

# St Mary Magdalen's Newsletter



*Nurturing Hearts and Minds*

## Worship Reflection

This week's Gospel asks us to listen to what God asks of us and then go and do what is asked. It is not enough just to say that we will follow God in our lives. We actually have to go and do what is asked. We have to try to live as God wants us to.

God asks us to take care of the world and the people in it and it is up to us how we answer.

So we pray ....

God of love,

Open our ears to listen to your word. Lead us to help one another and to live our lives as you ask us to.

Amen.

## Birthdays this week

*Happy birthday this week to:*

Ranulph Cox, Oliver Snape, Annie Turner & Lily Taylor.

## Collecting Children

If you are waiting on Buller Avenue please socially distance and do not crowd around the gate as people need to walk through. Once your child is out please move around the one-way system swiftly and do not be tempted to stand and chat where people need to pass. Thank you.

## School Meals

We will be on **week 2** of menu next week.

## Milk

Just a reminder that your child will only receive milk free until they are 5 years old (unless they are in receipt of free school meals). If you would like your child to have milk, please go to Cool Milk's website to book and pay direct with them. Thank you.

Before we returned to school in September staff had a training day with Janette Wallis who is a behaviour consultant for our school and visits us once a month to help us get it right for the children who are finding life challenging. We have learnt so much from Janette over the years and I knew she would help us focus clearly on what our children needed after a six month break in education amidst a pandemic.

As an ice breaker we all had to pick up a little quote from a table. I picked one that says *See the Good*. I stuck it to my noticeboard and look at it often. It serves as a reminder to me that no matter how difficult the situation there are good things that come from it.

Seeing the good in the staff is easy when you see how hard they work and how much they care but it would be easy to focus on the negative when looking in the classrooms.

Are the children generally behind? Yes of course they are. Are they struggling to concentrate for sustained periods? Definitely. Are they struggling to handwrite for a good length of time? Most certainly. As teachers it can feel like we have a huge mountain to climb but we will do it because we don't lose sight of the good. Are they happy in school? Yes. Are they enjoying and appreciating their learning? Mostly. Are they lovely little people aiming to be the best they can be? Yes they are and that is why they will fill in the gaps and make great progress. It won't happen overnight but it will happen in time so please don't worry about it.

The teaching staff been working on how we can teach the children if bubbles need to isolate and/or if any kind of lockdown happens again. We hope it doesn't but we have learned a great deal in the last six months and we need to ensure our children keep moving forward in their learning. Once we have finalised the policy next week I will send it to you.

Take care of each other  
Mrs Gallagher

## Merit Winners

### *Congratulations this week to:*

*Year R – Merits will be awarded in a couple of weeks to Year R when they have settled in.*

*Year 1 – **Ava Mongan** for being a very good friend & **Angus Clarke** for having a good memory remembering the words to our new song.*

*Year 2 – **James Coleman** for playing with other children very nicely, taking turns and listening to others. It is lovely to hear you laugh together! & **Isla Williams** for putting in lots of effort and energy into improving your reading skills. I am proud of you!*

*Year 3 – **Scarlett Walker** for always giving oodles of energy, enthusiasm and creativity in her work & **Carmen Wan** for always working hard and being an excellent role model.*

*Year 4– **Poppy Swarbrick** for super answers during Literacy showing a fantastic understanding of the story & **Jack Mountford** for trying his best during Maths.*

*Year 5 – **Tyler Hoban** for continually impressing with his writing and fabulously retelling a story including adverbials & **Alexandra Lesnewska** for an excellent attitude to learning in all aspects of the curriculum.*

*Year 6– **Noah Prout** for amazing start to his creative writing, can't wait to see where the story goes! & **Henli Pratt** for super engagement in 'how adverbials'.*