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## NEWSLETTER

Friday 6<sup>th</sup> September 2019

### Class Masses in Church – 9.30am

Year Group	Date
Year 1	Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> September
Year 2	Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup> September
Year 3	Monday 21 <sup>st</sup> October
Year 4	Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> November
Year 5	Monday 18 <sup>th</sup> November
Year 6	Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> November
Reception	Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> December

### Class Mass in the Classroom – 2.30pm

Year Group	Date
Year 5	Tuesday 24 <sup>th</sup> September
Year 6	Tuesday 26 <sup>th</sup> November

### A WARM WELCOME

How wonderful to see all the children back this year looking so well and so rested from their summer break. The children look so smart in their uniforms (almost everyone remembered pumps on the first day) and those with long hair in the main have it tied up and out of their faces. So well done everyone! Thank you to those families that have returned the Home / School agreement again this year. These are no longer statutory but we thought it worth keeping as it gives parents and pupils an opportunity to discuss the expectation of school, family and pupil again.

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome the Reception children and their families. The Reception children have made an excellent start and we are very pleased with their lovely manners. Fr John will be formally welcoming you all to our school community on the 17<sup>th</sup> September at 2:30. Here all the children get a welcome certificate and introduced to the school by their buddy.

This year we have decided to follow the Leeds Diocese Virtues to Live By programme as well as continuing with The Leader in Me (7 habits). I will try to keep you informed via the newsletter about the current focus and perhaps give you resources to help consolidate the messages at home. In addition, we are continuing to rethink our Behaviour Policy. We are not going to have the 'diamond' any more. Therefore, there will be no 'going down the diamond'. However, we still want to recognise children that go over and above so we will have a 'Recognition Board' in each classroom where children's names will be written. We are basing our ideas on a book called 'When the adults change, everything changes' written by Paul Dix. The ideas in the book marry up extremely well with the Leader in Me. Obviously as this develops we will keep you informed and invite any interested parents to a 'forum' where we can develop a deep understanding of what we want for our children and why. (Watch this space)

For the next 4 weeks, the whole school is working on the virtues of Courtesy and Respect. So hopefully family life will benefit from this. I have also been talking to the children about Habit 1 – Be Proactive. (Please see attachment). Thank you for your anticipated support.

*Mrs Todd*

### **IMPORTANT DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES (in chronological order)**

**Whole School Mass** – Monday 9<sup>th</sup> September – 9.30am

**Parents Meetings** – Monday 9<sup>th</sup> September – 5pm – 6pm – Years 2 and 5

Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> September – 5pm – 6pm – Year 3 and Reception

**Reception Welcome Service & Commissioning of Mini Vinnies**– Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> September – 2.30pm  
– All welcome

**Year 6 Residential to Kingswood** – Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> September to Friday 20<sup>th</sup> September

**Individual School Photographs** – Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> September

**FOSPAP Welcome meeting for new Reception parents** – Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> September – 3.20pm

**Year 6 Kingswood Assembly** – Friday 27<sup>th</sup> September – 9am

**Animate Mass** – Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> September – 11am

**Training Day** – Monday 7<sup>th</sup> October 2019

**Harvest Assembly** – Friday 18<sup>th</sup> October – 9.15am – All Welcome

**Animate Harvest Mass** – Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> October – 6.30pm

**Parents Evening** – Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> October 3.40pm – 6.00pm and Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> October 5.30pm – 8.00pm

**Training Day** – Friday 25<sup>th</sup> October – school closed to children

**School Re-Opens** – Monday 4<sup>th</sup> November

### **GOING HOME ARRANGEMENTS**

To help us ensure the safety of your children, please can you return the information slip regarding your “usual” arrangements for the end of the day, as soon as possible (slips will be sent home tonight). We do appreciate that arrangements may change and you may inform school via the office or the class teacher directly through homework diaries (Years 3, 4, 5 & 6) or a note (Reception, Years 1 & 2). Thank you for your co-operation.

### **PARENT PAY**

Parents of children who have started in Reception will have received a letter with activation details for ParentPay. Once you have activated your account you will be able to pay for a pump bag and book bag and then collect from the school office.

