

St. Patrick's Catholic Primary School

Headteacher Newsletter 11.10.19



Our Virtue to Live by: Thankfulness

I am thankful when...

- ❖ I can say thank you to God
- ❖ I take time to appreciate the awe and wonder in God's creation

October is the month of the Holy Rosary....

October is one of two months in the year that the Church dedicates to Our Lady. May is the month we set aside to honour our Lady as the Queen of Heaven and the Mother of our Lord. I spoke to the children on Monday about the structure of the Rosary and that it is organised into Mysteries. There are four Mysteries and these act almost like a diary for the life of Jesus and his mother. The four Mysteries are as follows:

The Joyful Mysteries
The Luminous Mysteries
The Sorrowful Mysteries
The Glorious Mysteries



I set the children the challenge of finding out which Mystery the Nativity story belongs to and to also remember to bring in their beads in October. We pray the Rosary for a number of reasons and mostly for peace in our troubled world or for a specific reason like when someone is poorly or has died. Praying the Rosary is a beautiful thing...especially with young children. Please join us each

Wednesday in October at 8.30am in the hall to pray the Rosary as a family. You will also have noticed that we have had a change of virtue also. Our new virtue to live by is thankfulness. This will be a focus for collective worship and school life in general over the next few weeks.

Sacrament of Confirmation

All of the Y6 pupils have been invited to begin the preparation classes. Please talk to your child about this and the commitment involved. The first class is on 12th November @ 3.15pm in school. Please complete and return your slip to school.

Key Dates

October

15th – Y5 visiting Pizza Express

18th – Flu Immunisation in school

22nd – School photo day

23rd/24th – Parents' evenings

23rd/24th – D-Side education visiting

25th – Welcome assembly for Reception: parents welcome 2.40pm

Break up for half-term

November

4th – School re-opens

5th – Northern Ballet begin working with Y5 on a 10wk project

6th – Y5 @ Mount St.Mary's for the Big Sing Concert- all day

8th – Y6 Remembrance Assembly – Parents welcome 2.40pm

Parent Pay

We are now in a position to launch Parent Pay, the online payment system. We are sending home an instruction leaflet tonight with each child. Please read it carefully and follow the steps. Once every family has signed up, this will mean we will be cashless in school. Most money transactions and payments will go through Parent Pay. Any problems getting started, please get in touch with the office and we will endeavour to resolve.

Flu Immunisation

Your child will have the vaccine in school on 18th October providing you have signed up online. The vaccination is a quick nasal spray. Please let us know if you require any help completing the form.

Parents' Evenings: 23rd October 3.30pm-6pm 24th October 5-7.30pm

On Monday, we will be sending out the link via text which will enable you to book your parents' evening appointment. It is very important that we have your up-to-date mobile number. Please book your appointment as soon as you receive the link to avoid disappointment. I will be contacting people who do not book a time with their child's teacher. It is extremely important that you meet to discuss how your child has settled and what their current targets are. D-Side education are working with our children in school that week also on 'Internet Safety' and will be on hand in the hall on both evenings should you wish to speak to them regarding any worries or concerns you may have in this area. Technology is always changing and we need to be vigilant about what our children are accessing online.

School Photo Day: 22nd October

The school photographer will be in school and each child will be photographed individually and also with any siblings they have in school. Should you wish your child to be photographed with any pre-school siblings, please come to the main entrance from 8.15am. There will be a short wait while we get these completed first.

Share Parent Group

This group are continuing to meet on a Friday morning at 8.45am. The group is aimed at our new parents in Reception but we are also happy to open this up to our Y1 parents too. Mrs Longbottom offers lots of advice and tips about how to help your child develop early reading and number skills. Come along for a cup of tea or coffee.

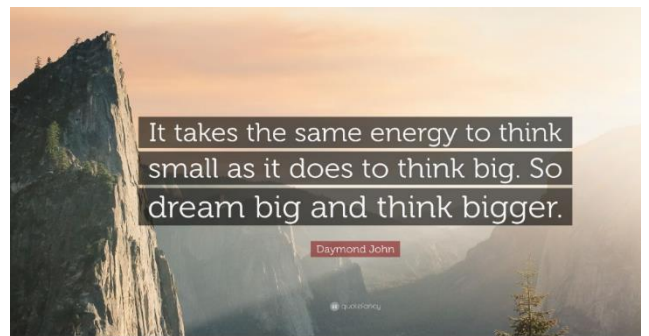
Welcome Assembly for Reception

We would like to formally welcome our new Reception children into the St. Patrick's family with a special assembly on Friday 25th October at 2.40pm. The class have settled really well and now join us for whole school collective worship. Parents and carers are most welcome to join us too.

