



Friday 1st March 2019

[www.st-christophers.tameside.sch.uk](http://www.st-christophers.tameside.sch.uk)

*"Together in Faith, Friendship, Kindness and Courage"*

**Mass Times:** St Ann's: Saturday 5.30 p.m. with Children's Liturgy. Sunday 11.00 a.m. Mass.  
St Christopher's: 9.00 a.m. mass with Children's Liturgy.

**SAFEGUARDING: MOMO**

<https://parentzone.org.uk/article/three-minute-briefing-momo-challenge>

<https://www.childnet.com/ufiles/Supporting-Young-People-Online.pdf>

This week there have been a number of concerns in relation to children's safety whilst on line in particular an app called "Momo." In school we do a lot of work with the children about keeping themselves safe whilst online. We hope by providing the attached information (above) you will feel confident to talk to your children about their online activity and to support them in keeping safe.

We have also attached a poster about the App and some good guidance about safety.

**Assembly Reflection: James 1:1 - 11 "There will always be things in life that are difficult."**

This week's assembly theme was taken from Book of James. We discussed that sometimes we all have difficult things in our lives. Sometimes these are just small things: when we fall out with friends; get into trouble or we find work difficult at school. St James reminds us that God is there for us to talk to whenever we feel that things are difficult.

**Candle Prayer:** "Dear Lord, thank you for being there when things are difficult."

**Ash Wednesday & Lent**

Children in Key Stage 2 will be receiving ashes next Wednesday. Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of Lent. During Lent we will be encouraging the children to make a special effort to spend more time doing three things that were important to Jesus: living simply, sharing what we have with others and prayer.

To really show the importance of giving and charity, we will be sending home St Joseph Penny boxes for families to collect any spare change. We would also like to kindly ask families for weekly donations to Cornerstones, homeless charity. During Lent, staff and children will be delivering the donations to Cornerstones. The children will then see the impact that giving makes on people poorer than ourselves.

Week 1: Tinned foods (tuna, beans, soups, spaghetti, Fray Bentos tinned pies, tinned potatoes)

Week 2: Toiletries

Week 3: Pasta sauces, curry sauces, cooking sauces

Week 4: Tea, coffee and sugar

Week 5: Soap powder / detergent

Week 6: Socks, hats and gloves

The GIFT Team will also be holding a weekly prayer group for the children to come to stop; be silent and pray together at lunchtime.

### **Packed Lunch**

The dinner staff and the school teaching staff are noticing that some packed lunches are containing chocolate. We have a policy in school where **chocolate, sweets or fizzy drinks** are not allowed in school packed lunches. As a school we have a responsibility to the children for their health and fitness. We will be telling children that these items are not allowed in their lunch boxes.

### **Morning Supervision starts at 8.45 a.m.**

Can we remind parents that school supervision in the playground starts at 8.45 a.m. We have noticed that a small number of parents are dropping their children off earlier than this in the morning. We cannot provide supervision to these children and politely ask that you abide by this is rule.

### **World Book Day**

On **Friday 8<sup>th</sup> March** the school will be celebrating World Book Day. The children can dress up as any book character they wish. There will be lots of activities for the children to take part in.

### **Year 6 SATs: Monday 13<sup>th</sup> May to Friday 17<sup>th</sup> May**

Can I remind all Year 6 parents that the national SATs tests take place in the week beginning the 13<sup>th</sup> May and will continue through to Friday 17<sup>th</sup> May. Please keep the week free. Many thanks for the support you give the class teachers with homework, reading and spellings - it really helps the children.

### **Projects**

The children's projects that were carried out over the holidays were brilliant. They are displayed in the classrooms, been photographed and are on the website.

