

WE LOVE, WE PRAY, WE LEARN, WE PLAY



## NEWSLETTER 17<sup>th</sup> January 2020 Lent 1 Term

Dear Families,

It was brilliant to see parents at the progress afternoon and evening on Thursday the 16<sup>th</sup> and to be wonderfully uplifted by the time and commitment you show to your child's education and working in partnership with the school- thank you. We loved watching you look at your child's books either with or without them, as the staff and children are working incredibly hard and constantly trying to accelerate the children's progress, make the curriculum exciting and improve the quality of outcomes in their exercise books. Thank you for filling in the questionnaires too, which were very positive about the school and had some excellent suggestions. Lovely to see so many parents just stay and have a chat with other parents too.

### **School Phone App: School Jotter**

Please ensure that you have downloaded the school phone app and have the notifications on, so that you receive up to date messages from the school, including if your child is receiving a certificate in the weekly Achievement Assembly. If on your phone/ tablet/ computer, you have automatic updates turned on, you should already be on the latest version of the school jotter app. However, there may be a few parents that update their apps on their phone manually. The latest version of the mobile app is version 2.18.0 and you can check this by going to the menu icon at the top left of the app, and tapping the 'About' menu item. Please do see the school office staff for help if required.

### **Parent Pay**

Thank you for activating your parent pay account and contacting the school office for any enquiries. If you have not activated it yet, please do so, as cash payments cannot be accepted in the school office. Please enquire from the office your passwords, if you cannot find the letter sent out last term. It is important that every account is activated, as clubs, dinners, and trips can only be paid through it. Uniform has been added and is to be paid on it too, if bought from the school office. If you have signed up for an extra-curricular club for your child, as it is on parent pay you will have to commit and pay for the whole term (as stated in the club booklet sent out). You will only be able to receive a refund for absences due to illness. We appreciate your support in aiding the school to reduce its paper consumption and become more efficient.

### **Play Pals**

The wonderful volunteers in years 4 and 5 have begun to help out at lunchtimes and have made an impact already. They've helped children make friends and check that children have someone to play with on the Junior playground. Watch out for the yellow caps and tabards on the playground!



Mrs Delli-Sante, the junior midday supervisor said “The Play-pals are very good – they spot when children are upset and sort out problems well.”

### Swimming

Year Five and Six will be attending swimming classes this term on Fridays until half term. Year Three and Four will begin their swimming lessons after half term.

### After school Clubs

**Extra-curricular activities and the morning wake and shake club on Thursday** Thank you if you have returned the club form back to school. Please ensure that your child does want to attend the club for the whole of the duration, as some children did not attend this week due to not wanting to do the club anymore. How-ever we then could have accepted other children on the waiting lists in their places.

There are still places in these clubs: Lego, Basketball, wake and shake a.m. Choir club will continue to be at Wednesday lunchtimes. **The Leicester Rider Coaches were excellent on the Thursday basketball session and it would be great to see more children take up the opportunity to learn from qualified coaches and players.** The Activity club children also enjoyed the archery session on school after Tuesday. We have a wider range of clubs after school, so why not encourage your child to try one out, if they don't attend any currently?

The football and multi-skills clubs **will begin after the half term**, when there is more daylight after school.

### Family workshops: Happy Families 6 week course: St Mary's Catholic Primary School Wednesdays 9-



#### **11a.m: starting 15<sup>th</sup> of January**

Do you worry about your child's well-being and/ or behaviour? Are you concerned about relationships with your child? Does your child seem happy at home and school? If you think any of this is relevant to you, come along and join this free, 6- week course. Get ideas to support your child's well-being and strengthen your inter-family relationships. **Learn about some craft and other activities to strengthen the family relationship and bonds.** Make new friends and build relationships with likeminded people.

### **ESOL classes : English Language classes Thursdays 1.30- 3.15p.m, starting the 16<sup>th</sup> of January 2020 for 10 weeks.**

Begins Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> January in the school studio: 1.30 – 3.15p.m. Learn ways to help your child settle at school. Improve your own skills in English. **Understand letters from school. Feel confident to help and support your child with their homework.**

Please do come along, a great way to meet other parents too, and have a chat. Ring Pauline on 07944055723/01163055636 for more information.

