



Newsletter No. 6: Friday 14th October 2022

Weekly News

Dear Parents,

Thank you to everyone who supported our book fayre this week. The turn-out was excellent and, for all money spent, we earn some commission to spend on books for our children in school. We hope you managed to stock up on books. Thank you also to Mrs Polito and all of the staff who helped, plus the year six helpers who did an amazing job! We are certainly encouraging a love of reading in school and look forward to sharing some more helpful reading information with you soon. In the mean-time, please check out your child's class page to have a look at the 50 recommended reads for your child's age group. There is an excellent and diverse set of books - perhaps you could have a look at them with your child and add a couple to Christmas wish-lists? We are trying to purchase as many of these books to support children's reading in school as well. I have been speaking to children about their favourite books in school this week and have been impressed with how eloquently they could talk about the books they are reading, some of them inspired by their class novels and current topics during lessons.

October is Black History Month. This was first launched in London in the 1980s, where the aim was for the local community to challenge racism and educate themselves and others about the British history that was not taught in schools. Black history is woven into our curriculum in school and we greatly encourage our St Mary of the Angels family to engage in Black History Month as a portal for developing lifelong partnerships and friendships and celebrating black heritage together. Newsround and the BBC website have information you could look at with your child.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/newsround/49883230>

We are always looking to improve communications with parents and ensure that you are kept informed of your child's learning, curriculum and progress. The welcome briefings, website and class page hopefully contribute towards this. As a staff, we want to work in partnership with you to ensure children feel safe and happy at school. Please could you take the time to complete this parent survey by Wednesday 2nd November. We welcome and value your feedback. The link is also available on your child's class page for you.

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1IoyO6IjakybZnbC7u6sfTFL_wQ47Flskehpj9elgZks/viewform?edit_requested=true

Have a wonderful weekend. Kindest regards, Mrs Hill

Award Winners

During our Congratulations Assembly this morning, individual certificates have been distributed for children who have been role models for others and who are trying hard to learn their times tables and also showing key knowledge in wider learning projects!

Our Class of the Week Award was presented to Y2 this week. They have been working very hard to communicate positively with each other and work well in groups. They have worked particularly hard in maths lessons this week!

Our Attendance winners for this week are Y2 and Y6 with 98%.

Term Dates

Half term holiday: 24th-28th October

Term ends: Friday 16th December at 1:30pm

Spring Term:

Inset day: Tuesday 3rd January

Term starts: Wednesday 4th January

Inset day: Friday 17th February

Half term holiday: 20th-24th February

Term ends: Friday 31st March 1:30pm

Summer Term

Term starts: Monday 17th April

Half term holiday: 29th May-2nd June

Term ends: Friday 21st July 1:30pm

Inset days: 24th and 25th July



Recognising and celebrating the presence of Christ in one another.

Notices

- Our Mini Vinnies are planning a Harvest assembly next week. Please could we ask for donations of tinned or canned food (not fresh food) which some nominated Mini Vinnies and Mrs Hayes will take to our local food bank, the Thomas Project. To help our global family, we would also love to raise money for CAFOD. We think it would be lovely if the children wore one bright item of clothing on **Friday 21st October** and donated some money on the school Gateway to do so. In doing so, we will not only brighten our day, but also the day of our global family when they are given the gifts from our donations. (Please see the letter from the Mini Vinnies sent last week for more information.)
- Y6 had a brilliant time at Woodlands and enjoyed all of the activities and the mud. Well done, all. There are some great photos on Twitter for you to take a look at.
- Flu vaccinations will take place on Friday 21st October. Email details have been sent for you to complete.

Curriculum, Safeguarding and Well-being

- Monday was World Mental Health Day. Mental health is the emotional and spiritual resilience which enables us to enjoy life and survive pain, suffering and disappointment. It is a positive sense of wellbeing and an underlying belief in our and others' dignity and worth. It is influenced by our experience and genetic inheritance. (World Health Organisation) It affects how we think, feel, and act. It also helps determine how we handle stress, relate to others, and make choices. Mental health is important at every stage of life, from childhood and adolescence, through to adulthood. The Anna Freud National Centre for Children and Families is a children's mental health charity that can provide extra information if required:
<https://www.annafreud.org/>

Events

We are working towards a 'Foods for All' bronze award and trying to encourage healthy food choices. Our school kitchen provides nutritious, healthy and enjoyable lunches each day. We are also encouraging parents to think about healthy lunchbox choices for their children. Next week, a 'lunchbox watch' will take place. Here is some lunchbox advice you may want to take a look at:
chrome-extension://efaidnbmnnnibpcajpcglclefindmkaj/<https://fis.carmarthenshire.gov.wales/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/Change-for-Life-Lunchbox-Leaflet-English-final.pdf>

PTA News - Thank you everyone who attended the PTA meeting this week! Lots of exciting ideas were shared. The first PTA fundraiser of this academic year takes place on Thursday with the discos in the school hall. KS1 from 3:15-4:15pm and KS2 4:30-5:30pm. More details have been sent via email.

Well done to the netballers who attended a tournament earlier in the week and did fantastically well. Thank you also, to the parents who facilitated this event.

Reflection

This Sunday is the 29th Sunday in ordinary Time.

Jesus told his disciples a parable about the need to pray continually and never lose heart.

In Happy Moments
Praise God
In Difficult Moments
Seek God
In Quiet Moments
Trust God
In Every Moment
Thank God

Yours sincerely,
Mrs N. Hill
Headteacher

