



St John the Baptist Catholic Primary School

A Voluntary Academy

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Newsletter: Autumn Term 12th November 2015

Dear Parents and Carers,

This week we have been celebrating British culture in school with a themed week. There have been lots of creative and fun activities taking place across school, and some wonderful work produced. Please do join us on Friday afternoon at 2.30pm when each class will be presenting some samples of work which they have completed this week during a whole school assembly. Have a lovely week.

Mrs Mumby

Poppy Appeal

Many thanks to all families who supported the Poppy Appeal this year, helping to raise funds for the royal British Legion. We don't yet have a total of funds raised, but the weight of the collection tin suggests it will be high! Many thanks to all who contributed. All children respectfully participated in a two minute's silence at 11am yesterday morning.

Maths Workshop

On Monday 16th November we will be having a 'Maths Workshop' for parents led by our maths curriculum team. This will begin at 5pm with a presentation in the hall followed by individual class workshops in the classrooms. We do hope that you will be able to join us for this informative evening where you will receive information regarding the new curriculum expectations in maths.

A Celebration of British Culture week

This week we have been having a themed week in school. Our focus has been 'A Celebration of British Culture.' During the week, children have been learning about geographical and historical features of Britain, and today we have had a British Culture Dance Day.

We will be having a great British-themed lunch tomorrow to round off the week. As the final day of our themed week, we would like to invite all children to come to school dressed in red, white and blue, or simply just to wear an item of clothing which is one of these colours of the Union Jack. Though we are not stipulating that children should bring in a £1, as we usually do on non-uniform days, we are inviting children to make a voluntary donation to Children in

Need. If children have purchased Children in Need clothing and items, they may wear these as an alternative to the red, white and blue.

If you do wish to make a contribution to Children in Need please hand this to your child's class teacher or Miss Tudor in the school office.

Non-Uniform day – Friday 20th November

Next Friday, we will be having a non-uniform day. In exchange for wearing casual clothes, we are asking children to bring in a tombola prize. Any unwanted gifts, chocolates, toiletries, toys or games would be gratefully appreciated. Many thanks.

Term-time Absence Request

Following DfE guidelines we do not authorise term-time holidays. Term-time absence requests will be considered on an individual basis. In exceptional circumstances, the request will be authorised. Exceptional circumstances may relate to religious ceremonies, curriculum-related events such as sports and music competitions and exams, and for medical/dental-related reasons.

In order that the request can be considered fairly, please ensure that your request has sufficient information, particularly if you consider such a request to be an exceptional circumstance.

Attendance – National Changes in the Law

Parents and carers should be aware that since September 2015 the department for Education classifies pupils with an average attendance of lower than 90% as persistently absent. The previous threshold was 85%. All schools and academies have a duty to monitor pupils' attendance and, in the first instance offer support where appropriate.

In the event of a pupil's attendance falling below 90% without good reason, we will invite parents or carers into school for an informal meeting in order to consider how we, as a school, can support families in order to improve their child's attendance. If parents or carers choose not to engage with school, and accept the support offered, then we will seek support and intervention from the Educational Welfare Officer who will then work with the family.

Friends of St John's PA Meeting

We have our next PA meeting planned for Wednesday 18th November at 3.30pm in the breakfast club room in school. The PA group has become increasingly small over the years and relies on a very committed group of people to lead this big body of fundraising work. We desperately need new members and would like to invite parents and friends of the school to our next meeting. Come for a cuppa and a chat about supporting the children of St John's through creative fundraising. It is a great opportunity to meet others. Children are welcome and we offer refreshments for both adults and children. I hope to see you there.

100 Club

Congratulations to the most recent winners of the 100 Club:

45 – Mrs Bowker

Gold Book Assembly

There will be no Gold Book assembly this week as we will be having an assembly to celebrate the work undertaken by the different classes throughout our 'Celebration of British Culture' week. Parents and carers are welcome to attend this celebration assembly.

The next Gold book assembly will take place on Friday 20th November.

School and Class Masses

All parents, parishioners and friends of the school are welcome to join us for school and class Masses.

Class Masses take place on a Thursday at 9.15am, in the school hall, unless otherwise indicated. Classes leading the class Masses are indicated:

Thursday 19th November – Year 1 and Year 4

Thursday 26th November – Year 2 and Year 6

Thursday 3rd December – Year 5 and Year 3

Thursday 17th December – Whole School Mass, 10am, in church

Wednesday 6th January – Whole School Mass, 10am, in church

Diary Dates

Friday 13th November – Red, White and Blue Day (Children may come to school dressed in red, white and blue items of clothing)

Friday 13th November – Children in Need Day

Monday 16th November – Maths Workshop for parents, 5pm

Tuesday 17th November – Late foundation and Year One trip to Eureka

Friday 20th November – Non-uniform day (Bring a tombola prize for the Christmas Fair)

Friday 27th November – Blessing of the Advent wreaths

Monday 30th November – PA funded performance of 'Peter Pan'

Monday 30th November – Years 3 and 4 Advent Praise, 2.40pm

W.B. 30th November – Half-price Book Fair

Wednesday 2nd December – Year 3 singing assembly, 9.30am

Thursday 3rd December – Christmas Fair, 3pm

Monday 7th December – Years 5 and 6 Advent Praise

Thursday 10th December – Late Foundation/Key Stage One Christmas Production, 9.30am and 2pm

Monday 14th December – Years 1 and 2 Advent Praise

Tuesday 15th December – Key Stage Two Party

Tuesday 15th December – Key Stage One Christmas dinner

Wednesday 16th December – Key Stage One Party

Wednesday 16th December – Key Stage Two Christmas dinner

Thursday 17th December – Nursery Christmas Singalong

Friday 18th December – Nursery Party

Friday 18th December – Save the Children 'Wear your Christmas Jumper' Day

Friday 18th December – School closes for Christmas

Our Statement of Belief for week beginning 16th November is:

I can work, play, rest and pray each day.

Lunchtime Menu for Week Beginning 16th November 2015

<u>Monday</u>	<u>Tuesday</u>	<u>Wednesday</u>	<u>Thursday</u>	<u>Friday</u>
Meatballs and Yorkshire pudding	Salmon nuggets	Roast turkey and stuffing	Steak and potato pie	Fish fingers
Pasta with tomato and basil sauce and tomato bread	Vegemince enchilada	Vegetable curry, rice and naan bread	Vegemince bolognaise and garlic bread	Cheese and onion savoury
Tuna jacket	Cheese jacket	Tuna jacket	Cheese jacket	Cheese jacket