Year 5: Anglo Saxons/Space; Year 4: Building Cities; Year 3: Egyptians, Year 2: Rainforest; Year 1: The Beatles. (Pictures in the gallery area of the website)

### **Reception and Year 5 Trip to Skipton Castle**

Just before the holidays, Reception and Year 5 had a wonderful trip to Skipton Castle. Both classes were being taught about themes that involved castles. They took part in workshops and had a wonderful time. Reception said that they really enjoyed going in the dungeon. Year 5 said that they really enjoyed seeing the Great Hall and the fossilised Irish Elk antlers.

Both Miss Bennett and Mr Eckersley would like to thank the parents who came on the trip to support the children. (Pictures in the gallery area of the website).

### **Year 1 India Day**

Just before the holidays, Year 1 had their India theme day to support their Indian topic. It was fantastic with many different activities. We were all entertained by the amazing Indian dancing that was taught by Mrs Vyas. The children said they enjoyed the Indian food and the henna art. They also enjoyed watching Miss Ratcliffe and Miss Campbell doing the Indian dance!

(Pictures in the gallery area of the website)

### **Nursery Bookstart**

On Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> March, Bookstart will be holding two workshops for parents / carers in Nursery. All children will receive a pack containing books and information, to help your child with reading. We have planned some more reading related activities for you and your children to take part in. Details are on Tapestry.

### **Salford Diocese Newly Qualified Teachers**

The school hosted new teachers in the Diocese of Salford who are in their first year of teaching. There were morning and afternoon groups who toured the school to see outstanding practice. The NQTs went into lessons to see the children at work. They were all very complimentary about the behaviour and attitude to learning in the school.

### **School Pupil Tracker Online**

SPTO is closing down as a business. Because of this, the school will be implementing a new assessment program called Educater. Once the system is up and running, more details will follow.

## Parking

Can we remind, a very small number of parents, not to park over neighbour's drives on St Christopher's Road this half term. The house opposite the pedestrian entrance gate is continually affected. If a driver parks over the drive then the school will now note the number plate and report it to the Police. We have a good relationship with our neighbours and wish it to continue. Parking across someone's drive and leaving your car isn't fair.

## Website

The school website has undergone a new design. Can we remind you that photographs are still in the gallery area of the site.

## Celebration Assembly

Class	
Nursery	Sinead Martin & Rocco Ratcliffe
Reception	Parker Conry & Kayla Oronsaye
Year 1	Jessica Thompson & Christopher Corrigan
Year 2	Isadora Kaar & Tristan Mullen
Year 3	Isla Hankinson & Olivia Jones
Year 4	Frazer Huish-Patel & Francesca Beswick
Year 5	Katie Stephenson & Elisha O'Keeffe
Year 6	Libby Burke & Zakai Allen

**Attendance Trophy (School Target 97%): Year 5 98.2%**

## Cool Outside School Awards

A huge well done to all our children who received a "Cool Outside School" award. Please come and share your outside school awards. We love to share your achievements at the assembly.

## Spring 2 Half Term Events

Weds. 6 <sup>th</sup> March	Ash Wednesday Mass 1.45 p.m. (St Christopher's Church)
Weds. 6 <sup>th</sup> - Fri. 8 <sup>th</sup> March	Year 6 Residential to Robinwood
Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> March	World Book Day
Thurs. 14 <sup>th</sup> March	Nursery Bookstart Event
Fri. 22 <sup>nd</sup> March	Mother's Day gifts non-uniform day
Weds. 27 <sup>th</sup> March	Mother's Day Gift Sale for EYFS & KS1 morning break
Thurs. 28 <sup>th</sup> March	Mother's Day Gift Sale for KS2 morning break
Fri. 29 <sup>th</sup> March	Easter Egg non-uniform day
Tues. 2 <sup>nd</sup> April	Stations of the Cross
Weds. 3 <sup>rd</sup> April	Easter Egg Raffle
Fri. 5 <sup>th</sup> April	Passion Play
Fri. 5 <sup>th</sup> April	School closes for Easter
Tues. 23 <sup>rd</sup> April	School re-opens