



# NEWSLETTER

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5<sup>th</sup> October 2018

Dear Parents / Carers

Welcome to this week's newsletter! Please see below for this week's news and information.

## News from around the Classrooms

### Year 5/6

#### Forest of Imagination

Mrs Harding took a group of children to the Forest of Imagination exhibition last Friday morning, please see the attached report for more details of their visit.

### Year 3/4

#### Otters Class Chaplaincy Trip

On Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> October, as part of our links with the Camino Partnership of Catholic schools, Otters Class were lucky enough to be chosen to go to Prior Park College for the day. The theme of the day was **Laudato Si** - this is Pope Francis' plea to the planet to clean up its act and make it the beautiful, caring world which He created.

We were split into groups and worked with children from other schools. Most of our time was spent outdoors exploring the woods, listening to the sounds all around us without the busy hush we normally hear, creating pictures using natural materials, making camp fires, sitting outside in the glorious sunshine enjoying a picnic together and, a particular highlight for Otters, designing and building simple boats out of whatever we could find - seed cases, feathers, twigs.

We then tested them out to see if they would actually sail - and they did! At the end of the day, we all came together in the beautiful Chapel for a Liturgy where we prayed, listened to a reading from the Gospel and sang our hearts out.

It was a wonderful day and we came away with a deeper understanding of how ALL of us need to take better care of God's Creation.



We worked together in our group to create a picture of the world from whatever nature provided us with in the forest.

Oliwia and Verity with their tiny boat made from a Conker shell, some mud and a twig. It worked!



### Poetry Slam – report from Mrs Ormes

All the KS2 children were busily writing fantastic poems last week on the theme of 'change' for National Poetry Day on the 4th October. Each class voted for their favourite and the winners competed in an in-school poetry slam. All the children's poems were amazing but our panel of judges selected Hannah and Evelyn to represent our school at the Grand Final in the Guildhall on National Poetry Day itself. The standard of the competition was incredibly high with children from over eight schools competing.

Both Evelyn and Hannah read their poems with poise, confidence and high levels of performance. Mrs Parsons and could not have been prouder of the two girls. After two rounds of hard fought rhythm, rhyme and deep thoughts we were all delighted when Hannah was proclaimed Bath Poetry Slam Champion 2018. Congratulations to Hannah and Evelyn for writing such fantastic poems and representing the school so well.



## Notices

### Celebration Assembly KS1

The following children in KS1 will be receiving certificates in assembly next Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> October at 9.10-9.35am in the hall:

- **Dragonflies** – Cadel A, Caspar S
- **Kingfishers** – Dominik R, Sophia S
- **Owls** – Hanna L, Josef C

### Celebration Assembly KS2

There will be no celebration assembly next Friday due to the hall being used for registering the Year 5 children for the Kilve residential trip.

### School Photographs

Don't forget that it's individual and sibling photographs on **Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> October**. Those wanting photos taken with siblings who are not at St Johns will be done first thing before school starts from 8.15am (KS2 children will need to be done by 8.40am so that they are ready for registration at 8.45am, KS1 will need to be done by 8.55am) all other individual and sibling pictures will be taken during the school day.

### **Punctuality Reminder**

There have been lots of late arrivals recently – this is just a reminder that Infant and KS1 classes start at 8.50am, and KS2 at 8.45am. Please try and ensure your child is in class on time to avoid disruption for the teacher and the rest of the class.

## **Sports News**

### **Cross Country Success**

Congratulations to our runners at this week's B&NES cross country races. Official results are not yet in, so we hope to bring you photos and official results soon.

### **Spaces in Clubs**

Chess Club (Monday lunchtime) and Fencing Club (Friday morning) have spaces.

If you would like to join please contact the club leaders:

Chess: [ferdo.dizdarevic@gmail.com](mailto:ferdo.dizdarevic@gmail.com)

Fencing: [annie@littlemusketeers.com](mailto:annie@littlemusketeers.com)

### **Year 2 Football Festival – St Marks**

The St Mark's School Sports Partnership invites Yr 2 boys, girls and families to a Football Festival on the St Mark's Astroturf (Larkhall), please see the attached flyer.

### **Get Set Beacon**

St John's Catholic Primary School has been selected to become a British Olympic Foundation Get Set Beacon. St John's was selected as one of 45 specially schools/organisations from across the country, all working to get their community active across the 2018/2019 school year. PE lead Brendan Rouse attended the launch in Birmingham where there were presentations on how to get more people active and to use the Olympic Values of respect, excellence and friendship and the Paralympic Values of determination, inspiration, courage and equality – helping to build young people's character and resilience both in and out of sport.

Inspirational talks were given by Paralympic Swimming Gold medal winner Susie Rodgers MBE and Lora Fachie (nee Turnham) MBE Paralympic Gold medal cyclist.



## **Staff Vacancies**

Have you ever thought of working in a school? Working somewhere local to where you live? Term time only? Working as part of an enthusiastic and dedicated team? Making a difference to children's learning?

We are currently advertising for 3 TA positions and 1 Catering Assistant (20hr/wk 10am-2pm); if you or anyone you know would be interested in working with us please see the BANES website for more details regarding the individual positions. The deadline for

applications for the TA positions is Monday 8<sup>th</sup> October 2018, and for the Catering Assistant it's Friday 19<sup>th</sup> October 2018.

## PTA News

**FRIDAY 19<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER..... KEEP THE DATE FREE!!**

*The first PTA event of the year will be a Family Barn Dance.*

*Details came out by email this week – don't forget to complete and return your booking form and payment to the PTA post box!*

## Dates for Your Diary

5 <sup>th</sup> Oct	CAFOD Harvest Family Fast Day
5 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Brighten Up This Harvest Fundraiser
8 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Harvest Festival, 10.30am, all welcome
10 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Individual school photographs
12 <sup>th</sup> -14 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Kilve Court Residential trip (Year 5)
12 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Y3/4 Parents info meeting re No Nonsense Spelling 8.55-9.15/3.20-3.35
15 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Parents' evening 3.30 – 6pm
18 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Parents' evening 3.30 – 6pm
19 <sup>th</sup> Oct	PTA Family Barn Dance
26 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Half Term
5 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Start of Term 2
13 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Author visit
21 <sup>st</sup> Nov	EYFS parents' reading session 9:00am
23 <sup>rd</sup> Nov	Inset day
25 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Mass at Ss Peter and Paul, 10am – joint Parish and school Mass
w/c 10 <sup>th</sup> Dec	EYFS and KS1 Nativity
11 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Y6 Life Skills
21 <sup>st</sup> Dec	End of Term 2
7 <sup>th</sup> Jan 2019	Inset day
8 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Start of Term 3

### Inset days

The inset days for the rest of this academic year are as follows:

- Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2018
- Monday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2019
- Friday 24<sup>th</sup> May 2019

School term dates can be found on the St John's website,  
[www.stjohnscatholicprimary.org.uk](http://www.stjohnscatholicprimary.org.uk); please do take a look for more news and information.  
Best wishes

Angela Bennett  
Head Teacher