

# St. Patrick's Catholic Primary School

## Headteacher Newsletter 20.6.22



Our Virtue to Live by: Honesty

*"An honest answer is like a kiss on the lips"*

*Proverbs 24:26*



When we are honest we build trust in ourselves, in the way we work and the communities we live and work in. When we are honest we promote openness and trustworthiness in our dealings with each other. Honesty allows us to rely on others so that we can all work together to build strong communities and live well together. When you are honest with yourself you have the self-belief not to pretend that something doesn't matter when it does and not to exaggerate to look good in the eyes of others. This proves increasingly difficult for us in a world where everyone is instantly connected. People feel they have to live up to perfect pictures of body images and family life. If we scratch beneath the surface though, we know this simply does not exist. We owe it to our children to be honest about who we are - warts and all! Regardless of our flaws we should always remember that we are loved by God and have been created in his image.

### Y6 Confirmation

The preparation classes have begun with great success. Thank you for supporting family catechesis and coming along with your child to the weekly classes. It is a really special time whereby you can talk to your child and have special time together preparing them to receive the sacrament. Reminder - the date for Confirmation is Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> July at 6pm.

### Parish News

It is with great joy that Canon Eugene welcomes all families back to church following the Bishop's letter - Returning to Mass at Pentecost. Please click on the link to read the full message.

<https://www.dioceseofleeds.org.uk/joyful-news>

Please see the Parish website for Mass times and further information.

<https://www.stpatrickschurchleeds.org.uk/>

## Key Dates

### June

9<sup>th</sup> – Y6 begin

Confirmation classes

21<sup>st</sup> - Transition - Children to spend the morning in their new class

27<sup>th</sup> Running comp. at Cardinal Heenan

### July

1<sup>st</sup> - Y6 parents meeting in school to discuss end of yr party. All welcome

7<sup>th</sup> – Sports Day  
Parents invited to join us  
9am start

9<sup>th</sup> – Sacrament of Confirmation 6pm

12<sup>th</sup> – Transition  
Children to spend the afternoon in their new class.

14<sup>th</sup> – Y6 Leavers Mass  
6pm

15<sup>th</sup> – End of year reports go home

22<sup>nd</sup> – End of term Mass  
School closes for the Summer break.



**Latest information regarding support for Covid in Leeds** – please click on the link

<https://www.leeds.gov.uk/coronavirus>

Please click on this link if you are experiencing domestic violence and need help or support -

<https://www.leeds.gov.uk/antisocial-behaviour-and-crime/domestic-violence-and-abuse>

### **Key Messages – COVID**

We continue to monitor the situation closely. We still have positive cases among staff and children. When staff test positive for Covid this means they are absent, as we continue to work within Government guidance. If your child is unwell they should not be in school.

**Symptoms and Testing Positive** – It is important we continue to prevent the spread of Covid, so that school can continue to run effectively. If staff are poorly with Covid (as adults generally can be) they will be off work. This affects the provision and the day-to-day running of individual classes. Therefore as per the latest guidance, we ask that if your child is symptomatic with any of the following you seek a test-

\*a new continuous cough

\*a high temperature

\*a loss of, or change in, your normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia)

Please note there is an updated list of symptoms in children

<https://www.nhs.uk/covid-19/symptoms-in-children>

The DfE guidance states that children who test positive should try to isolate at home for **3 days**. If adults test positive they should try to isolate at home for **5 days**.

**Free testing for coronavirus (COVID-19) from the NHS has now ended for most people in England. If your child is unwell with a high temperature they should not be in school. They should only return when they feel well.**

### **4 Key Control Measures continue to stay in place in school**

1. Ensure good hygiene for everyone.

2. Maintain appropriate cleaning regimes.

3. Keep occupied spaces well ventilated.

4. Follow public health advice on testing, self-isolation and managing confirmed cases of COVID-19.

### **Transition - New Classes for September 2022**

| <b>Current Class</b> | <b>Class in September 2022</b>  |
|----------------------|---------------------------------|
| -                    | Rec – Mrs Newton/Mrs Moxon      |
| Rec                  | Y1 – Miss Ingram                |
| Y1                   | Y2 – Mrs Webster                |
| Y2                   | Y3 – Miss Bryan (New to school) |
| Y3                   | Y4 – Mr Hope                    |
| Y4                   | Y5 – Ms Harvatt/Miss Owen       |
| Y5                   | Y6 – Miss Micklethwaite         |

The classes will be moving up to their new classroom on two occasions between now and the end of the term. This will give them the chance to familiarise themselves with their new surroundings and meet the staff.

**Staffing** – We welcome Miss Bryan to the teaching staff at St.Patrick's. Miss Bryan currently works in another local school but was here previously as a trainee teacher. Miss Bryan will be in school before we break for the summer to meet her new class. We look forward to working with her and welcome the skills and talents that we are sure she will bring to our school. Mr Hope is about to welcome his second child. We wish both Mr and Mrs Hope all the best and our prayers are with you both for a safe arrival. Mr Hope will shortly begin 2 weeks paternity and we have made arrangements for Y4 to be taught by a teacher they are familiar with. Mr Hope has planned the curriculum in his absence. Miss Coates, a member of our support staff is getting married this week. We wish her and her future husband a wonderful day and many years of health and happiness together – Congratulations!

