



St. Austin's Catholic Primary School A Catholic Voluntary Academy Weekly Newsletter: Friday 19th October 2018 No: 7



Spiritual Reflection

This week our Wednesday Word is 'Greatness' and in the gospel reading on Sunday Jesus talks to the disciples about this. 'Greatness' is not related to power or wealth or popularity but to following the example of Jesus and serving.

Jesus' birth in a simple stable is a reminder of this in that he came as a servant, to give His life for us. Pope Francis states, 'The measure of the greatness of a society is found in the way it treats those most in need.'

In our KS2 Friday worship led by Mrs Mills the children were reminded of the parable of the talents. She spoke to the children about the talents that each of them possesses and reminded them how they can use their talents to do good works and to please God.

We pray that God will help us to grow in greatness through putting others first.

NUT ALLERGY

Please remember that we have some children in school who are allergic to nuts and cannot eat or come into contact with food products containing nuts. If your child has a packed lunch please check that no items of food contain nuts or traces of nuts before sending into school. This also includes sweets that may be given to celebrate a birthday. Thank you.

FOSAS

On Wednesday this week we held our first meeting for parents and grandparents interested in finding out more about the 'Friends of St Austin's School.' (FOSAS) Mr Molyneux and I were delighted at the response to our first gathering with over a dozen families represented with children in classes spread across our school. This included many new faces.

We spoke about the kinds of things we could do for the benefit of our children both in terms of fundraising and organising events that would bring together children and families.

A decision was taken that we would try to organise 2 events in the 2nd half term leading up to Christmas, a disco to take place in both school buildings and a film night. We hope to be able to send out more information as these events are confirmed.

We were mindful that trying to keep things simple is a good rationale, with most families leading very busy lives whilst wanting at the same time to support our school moving forward.

We are also aware that there may well be those of you who cannot attend a Wednesday meeting but would still offer help at events and we discussed ways that we might pursue this support.

Our next meeting is scheduled Wednesday 7th November at 2.20pm in the conference room. If you would like to come along please join us.

Pupils' Emotional Health and Wellbeing

In Wakefield, Children's Services work towards enabling schools and families to access support for emotional wellbeing and mental health. A team of mental health Primary Practitioners known as the 'Future In Mind Team' provide training and support to parents in the form of 'Drop In' Sessions at various times throughout the school year.

Our named practitioner is **Sara Kendrick** who aims to support and enhance your child's wellbeing as they grow and mature into young adults by providing school and parents with a range of support to help children become more resilient and better able to manage their emotional, physical and mental wellbeing.

On **Monday 12th November**, Sara will be in school **between 10am and 12noon**. If any parents wish to 'drop in' and see her to discuss any concerns or to seek advice please could you let the office know by Friday 9th November please? Sara usually recommends 30-45 minute appointments which means that we can offer up to a maximum of 6 x 30minute appointment slots.

Christmas Cards

I'm sorry for mentioning Christmas in October however, your child may have told you that they were recently designing a Christmas card in school. The vast majority of our pupils have participated and those who have will today be bringing home a proof of their design with an option to purchase your child's card design to send out this Christmas. This is something new we have done this year and I'm grateful to Mrs Kendrew for leading on this. Please ensure that any orders are returned no later than **Thursday 25th October**, so that they can be sent back to the printers for printing.

Parent Evenings

Please note that our first parent evenings of this academic year will take place on Wednesday 24th October from 5-8pm and again on Thursday 25th October from 4-6pm. We have had some very positive feedback on the online booking system that we are now using. Thank you.

School Closed

Thursday 25th October 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 Konstantinus Catholic Academy Trust) taking place in Pontefract.

Diary Dates

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	
Monday 5th November	School opens at 8.50am
Wednesday 7th November	FOSAS Meeting at 2.30pm
Saturday 17th November	First Reconciliation Meeting at St. Austin's Church—4.30pm
Tuesday 27th November	Mass for Y5 Year Group-11am in the KS2 Hall
Wednesday 28th November	Pantomime in School: Peter Pan

Earrings

Please can we remind all parents that pupils with pierced ears need to be able to remove earrings for PE and other physical activities. If they are unable to do this, earrings should not be worn on PE days. The only exception to this rule is for children who have had their ears pierced less than six weeks ago. In this case children should wear a plaster (provided by home) covering their earrings. Thank you for your cooperation with this matter.

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 next week because of parent evenings on Wednesday and Thursday the only clubs taking place will be those on Monday and Tuesdays—Netball with Miss Balmond and Football with Mr Flood. We will then resume other clubs after half term.



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.

Mrs Kendrew	Sahib Natt	Mrs Gourmley	Aira Noor
Miss Tickle	Aalayiah Mae Johnson	Mrs Curzon	Ayaan Afzal
Mrs Velayudhan	Euan Baxter	Miss Workman	Martyna Blaszyńska
Mrs Turner/Adams	Ava Jones	Mrs Mills	Esther Selway
Miss Balmond	Olina Makiessi	Mrs Chernenko	Zara Banaras
Mrs Conley/Durkan	Laura Hulewicz		

Attendance

Congratulations to O.K who are this week's KS1 attendance winners with 97.14% and also to 6CD in KS2 with an attendance of 96.96%

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.



School Meals (KS2 children only)

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

Milk

If you wish your child to have milk each day at school the cost of this is £7.35 for next half-term.

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 and www.catholicchurchwakefield.co.uk