### **Route to Resilience**

The school continues to be part of this excellent DFE/ NHS programme. We are highlighting the characteristics in achievement Assembly and in classes. These are some of the characteristics we have mentioned/ worked on this week: Team work; Perseverance, Enthusiasm; Confidence; listening and

Positivity. It would be great if you could talk to the children about these characteristics. What have they done at home to build these characteristics?

### **PE Kits**

Please ensure children have their PE kits every day in school, including plimsolls or trainers. They need track suits, whilst the weather is still cold. Shoes are not permitted to be worn, instead of trainers or plimsolls.

### **Ratcliffe College Cross Country Festival**

A letter will be sent out next week, to see if children are interested in taking part in cross country races at Ratcliffe College on Saturday the 8<sup>th</sup> of February. There are races from Year 3 upwards, but also a Year 1 and Year 2 Fun Run. Parents must be able to transport children to and from Ratcliffe College. The first ten individuals in each race will receive a medal and the winning team in each category will receive a shield. The first three runners home count towards the team prize.

### **Children's absences/ holidays during Term Time**

Your child's absence needs to be called into the school office each day they are off school for sickness. Any holiday requests during term time needs to be written to the Headteacher and not verbally given. The 2013 Government ruling states that Headteachers cannot authorise holidays in the term time, unless there are exceptional circumstances, which are clearly stated on the attendance policy on the website. Any child's attendance that falls below 95% is investigated with the school's attendance and welfare officer.

### **FOSM**

**Thank you to the team members who created brilliant events and raised so much money for the school last term, which enriched the curriculum of all the children.**

Thank you for all your support and generosity for the Fundraising events in the Autumn term – from the cake sales, Christmas fair, film and disco evenings. We need your help to keep this going.

Please come along to meetings and see how you can support some of the fundraising events this term. We would really value your ideas, please do share with us what else you think needs fundraising for the school.

**Next Meeting: 27<sup>th</sup> of February 2020: 3.15p.m in school ( creche provided.) All welcome.**

**Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> April : Annual Talent show for Ks1 and Ks2**

### **RELIGIOUS EDUCATION, CATHOLIC LIFE AND COLLECTIVE WORSHIP**

**Invitation to school Liturgies/ assemblies:** Families are very welcome to attend school assemblies/ Liturgies as follows:

Tuesdays                      9 a.m    Prayer and liturgy led by the Headteacher or classes.

Fridays                              9.00am              Achievement assembly

**Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> January:** 9a.m: The Liturgy will be led by **Year 4.**

Friday 31<sup>st</sup> January: Children attending mass at 9.15a.m for Candlemas.

### **Dates for Your Diary LENT 1 and LENT 2**

21 <sup>st</sup> January	Y5 Leicester Space Museum trip
28 <sup>th</sup> January	Feast day of Thomas Aquinas: 40 Ks2 children attending the celebrations with the other CMAT schools. Letter to be sent out shortly.

11 <sup>th</sup> February	Safer Internet Day
13 <sup>th</sup> February	2.30p.m Y4 Roman Presentation
17 <sup>th</sup> February - 21 <sup>st</sup> Feb	Half term
24 <sup>th</sup> February	School opens for the second half of the Spring/Lent Term
26 <sup>th</sup> February	Ash Wednesday: 9.15 mass in church
5 <sup>st</sup> March 6 <sup>th</sup> March	World Book Day: dressing as book characters
20 <sup>th</sup> March	EYFS Foundation Class trip to Stonehurst Farm.
Easter holidays	Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> April to Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> April 2020 School re opens: Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> of April 2020
11 <sup>th</sup> May 2020	Year 6 SAT's Testing week
18 <sup>th</sup> May 2020	Year 2 SAT's Testing week

Thank you for your continued support for the school.

I look forward to seeing you all at school.

Yours Sincerely,

Miss P Jordan    Headteacher