

# ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

# "To Live Love and Learn in a Caring Christian Community"

# **NEWSLETTER NO. 23**

# **NOVEMBER 2019**

## **Mission Statement Awards**

The following children were awarded with the Head Teacher Statement Award at half term for living out our Mission Statement:

**Cedar** Joshua - for being a considerate member of Cedar Class and always looking for ways to help

others.

Shantelle – for being cheerful and supportive to her friends when they have done well.

Cherry Mylene – for always demonstrating such enthusiasm and interest in all of her learning.

<u>Raymon</u> – for always following our School Mission statement and being a kind friend

to everyone.

Elm Charlotte – for always being kind and caring towards everyone in the class and always trying

her best.

William – for always working hard and his keenness to extend his own learning and

supporting his friends.

Fir Sophia – for her kind nature, happy smile and for being extremely helpful.

<u>Enda</u> – for being a wonderful friend and always putting others first.

Hazel <u>Mikolaj</u> – for always being aware of the feelings and needs of other children. His kind nature

is a great example to all.

Natalie – for being such a helpful member of class. Her calm and caring approach to

everything she does makes her a wonderful role model.

Maple <u>Chloe</u> – for always offering a helping hand to those around her and for her conscientious

effort across the curriculum.

<u>Daniel</u> – for acting as a role model (particularly for our younger pupils) and for his excellent

manners when dealing with all members of our school community.

Oak <u>Matilda</u> – for her caring awareness of the needs of others and for being a helpful learning

partner.

Kalina – for her positive attitude to all aspects of learning and for helping her younger

classmates settle into lower key stage 2.

Pine <u>Aimee</u> – for being such a great role model. She is so well motivated and determined to

succeed.

Anna – for her positivity, determination and unwavering smile. All of which have been

present throughout this half term.

Sycamore Katie – for the positivity she shows towards her learning and the continuous support for her

learning partners in her role on the Chaplaincy Team.

Yau Yau – for his enthusiasm towards all aspects of school life and for being an excellent

learning partner.

Willow <u>Isabella</u> – for the kindness, patience and care you show to all in our school community

Francesca – for your fantastic contributions to collaborative tasks. You show love and respect

in all your interactions.

#### 88 Pianists – we are record breakers!

It was confirmed to us that the engineering department of Cambridge University did break the record for the most number of musicians able to play a single piano at any one time. Our pupils enjoyed taking part in this project with the engineers and developed some very inventive ideas. We were proud to hear that three of our pupils' designs were used in the final project. More can be found here:

https://www.88pianists.com/88-inventions

# Safeguarding - NSPCC Talk Pants and staying safe

Knowing what to say and starting a simple conversation with your child is never easy, but it is worth sharing with you the links to the NSPCC's guidance on staying safe from sexual abuse. In school we have in the past as part of our PSHE taught children about the PANTS rule but you might want to take a moment in to undertake a conversation with your child. The information is suitable for pupils in primary school between the ages 4-11. The parental guidance pdf is attached with this newsletter. More information can be found here:

https://www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/keeping-children-safe/underwear-rule/

## Parking on the Zig-zags

It has been brought to our attention that a couple of parents are parking on the zig-zags outside of the school. By parking there, you are putting the safety of our community at risk. If this continues, we will be left with having to invite traffic wardens to make further patrols outside of our school.

# **Building Update**

The mobile classrooms for our Year 2 classes were installed during the half term and the children moved in this week. The classrooms are lovely and large and have the nicest toilets in the school! My thanks to all the staff who ensured the transition went smoothly. We will now work on transforming the resources room back into work spaces for staff and a group room for pupils.

We are now at the contract agreement stage of the building works – we will update you once we have further news on the outcome of this.

# **Sporting News**

It has been a very successful and busy half term for the sports teams in the school. The football teams are playing great with the both the Gold and Silver teams enjoying an undefeated start to the season. Many of our UKS2 children enjoyed representing the school at the successful Tag Rugby and Quicksticks competitions. As always, our sportsmanship and effort were unmatched. The popular Multi-sports, Archery and Netball clubs are up and running again and participation and enjoyment levels are very high!

#### **School Association AGM**

Our thanks to all of you who attended our recent AGM and for all of those who, over the last year, helped raise in the region of £20k to make our school and your child's school experiences better. As I mentioned at the meeting, it is rare for a school to have such a hardworking and successful School Association and I am very grateful to the hard work of the committee and the support given during these times of financial hardship in all schools. It was wonderful to be able to send a cheque to the Lymphoma Action Charity for over £2k which was half of the amount raised from our sponsored run at the end of the summer term.

### **Poppy Fundraising**

Thank you to all who supported our poppy appeal on behalf of the British Legion again this year.

#### **Food Bank**

A huge thank you to all our parents for your generosity and support in collecting toiletries and shopping bags for the Bishop's Stortford Food Bank. We received an amazing selection of items which will greatly aid the lives and situations of others.

# **Pupil Report Cards**

Following from the overwhelmingly positive feedback last year, we will be continuing with our report card system again this year. You will be receiving these next week prior to our parent consultations.

#### **Parent Consultations**

I would like to invite you to attend one of our Parent Consultations:

Tuesday, 26<sup>th</sup> November All classes 4.00pm to 7.00pm Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> November All classes 4.00pm to 7.00pm

You can book a slot with your child's class teacher on your chosen evening using our online appointment booking system.

Just go to the school website and click on the yellow Bookings link at the bottom of the screen on the right. You will be able to log in here and follow the onscreen instructions to make your booking.

# The booking system will be available from 8.00pm on Friday15th November.

A letter will be coming home in your child's bag.

Unfortunately, there will be no parking available due to clubs. Please **do not** use the College or Windhill School car parks.

# **Dinner Money for Juniors**

Please note: Dinner money must be paid in advance. School meal prices are £2.60 per day, £13.00 per week. You may pay any amount of your choice to keep your balance in credit. Please pay online using the School Gateway system. All you need to do to activate an account is download the school gateway from your app store or visit the website <a href="www.schoolgateway.com">www.schoolgateway.com</a> and click new user. You will receive a message with a PIN number and you can use this to log in. Please be sure the school office has your up to date email and mobile phone number.

Two weeks' notice in writing to Nicky Thompson, our Catering Manager, is required for any changes in dietary pattern.

#### Milk Order

Milk is available to all age groups through the school. If you would like your child to receive mid-morning milk please just visit www.coolmilk.com to register and place your order.

## **Prayer**

O God we pray for:

a new awareness of the battlefield within us;

new ways of channelling aggressive instincts;

new thought-patterns, language and ideas;

a new appreciation of the world as one community;

new methods of dialogue and negotiation;

new attempts to befriend those different from ourselves;

new readiness to forgive and reconcile;

new visions, new love, new hope...

and a new faith, that the peace that passes understanding

can reach out from within us to embrace the world.

Amen