



St Charles' RC Primary School

12 February 2016

Together we follow Jesus' footsteps in our living and learning

"Lent comes providentially to reawaken us, to shake us from our lethargy." Pope Francis



Dear Families

We are half way through the year already! The sun is shining and I hope you all have a wonderful half term holiday.

Lent

The season of Lent began on Wednesday 10 February. To mark the beginning of our Lenten journey, all of our Key Stage 2 children attended Mass at St Charles' Church and there was a liturgy in school for the rest of the children. Lent is a season of penance, reflection and fasting, which prepares us for Christ's resurrection on Easter Sunday. As usual we have a number of fundraising activities planned and we will share the proceeds between CAFOD and the Year of Mercy Water appeal.

Also as part of our Lenten journey, Father O'Connor will celebrate mass in school every Wednesday at 8.20am. Classes will lead us in prayer and everyone both from the school and the wider parish is very welcome to join us. It will be lovely to see you there.

Attendance

Our school target is 98% and so far we have achieved 97.49% attendance. Let's see if we can try and keep aiming for our target.

Late marks

The school doors open at 8.50am and the school day starts promptly at 9am. Since the beginning of September we have over 315 late marks recorded. If a child arrives late it disrupts the whole class and provides a disrupted start to a busy school day. Learning intentions are shared at the beginning of lessons and a child missing this regularly will be disadvantaged in their learning as well as being embarrassed when they are entering the classroom late. Please ensure your child is in the yard and ready to come into the classroom to start at 9am.

Chinese New Year

The library has been decorated with work the children produced this week after learning about Chinese New Year celebrations.

Internet Safety Day

Tuesday was Internet Safety Day and all of the classes took part in lessons to raise the profile of staying safe on the internet. Some of their work is displayed in the new hall.

Trip to St Mary's High School

Year 4 won the trip to watch the Lion King at St Mary's Catholic Academy this week. They have had the most "hits" on their blog on the school website! Well done Year 4. Keep it up everyone!

PTA Sandpit

Thank you to the PTA for the brilliant sand pit for Nursery and Reception class. We rely on the PTA for their support and I would like to take the opportunity to thank them for their hard work. We all appreciate it.

KS2 learning walk



Year 6 were working hard this morning writing reports. They were writing about recycling and could have some tips for the eco council.

Year 3 children were learning to say where they live in French this morning. Edward was writing a conversation in French.





Year 5 children on Internet safety day last Tuesday.



Year 4 children have been reading 'Don't' by Michael Rosen and have lots of their work on the class blog! They were all really enjoying their maths test when I went in this morning.



School meals

The menu will be changing after half term. I have worked with the cook to try and keep the popular choices available. The new menu will be on the school website and hopefully the children will enjoy their new menu.

Royal Shakespeare Project

We are involved with a Royal Shakespeare project with other catholic schools in the city. Mrs Ross and Miss Rutherford have been attending training with the Royal Shakespeare Company. We are having a whole school project in the summer term. It is very exciting and we hope to have a whole school performance to celebrate the end of the project. Year 6 children have been invited to watch A Midsummers Night's dream at Northern Stage as part of the project.

Maths workshops for parents

We are providing maths workshops for parents and carers after the half term. They will provide the latest updates in maths teaching and advice on how you can support your child at home. This will be the opportunity for you to ask any questions regarding the new mathematics curriculum.

All materials shared in the workshops will be added to the school website.

Dates for workshops:

Nursery and Reception workshop 8 March 2016 at 2.30pm

Key stage 1 workshop 9 March 2016 at 2.30pm

Lower Key Stage 2 (Year 3 and 4) workshop 15 March at 2.30pm

Upper Key Stage 2 (Year 4 and 5) workshop 22 March at 2.30pm

Dance Festival

The children in Year 3 have been practising for the dance festival. It is on the 10 March at the City Hall. This year the children are dancing to Michael Jackson. I am excited to see their performance and I am sure they will brilliant. "Strictly" here we come!

Skiping Festival

Year 4 children have also been raising their heart rates as they have been getting ready for the skipping festival. The festival is on 4th May at St Cuthbert's High School.

Year of Mercy



Some of the Year 3 girls setting up their stall. They are raising funds for the Year of Mercy.



The year 4 old toys sale raised
£153.88 Well done!

Year 3 will be the first class to go on pilgrimage through the Holy Door at St Mary's Cathedral after half term. Father O'Connor will be accompanying the children and I am sure it will be a reflective and prayerful experience for Year 3 as they prepare for their First Holy Communion.

The children have been coming up with ideas to raise money for the Water Appeal. Year 4 raised £153.88 at their old toy sale last week and the children in Year 3 have hosted a cake and loom band sale today. Watch out for the charity football match in the summer term organised by Year 6.

Something strange is happening at St Charles'....



Something strange is going on in school. Have you seen the posters? Something must be happening in STEM week (22 February). This will make you want to come back to school after the half term!

Come and find out more and celebrate the children's work at 1.30pm on Friday 26 February.

Car Park

The school council are working on a project to improve safety in the school car park. Please drive slowly and park carefully, thinking about where you park your car.

Behaviour

Congratulations to Reception and Year 4 who had 100% good behaviour this week, and last week.

Nursery

2016-17 applications are now available from the website or school office. The deadline for applications is 17th March 2016.

We wish Miss Lancaster well as she leaves St Charles' and I would like to thank her for all her hard work in nursery.

Miss Maggiore was in school on Thursday and met the "end of the week" group.

Stay and play sessions have been organised for you to meet Miss Maggiore and discuss your child's progress during the week commencing 14 March.

Miss Maggiore and Mrs George are always available if you cannot make any of the sessions.

Have a lovely break.

Mrs Nealings

Headteacher

Newsletter 10- 2015/16

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