### **AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS/EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES**

The days and times for clubs have changed from last year. Please look out for letters regarding clubs. Inspiration Tree have expanded the year groups that can do their club on a Friday so that children who have previously enjoyed this club on a Friday can still do so. The breakfast club from MVMT has also decided to let Reception children take part if they have older siblings that want to attend. I hope that we will have a full programme to share with you next week. *Mrs Todd*

### **DATA CHECKING SHEETS**

We are **not** going to send home copies of Data Checking Sheets this year. It is most important that we are kept informed of any changes in case of emergency. If you have moved house since last year, changed mobile or email address, have decided to change emergency contact details or the priority of these, please let us know via a note to the office or an email. In addition, we need to know if you have changed doctors or your child has been recently diagnosed with a medical condition or a dietary requirement. If you are unsure as to what has been submitted in the past, please feel free to ask for a copy of your sheet – again via a note to the office or through an email. This is to save paper and administrators time. It is now a requirement that we have at least 2 emergency contacts for your child. We will be contacting parents individually to ask for details of a second contact if we do not have this information.

### **HOMEWORK**

Children are expected to read for at least 10 minutes per day (KS2-15 minutes). This will be a levelled book from our reading spine. Children also have access to a library book or can read books from home. In years 3-6 children are also permitted to take one of the 100 Books home. Parents of younger children

are asked to record what their child has read – for example from pages 12 – 24 and how well they have read and understood.

Your child's class teacher will go into more detail about homework at the parents' information evening, however what I would say is that the more your child does on things like Lexia, Symphony Maths and Times Tables Rock Starts the more equipped they will be for their work in class. Mrs Filarowski and Miss Meikle run a homework club on a Tuesday morning playtime for children that have not had time to complete their homework at home.

### **CONSENT FORMS**

New consent forms will be sent home with children in the next week. When you receive these, please ensure you read them carefully, and understand what you are/are not consenting to. Any that we receive back which have not specified whether or not consent is given, we have to assume that you **DO NOT** give consent for that area. Therefore, please ensure that each section is fully completed, and return them to school as soon as possible. New Reception children have already received these and are not required to complete them again. A copy of the form is attached to this newsletter if you would prefer to print these at home yourselves.

### **ATTENDANCE**

We take great pride in our attendance record and finished the last academic year on 97.3%. Although we are still in the top quarter of schools we have moved down the national ranking from 7th to 21<sup>st</sup>. Research suggests that children who attend school regularly have better life chances so let's all work together to increase attendance where we can. We had seven children that were classed as 'persistent absentees' by the Government (missed more than 10%) last year, which means their attendance fell below 90%. In this measure, we have fallen from first to 24<sup>th</sup> as a school. Attendance will be closely monitored, and letters will be sent home and meetings will take place should we have concerns in that area. In line with our Child Protection Policy, if your child is absent from school for any reason, **please contact us by 10 a.m. on the first morning of absence.** If school has not heard from you by this time, we will endeavour to contact you via telephone.

### **SCHOOL APP FACILITY – Reception Parents Please read**

Most parents now use the school app and we are sure you will agree how useful it is for receiving information from school. For our new parents, please could we ask that you try to download 'School Jotter' on your mobile device following the link: **<http://www.schooljotter.com/school-jotter-mobile-app/>** If you are unable to access the app, please let the office know.

### **MUSIC LESSONS**

If you completed a slip to indicate your child would like to start/ continue with music lessons these will start week commencing 23<sup>rd</sup> September. All children who requested music lessons are able to have lessons. The payment will be added to your child's ParentPay account in the next few days, fees are payable termly and one month's notice is required if your child wishes to stop lessons. Music lessons will be on the following days:

Monday – Flute and Cello

Tuesday – Clarinet

Friday – Guitar

TBC – Violin

### **AMPLEFORTH – YEAR 5 – FEBRUARY 2020**

The next instalment for Ampleforth is now on ParentPay. Please log in to your child's account and pay before the 30<sup>th</sup> September.

### **FRIENDS OF Ss. PETER & PAUL**

There are still a number of raffle prizes which remain unclaimed:

T Davie – Blue 66 – Salon 65 Blow dry

Fergusson – Pink 21 – Lou Beauty Massage

H Bartle – Lou Beauty Massage

S Davies – Pink 66 – Oh Hell Beauty Facial

Mark Foster – Orange 81 – Oh Hello Beauty £50 Lashes

Elizabeth Bojas – Yellow 151 – Dan Gill Plumbing Voucher  
Sarah D – White 201 – New Year’s Eve Tickets

Any prizes that are not claimed by 1<sup>st</sup> October will be used for future fundraising.