



# St. Austin's Catholic Primary School A Catholic Voluntary Academy Weekly Newsletter: Friday 12th October 2018 No: 6



## Spiritual Reflection

This week we hear the gospel account of the rich man who wanted to inherit eternal life. Jesus told him to go and give away everything he had to follow Jesus. Jesus' message to the man and to each of us is that we must give God first place in our lives if we want true and lasting happiness. As Pope Francis reminds us, "God is the reason for our hope and the source of all happiness."

The gifts of the harvest that were delivered on Friday last week by Martha, Isabella and Fatima brought happiness to those running the foodbank in Wakefield and to those who will receive our gifts.



**Space Week:** *Space: the final frontier. These are the voyages of the St Austin's Enterprise. Its 1st time mission: to explore strange new worlds. To seek out new life and new civilizations. To boldly go where we've never been before!*

*We have enjoyed a wonderful week in school and yesterday I had the pleasure of walking the school and seeing all the fantastic things that have been going on inside and outside including; Crater experiments in Y6, making moon phases using Oreos in Y4, rocket making in KS1 and having a picnic on the moon in UFS. The children even suggested that they saw not a unicorn on the moon but a moonicorn!*

*Everyone seemed to enjoy the planetarium on Monday which kicked off our space week. Mr Molyneux and I went in with some groups of children for 'quality assurance' of course! And it was even better to know that this had been fully funded through the Smiley Sun collections just before and after the summer holiday. I was greeted this morning in UFS by astronauts and aliens (the friendly type!) as they dressed up to end the week. We hope that your children will have shared some of the lovely things that they have been doing with you over the course of the week.*

*In order that we can perhaps fund or part fund future such exciting events for our pupils we will be holding 1 more Smiley Sun collection day on Friday 30th November.*

## 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.**

## FOSAS

**Please try to come along and find out some more about how you can support our school**

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! We raised £468**

## Parent Evenings

Please note that a letter will accompany this week's newsletter explaining that the online booking system will open today so that you can book your appointment with your child's teacher. Please make sure you do so in good time as this will allow us to keep you informed about your child's progress. Instructions on how you are able to book will be contained in the letter. Should you encounter any difficulty in making a booking please contact the school office.

They will take place on Wednesday 24th October from 5-8pm and again on Thursday 25th October from 4-6pm. This will be the final day of this half term as the school is closed on Friday 26th October for a staff training day with all the other schools in the BKCAT. (Bishop Konstant Catholic Academy Trust)

## Diary Dates for this half-term

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.

**Clubs:** This week in school our clubs began again. If your child is in year 4 and would be interested in coming along to football club on a Tuesday with Mr Flood from 3.30-4.45 we do have a small number of places available. If you would like your child to be considered please contact the school office and give your child's name so that it can be added to Mr Flood's list. List closes Friday 19th October and places will be offered for Tuesday 23rd October 2018.



## 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— Daanish Sulaimaan  
Class RG— Benjamin Johnston  
Class 1T— Emily Dennison  
Class 1/2C – Danika Mbazuigwe  
Class 2V— Josiah Ponde  
Class 3W— Isaac Abhilash  
Class 3/4AT Raul Mahmood  
Class 4M— Aqsa Hussain  
Class 5B— Oliver Moore  
Class 5/6C— Agron Hajrullahu  
Class 6CD— Eva Jordan

## 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.

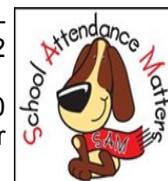
### Milk

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 RG who are this week's KS1 attendance winners with 97% and also to 4M in KS2 with an attendance of 99.63%

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)