**Twitter** - Make sure you follow us on Twitter @stpatricksleeds. We have pinned our Twitter account to the main website. Every class is posting and showcasing their wonderful learning and achievements each week.



### **FOSP Fundraising – Jubilee Fayre**

What a fabulous time we had at the picnic! It was so lovely to see so many families enjoying tea together in the sun. Thank you Helen, our dance coach for the wonderful Jubilee dance that was so skilfully choreographed and to all the staff who helped to organise the many games and stalls. We raised a fantastic **£702.45** in just one afternoon (including the raffle) which means we can purchase a new set of balance bikes for Reception. Hopefully, this is just the start of our family focussed events. I will be putting a shout out for FOSP (Friends of St.Patrick's) members in September. If everyone does a little we can really make a difference. ***Change will not come if we wait for some other person, or if we wait for some other time. We are the ones we've been waiting for. We are the change that we seek."* Barack Obama**

### **RSE – Relationship and sex education**

All classes are studying this area of the curriculum during this half-term. Please click on the link below. This will take you to the information on the website about the content of the RSE lessons for each class. These lessons are a very important part of our curriculum. We need to ensure our children have the right information they need as they develop and grow older. We had very positive feedback from both children and parents about the RSE curriculum updates last year. Please speak to your child's teacher if you have any questions.

[www.stpatricksleeds.org.uk/curriculum-1/rshe](http://www.stpatricksleeds.org.uk/curriculum-1/rshe)

### **Warm weather essentials**

Please make sure your child comes to school with a sun hat, water bottle and sun cream during this half-term. We had a large number of children who did not have sun hats on last week during the very hot weather. The lunch time staff have been instructed to send children in during very hot weather if they do not have a hat on.

### **Sports Day Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> July - 9am start**

We are delighted to welcome parents to our first sports morning in a long time. Parents please stay in the playground at drop off in the morning. Once all the children have entered into school a member of staff will escort you up to the school field. Refreshments will be on sale and seating provided. Every child will take part in a track event during the morning. We ask that you watch and cheer the children on from the side-lines –please do not call your child over, as we have to ensure we keep the children together in their classes. At the end of the event staff will bring the children back into school and then parents will be free to leave through the main playground gate.

### **Lunch and milk orders for September**

Please ensure you have replied to the recent letters regarding lunch choices and milk (KS1). It is really important that you spend time and select the meals that you know your child will eat. If you pay for school meals they will be £2.40 per day from September. We have not increased the price of meals for 3 years and we will be still subsidising the price of meals. I know this is costly if you are not eligible for free school meals, but by opting for a school meal you know that each day your child is getting a two course nutritionally balanced meal.

### **Safety first...always**

All children should be accompanied to the playground gate on a morning and collected from the playground at the end of the day. They should not under any circumstances be left to cross the road or walk up unaccompanied from the church car park. I will be contacting parents directly if this comes to my attention again.

**If pupils cannot read, they will not be able to access the curriculum, and will be disadvantaged for life. Education inspection framework: January 2019**

### **Whole school priority – Reading**

Calling volunteer readers for September – If you have time each week and would like to volunteer on a regular basis in school then please speak to Mrs Moxon. This role might suit a grandparent who would like to become involved and hear readers each week. All volunteers will be subject to safeguarding checks.



**Children's chances of success are maximised if they develop deep and lasting understanding of mathematical procedures and concepts**  
**NCETM National Centre for Excellence in Teaching Mathematics**

**Whole school priority – Fluency in Maths**

Every child has access to Numbots (KS1) and Times Table Rockstars – they are both really useful interactive tools to help develop number fluency both in school and at home.

As a school we follow the White Rose Maths Hub planning. White Rose have produced a free app called – 1 Minute Maths. Please click on the link and download it on your phone, device/tablet and let them have a go. A few minutes a day makes all the difference.

<https://whiterosemaths/1-minute-maths>

**Y6 Parent Meeting – Friday 1<sup>st</sup> July 3.15pm**

A group of Y6 parents are trying to organise an end of year celebration for the Y6 class. Please come along and add your ideas to the meeting. Everyone is welcome to meet in the hall after school.

**Zest Groups**

Two group opportunities have come our way as a school; I sent flyers out last week for both. Free football sessions with Leeds United are on offer every Tuesday 4.15-5.15pm. Every child must have an adult with them willing to take part! There is also a digital support group run in school on Thursday at 8.45am. If you would like support to use a devices then just come along.

**And finally...**

I was delighted to see so many of you turn out for the recent Jubilee picnic. We have already been thinking about our next social event for when we return in the autumn. I can hardly believe we are in the final half-term...it has flown. We still have 5 more weeks of learning so let's make the most of every school day and continue to work together for the best outcomes as the year comes to a close.

With my very warmest wishes,  
Mrs Grady

