is M4L-22LA.

We are aware that some parents have paid up until the end of the Spring term or, even the end of the Summer term, should this be the case you do not need to take action.

Sainsbury's Vouchers

Please could parents collect vouchers and send them in to school ... we intend to use them to purchase equipment for playtimes and lunchtimes. Thank you very much.

Marathon Man - Anti-Bullying

Next Tuesday, 9th February Ben Smith who is running "401 Marathons" (one every day), will visit school for a photograph with our Anti Bullying Ambassadors as part of our Anti-bullying pledge. More details can be found on: www.the401challenge.co.uk

Next Week at School

Saturday, 6 th February	Football Match, during half time, at Accrington Stanley
Week beginning 8 th February	E-Safety week Door of Mercy week No Sports Clubs
Tuesday, 9 th February	E-Safety day Marathon Man to visit school Parents' E-Safety Workshop - 3.30pm in school Year 6 Cake Sale- afternoon break & 3.30pm
Wednesday, 10 th February	Whole school Mass (9.15am) - Ash Wednesday
Thursday, 11 th February	Global Renewables to visit Year 6
Friday, 12 th February	Door of Mercy arrives - Para liturgy for children
Friday, 12 th February	School closes for half term
Monday, 22 nd February	School re-opens to pupils

Celebration Assembly

I would like to congratulate all of the classes who have shared some of their learning with us, this half term, during celebration assemblies. We have had songs, artwork and powerpoint presentations from Years 2, 1 and 6 and a huge well done to our Reception children for their first class assembly today.

Please note:

Friday, 12th February - **No** Celebration Assembly

Thank you for your continued support.

Kind regards

Z Mabbott

Mrs Z Mabbott

Headteacher