



St John the Baptist Catholic Primary School
A Voluntary Academy

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Newsletter: Autumn Term
16th January 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been a busy week in school with many of our children sharing some of their lovely work with me. I have also been fortunate to work with a number of children across school in their writing. It is great to see such a positive approach by many of the children to their learning.

Please note that there are a number of information meetings for parents coming up over the coming weeks regarding statutory testing. Please see further information below.

Have a lovely weekend

Mrs Warters

Young Voices

Last Thursday over 50 of our children attended Young Voices at Sheffield arena. This was a wonderful experience with the children joining in with hundreds of other children across Yorkshire and the North of England in song to make a huge choir. The children had a fantastic time singing with enthusiasm and demonstrating some amazing moves – including some of the staff! They were great ambassadors for the school. A huge thank you to the staff who took the children along to this event. Also many thanks to our many parents who come along to support such a fantastic event in our school calendar.

Literary News!

Three of St John's incredibly competent writers in Year 6, have this year had the opportunity to work alongside a Normanton born writer to produce a book. Their characterisation and plot ideas have been, with support, created into a book, Holly's Prize. Currently the illustrations are being created and it will only be a matter of weeks before the manuscript is sent to the publisher. The launch of their book will take place in school later in the Spring Term, please look out for further details regarding this launch.

BBC 500 Words Competition

Today BBC Radio 2 has launched the annual 500 Words writing competition. This is a fantastic opportunity for children to get creative and write a story. Please see the BBC 500 Words website for further information. There are many ideas to help support the children in how to write a good story as well as all the competition details. All entries must be submitted by 27th February 2020.

We will be hosting our own 500 Words competition to link in with Book week. Further information on this will follow soon. We have some very talented writers in our school so ... get writing!

World Book Day

On Thursday 5th March, we will be celebrating World Book day in school. Children are invited to come into school dressed as their favourite book character. Prizes will be awarded to the most creative outfits and we will have special reading-themed events on the day. On this day, children will bring home their World Book Day £1 token which can be used in participating book shops.

Diocesan Singing Programme

Our children in Y2 and Y4 will be presenting a short performance of the work they have undertaken with Miss Kitson on Monday 10th February at 11pm. All are welcome

Y1 Phonics Screening information meeting

The children in Y1 will undertake a statutory phonics test in June. Miss James will be holding an information meeting for parents of children in Y1 regarding the process and how you can help support your child in phonics on Monday 10th February at 3.30pm.

Y6 SATs Meeting

There will be an information evening for the parents of pupils in Y6 on Monday 27th January. The SAT tests will take place during the week beginning 11th May. Please note no holidays should be taken during this time. The evening will give information regarding the statutory tests. This will take place at either 2.30pm or at 5.30pm for parents to choose the most convenient time.

Y2 SAT's Meeting

There will be an information evening on Monday 3rd February at 3.30pm for the parents of pupils in Y2 regarding the SAT tests which will be administered during the month of May. The meeting will inform parents on what aspects of the curriculum will be assessed, and how the test process is undertaken for pupils in Y2.

Volunteer Readers

We are appealing once again for parents, parishioners or friends of the school who may have a morning or afternoon free, and would like to come into school and listen to children read individually. Any regular volunteers will be required to have a DBS check and provide two character references prior to working in school. If you are interested in supporting school in this way, please leave your name with Mrs Edginton and we will get back to you.

Procedure for unplanned School Closures due to adverse weather

Although we are experiencing a very mild winter at the moment, should school need to close for any adverse weather conditions information will be sent to parents via Groupcall as well as notification on the school website. Postings will also be made on the Wakefield council website Wakefield.gov.uk and also on Ridings FM. Information will be updated daily and we would advise parents to check regularly for any new information.

Sacrament of Confirmation for pupils in Y6

4th Feb at 7pm in St. John's Church

Confirmation Preparation:

18th January 10am—4pm in the Hall.

Parents should bring their children to 10am Mass on Saturday 18th January then to the Hall for their session. Children will need a **packed lunch and drinks**. They will also need **old clothes or an apron** as they will be decorating candle holders.

Please see Fr Mark after SUNDAY MASS this weekend to collect a form on which you will put your child's sponsor (who may be a Godparent) and a confirmation name. **The Confirmation name must be that of a Christian saint.** The forms should be returned to the catechist or Fr. Mark at the Preparation session on the 18th Jan, please.

Please note: Since there is only one full day of preparation those who have already signed-up MUST attend the Preparation. Without attendance at the Preparation they will not be Confirmed this year.

Masses at St John the Baptist Church

Saturday at **6.00pm**

Sunday at **10.00am** – Children's Liturgy takes place during the 10.00am Mass during term time. All welcome.

Children's Liturgy - We remind parents that the Sunday Children's Liturgy of the Word is **only** for children up to, **but not including** those who have started their Preparation for or have already received the First Sacraments.

100 Club

If you wish to purchase a 100 Club number for £10 for this academic year, please call in to the school office.

Last week's winner, number 46, Kenzie & Leyton

Gold Book Assembly

The next Gold Book Assembly will take place on Friday 24th January

The dates for Gold Book Assemblies this half term are

Friday 24th January

Friday 7th February

Friday 14th February

Diary Dates

Friday 24th January – Gold Book Assembly

Monday 10th February - Y2 and y4 Singing presentation 11am

Friday 14th February – Half Term holiday

Thursday 5th March- World Book Day

Tuesday 10th March – PA Film Night

Monday 16th March – Class Photographs

Monday 16th March – Parents Evening

Tuesday 17th March – Parents Evening

Friday 3rd April – School closes for Easter

Attendance



Our school attendance target for each class is **96%**. Classes are rewarded for achieving the highest attendance for the week. This is acknowledged in the weekly Gold Book Assembly.

Congratulations to Year 3 who had the winning attendance for week ending 10th January.

| Late Foundation | Year 1 | Year 2 | Year 3 | Year 4 | Year 5 | Year 6 |
|-----------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| 98.33% | 99.00% | 98.00% | 99.35% | 95.00% | 97.58% | 99.29% |

Our Virtue to live by: Faith
I know that faith is a gift from God

Safeguarding: Should you have any concerns regarding the safety of children please contact the Safeguarding Team. DSL: Mrs L Warters (Head of School) Deputy DSL: Mrs S Spittle Deputy DSL: Mrs D Ferguson Deputy DSL: Miss B Noone Mr K Flood (Executive Headteacher)