



# St. Teresa's Catholic Primary School Newsletter Friday 10<sup>th</sup> January 2020

*Little Flowers Growing and Giving Glory to God*

## **Safeguarding**

During Tuesday morning's assembly there was a focus on punctuality. It was noted that if school staff or parents/carers regularly arrived late for work they could potentially lose their jobs. It was made clear to the children that they would not lose their school place if they were regularly late for school. It was also noted that, for the vast majority of children who are brought to school by adults it is the adult's responsibility to ensure the child is at school on time. Do not be surprised if your child is nagging you to get them to school on time!

In addition to the focus on punctuality you should have received two letters yesterday with information about school attendance.

## **Parent Governor Elections**

On Tuesday, information was sent out regarding the election process for two parent governors for the school. Nominations for these important roles in the life of the school close at 3.00 p.m. next Wednesday, 15<sup>th</sup> January.

If you did not receive the information the three documents are on the home page of the school website. Paper copies are available from the school office.

## **Meetings with parents/carers of asthmatic children**

On Wednesday morning, the school nurse; Nurse Lowe met individually with a number of parents/carers to ensure the wellbeing of their children. Thank you to those parents/carers who attended. I hope that you found the meetings beneficial for you and more importantly for your children.

## **Top Table**

Children are chosen from a year group each week to eat at the Top Table for a range of positive behaviours or work. The children selected to eat at the Top Table today for this week are from Year 6. Well done to Ethan, Rosa, Prince, Ben, Tia and Mohan who joined me for lunch today.

## **Attendance and Punctuality**

Well done to Year 1 who were the best attending class for the last week of the Autumn term, with a 95.7% attendance. Congratulations to the most punctual class for that week, which was also Year 1 with two children late to school throughout the week.

## **Attendance for the Autumn term.**

The attendances for the Autumn term were:

1<sup>st</sup> -Year 3 - 97.1%

2<sup>nd</sup> - Year 2 - 97.0%

3<sup>rd</sup> - Year 4 - 96.9%

4<sup>th</sup> - Year 1 - 96.8%

5<sup>th</sup> - Reception - 96.4%

6<sup>th</sup> - Year 6 - 96.3%

7<sup>th</sup> - Year 5 - 96.0%.

Well done Year 3! You are the class to beat! Which class will have the best attendance in the Spring term 2020?

The average attendance for the school in the Autumn term was 96.7%, which is an increase on the attendance during the Autumn term of 2018 which was 96.2%.

## **100% attendees**

In the Autumn term there were ten children in Reception, fourteen from Year 2, nine from Year 3, ten from Year 4, twelve from Year 5 and nine from Year 6 with 100% attendance. Well done to the sixty-four children whose attendance has been 100% since the start of the school year.

However, there are eighteen children in the school whose attendance, being less than 90%, classes them as 'persistent absentees'. A few of these children's absences are for reasonable, usually medical reasons, but this degree of absence equates to at least a day

out of school every fortnight!

If your child is absent from school please do contact school to inform us of that absence. Please do not make avoidable appointments during school hours. We will be ask parent/carers of children's whose attendance is concerning to provide evidence of any appointments for which they wish to remove their child from school.



### Compassionate and Loving

This half term the two Virtues that will be a focus for us and the other Catholic schools in the Archdiocese of Birmingham are to be Compassionate and Loving.

Compassionate towards others, near and far, especially the less fortunate; and loving by our just actions and forgiving words.

### Online Free School Meals & Pupil Premium Checking Service

Registering for free school meals and pupil premium funding could raise an extra £1,320 for St Teresa's school, to fund valuable support like school trips, additional teaching staff or other school activities.

This additional money is available from central government for every child whose parent is receiving one of the welfare benefits listed in the form, which was forwarded to you earlier in the week. Please sign up for free school meals, even if your child is in Reception, Year 1 or Year 2, so that St Teresa's school receives as much funding as possible. St Teresa's have enrolled in a scheme to enable you to check online to see if you are eligible. It is a very simple and easy process and will give you an immediate result, at the following website; [www.link2ict.org/fsm](http://www.link2ict.org/fsm). Alternatively, please complete and return the application form and we will check for you.

If you have any questions or queries, please do not hesitate to contact Mrs Connell or Mrs Guest in the school office.

### Reception places for September 2020

Parents/carers who have a child born between 1st September 2015 and 31st August 2016 need to make an application for their child to start a Reception class in September 2020 by no later than Wednesday, 15th January 2020. This is done by an application at [www.birmingham.gov.uk/schooladmissions](http://www.birmingham.gov.uk/schooladmissions).

### Mr Badhan

This week Mr Badhan has been with us, working with a number of classes. Mr Badhan leaves us today. We wish him every success in his future career.

### Term Dates

Please note that prior to Easter, at the end of this term, and during the Summer Term, St. Teresa's Catholic Primary School's term dates are not the same as Birmingham local authority dates. (This information is on the school's website on a link at the top of the 'Parents and Carers' Information page and at the bottom of the 'News and Diary' page).

Spring Term (for the children):

The end of this half term is Friday 14<sup>th</sup> February at 3.20 p.m. The second half of the Spring Term is from Monday 24<sup>th</sup> February to Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> April.

Summer Term (for the children):

The first half of the Summer Term is from Monday 20<sup>th</sup> April to Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> May. The second half of the Summer Term is from Monday 8<sup>th</sup> June to Friday 17<sup>th</sup> July.

### Dates for the Diary

- By Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> January at 3.00 p.m. - Nominations for Parent Governor role to be returned to school.
- By Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> January - Parents/carers need to have make an application for their child to start a Reception class in September 2020.
- Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> January at 9.00 a.m. - Mass at school supported by Year 3. All are welcome.
- Friday 17<sup>th</sup> January and subsequent Fridays until Easter - Year 3 and Year 5 swimming lessons.
- Monday 20<sup>th</sup> January - Visiting theatre group performance of 'Robin Hood at school. Children to donate £2.00 for performance and may dress as fairy tale characters for the day.
- Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> January at 9.00 a.m. - Mass at school supported by Year 4. All are welcome.
- Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> February - Rags2Riches reusable clothing collection.
- Friday 14<sup>th</sup> February - End of the first half of the Spring Term.

D. Corkery