FOSP Meeting: 23rd October

We are holding a short informal meeting at 8.45am in the school hall. Please come in and join us. We will be looking at the year ahead and putting our heads together to come up with some social events for both the pupils and for you as a family to come together and enjoy yourselves whilst raising some much needed funds for school. I would love to develop the school library and replace the books so that they support learning in school and excite our children when choosing them to take home. The cost of the refurb and the books will be in region of £8000. If you have any ideas or know of any sponsorship that we can tap into then please come to the meeting or approach me.

If we all do our little bit, I am sure we can do it!



Macmillan Coffee Morning

Huge thanks to everyone who attended or sent in buns/cakes or donations of money. We are still counting the very generous donations. We collected an amazing **£263.15**

Y6 Harvest assembly

We were treated to a wonderful assembly by Y6 last Friday. They spoke clearly and had worked very hard to research the work CAFOD do around the world. Great job Y6! We raised a fantastic **£193** for CAFOD. A big thank you for all the donations of food also. The Mini-Vinnies delivered lots and lots of bags of goods from St. Patrick's and they were very gratefully accepted.

Canon Eugene McGillicuddy

The 24th September was a very special day for our parish priest Fr. Eugene. I was present to see him have the great honour of becoming a Canon bestowed on him by the Bishop of Leeds. A wonderful occasion that saw Fr. Eugene joined by his parish family, his own family and many, many friends. We invited Fr. Eugene to our assembly last week where we presented him with a special hamper full of goodies to say congratulations from his school family too.

Sports news

The girl's football team have had a fantastic start to the season this year, playing 6, winning 3, drawing 2 and losing one. Lots more fixtures to play for both the boys and girls.



Free Sports Kit - Aldi

The offer ends on the 3rd November. Please send in your stickers and ask family and friends for theirs too. We are close to getting a free sports kit - I'm sure we can do it!

Poetry Slam

What a treat we had this afternoon! Each class recited a poem. A nursery rhyme, a spooky poem, action raps as well as more traditional styles...all a great celebration of the spoken word. Well done Hanna, Aaliyah and Miguel our prize winners.

Holidays in Term Time Reminder

Schools are not allowed to authorise any requests for children to be taken out of school for a holiday during term time. If you are planning to take your child out during term time you will need to complete the relevant forms then it can be coded correctly. The cluster attendance officers are hoping to be present on both parent's evening to answer any of your queries.

Attendance awards

Week beginning 23.9.19 - Y1 and Y2

Week beginning 30.9.19 - Y4 and Y6 **Both 100%**

Well done to the above classes - keep it up!

Final thought...

We welcomed a number of RE coordinators from the surrounding local Catholic schools this week to a meeting in school. One person remarked to me that the atmosphere in school felt the same as when Mrs Kneeshaw was in charge. I took this as a great compliment. I was delighted that the same ethos and essence of St. Patrick's continues to thrive. For it was this ethos and feeling that made me want to come and lead this brilliant school. Change can be difficult to manage and take on board but we have to reflect, develop and aspire to be the best we can be. As I said to the parents at the Share group last Friday, we are a community of learners. There are many things I do not know (as I am finding out on a daily basis lately!) and I am not afraid to share this with the adults and children around me. As the great Albert Einstein once said... "The day you stop learning is the day you start dying." Who am I to argue with him?

Enjoy the weekend everyone.

With warmest wishes

Mrs Claire Grady

We are in the process of updating the website and working with the website developers to do so. I am including a selection of photographs at the end of each newsletter so that you get a flavour of all the wonderful learning opportunities the children get to access each week in school.



Y3 pictured on their recent trip to Meanwood Valley Farm – they are studying rocks and soils



Macmillan Coffee Morning - a great morning was had by all.
Y6 did a great job serving and helping to wash-up!



Y6 delivering their CAFOD /Harvest assembly.

