



# St. Austin's Catholic Primary School A Catholic Voluntary Academy Weekly Newsletter: Friday 5th October 2018 No: 5



## Spiritual Reflection—Harvest Family Fast Day



Creator God, in love you give life.  
In your generosity you create the gifts of the earth.  
As daughters and sons of the same Father, may we learn to share the plentiful gifts  
of creation, especially with those most in need.

Give us open hands and loving hearts, so that we take less and give more.

We ask that all may benefit from your goodness, and share in the fullness of life you have promised. Amen.

## Harvest Assembly

Thank you to the staff and pupils of UFS and KS1 for a wonderful Harvest Assembly this morning. Thank you also for your contribution of food items that will be donated to the Foodbank this weekend. Your generosity is always appreciated.

## Creative Curriculum Themed Week—Space—Monday 8th October-Friday 12th October

On Monday of next week we have arranged for Polestar Planetarium to come into school and work with each year group over the course of the day. This will be a fantastic start to the first of our Creative Curriculum Themed Weeks that we are planning this year. Across the school and in all classes, our children will learn lots of interesting facts about Space in a variety of creative ways. I am sure they will be keen to tell you all about it each day next week. We have been able to fund the Polestar Planetarium via the money raised from the July and September Smiley Sun Collections.

## School Planners

Our school planners are now into their second year of use here in school. If you have not already done so, please could you sign the Home/School Agreement pages as soon as possible? Can we also ask that when you hear your child read (as often as possible) you sign the planner on the appropriate day and page? We remind the children each day to take their planner home with them and to show you any notes or comments we have put in during the day. Please check your child's planner on a daily basis and remind your child to bring their planner into school with them each day. Thank you.

## Supporting Learning at home

The KS2 teaching team would really appreciate it if parents of children in Years 3—6 could spend some time helping their child to learn and remember the times tables. Many children are very unsure of these and a sounder knowledge and understand will help them in so many other areas of the maths curriculum.

## First Sacraments

For many years, children received the Sacraments of First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion during their time in Y3 and the preparation programmes were carried out in both parishes by trained catechists.

Following a decision by Bishop Marcus, there has been a slight change in the way the children prepare for these First Sacraments. Children will now prepare for and make their First Reconciliation during their time in Year 3. When they move into Year 4, they will begin preparing and then make their First Holy Communion during that school year.

For families attending St. Austin's Church there will be an initial meeting for parents of children making First Reconciliation (Y3 upwards) on Saturday 13th October from 2pm—4.30pm at church.

For families attending SS. Peter and Paul's Church there will be an initial meeting for parents on Sunday 14th October at 11.30am in the Upper Room.

If your child is in Years 5 or 6 and has not yet received the First Sacraments but wishes to do so, please be assured that you will be made most welcome at these meetings.

## St. Austin's School Open Day

Please spread the word to your families and friends who have a child due to start school in September 2019 that we are holding our **OPEN DAY** for **new prospective parents** wishing a Catholic education for their child. School will be open on **Thursday 11th October** from **09:30-10:30** and again between **13:30 and 14:30**. During these times visitors can enjoy a tour of the school and see our pupils at work engaged in a variety of activities that we hope will give a flavour of what our school is about and what we are able to offer.

## FOSAS

Familiar faces and new faces are welcome to join members of our Senior Leadership Team on Wednesday 17th October at 2.30pm to discuss and share ideas of how we can relaunch the 'Friends of St. Austin's School' Group. Don't be shy... come along for a cup of tea or coffee and share your thoughts and ideas. We look forward to seeing you there.

## Smiley Sun Bag Collection-THANK YOU!

Please note that our next Smiley Sun collection used to fund further enrichment opportunities for all children will take place after half term to allow more time for families to gather any items they may wish to send. We hope that this will take place on Friday 30th November and will be our final collection of 2018. This will possibly give families a chance of a pre Christmas clear out of any unwanted items.

## Diary Dates for this half-term

Monday 8th October	Polestar Planetarium in school—All of our pupils will have the opportunity to go inside the huge inflatable planetarium for a tour of the stars and planets to launch the beginning of Space Week in school.
<b>Thursday 11th October</b>	<b>St. Austin's School Open Day (NEW families to school) for September 2019 starters</b>
Saturday 13th October	First Sacraments Initial Meeting—St. Austin's Parish—2pm—4.30pm at church
Sunday 14th October	First Sacraments Initial Meeting—SS. Peter and Paul's Parish—11am at church
Monday 15th October	Y5 Fire Safety Talk (Bonfire Night)
Wednesday 17th October	FOSAS Meeting at 2.30pm in school—All welcome!
Friday 19th October	Y3 Indoor Athletics Festival at St. Wilfrid's—all Y3 pupils will attend
Wednesday 24th October	Big Sing Liturgy Thing for all Y6 pupils
Wednesday 24th October	Parents Evening—5pm-8pm
Thursday 25th October	Parents Evening—4pm—6pm
Friday 26th October	School closed to pupils—Staff Training Day

**HALF TERM HOLIDAY BEGINS AT 3.30PM ON THURSDAY 25TH OCTOBER**

## Holidays

Please remember that we are unable to authorise holidays or long term absences for pupils from school. I would urge families to take holidays within the school holiday periods.

The reason for this is that school attendance matters and is key to your child's success in school. For the vast majority of our pupils this is not a concern but we need everyone to realise and value the good learning for pupils that takes place in the classrooms with their peers.

Thank You.

## Hot Chocolate Friday

The following children have been rewarded with 'Hot Chocolate with the Head' today for their super behaviour and excellent attitude towards all aspects of school.

Class RK— Dorian Gibas

Class RG— Maja Lepiarz

Class 1T— Scarlet Earley

Class 1/2C – Aubrey Owens

Class 2V— Jonatan Leowski

Class 3W— Lilly Seaton

Class 3/4AT— Hassaan Ali

Class 4M— Lukasz Jaslan

Class 5B— Martha Hazell

Class 5/6C— Owen Williamson

Class 6CD—Desireeh Mullet

## School Meals (KS2 children only)

The cost of a school dinner is £2.30 per day or £11.50 per week.

### Water Bottles

A contribution of £3 ensures your child will have a new water bottle each half-term and access to fresh water each day.

### Milk

If you wish your child to have milk each day at school the cost of this is £7.60 per half-term.

## Attendance

Congratulations to 2V who are this week's KS1 attendance winners with 97.79% and also to 3/ 4AT in KS2 with an attendance of 99.62%

Just a reminder that the school doors open at 08:50 and the day begins at 08:55. If you can ensure your child arrives on time. Thank you.



## Communication with School

We encourage and value open communication between home and school. **Please remember to speak with your child's class teacher in the first instance regarding all issues.** Should you wish to take a matter further please arrange to speak to the relevant Phase Leader (UFS—Mrs Kendrew, KS1—Mrs. Velayudhan, KS2—Mrs. Chernenko). If after speaking to the phase leader you feel that the matter or issue has not been resolved please arrange to speak to our Deputy Headteacher (Mr. Molyneux). After following this route you still have concerns please contact Mr. Flood. In most cases any problems, issues or concerns can be effectively dealt with by the class teacher—they know your child best.

## Parish Mass times this weekend are:

**St Austin's:** Saturday at 6.15pm, Sunday at 8.15am, 11am and 6pm

**Peter & Paul's** Saturday at 5pm, Sunday at 10am

**For further information please see the newsletters on the parish**

**websites:** [www.peterpaul.org.uk](http://www.peterpaul.org.uk) and [www.catholicchurchwakefield.co.uk](http://www.catholicchurchwakefield.co.uk)

