

Dear Parents

Thank you to all our pupils who came along to the Open Morning on Saturday, you showcased our school brilliantly. Particular thanks go to the choir, our musical performers and the pupils who played hockey in the rain! The comments from prospective parents visiting on the day were extremely complimentary and they liked the opportunity to speak to our current pupils, to find out more about the school and what it has to offer. We appreciate that many of you have commitments on a Saturday, but it is expected that pupils attend Open Mornings if at all possible.

We have recently received a letter from the NSPCC, thanking us for our cheque for £111.40. This was money raised from our recent Maths Day – a great result, thank you!

There have been a huge range of awards and rewards celebrated in assembly in the last two weeks, alongside our usual Steps to Success rewards. Harry (Year Three) brought in his Wing Raiders medal to show; Rhys, Thea, William (Year Two) were awarded their rosettes for completing their Steps to Success ladders; Alex (Reception) and Eleanor (Year Six) were awarded the Little Way Award for kindness to others; Sebastian (Year One) had been awarded player of the week at Rugby Tots; Charlie (Year Six) has been called for U13 County Hockey trials (we wish him luck!); Wilf (Year One), Fabio (Year five) and Phoebe (Year Six) were awarded Star of the Week and Jennifer (Year Five) achieved a distinction in her LAMDA Grade 1 exam. It is lovely to share in all the different achievements the children have outside school.

## Diary

### **This Week**

- 8<sup>th</sup> Oct . EYFS Parents Evening
- 9<sup>th</sup> Oct . School Photographs – individual and siblings
- 10-12<sup>th</sup> Oct . Year Five – Condoover Hall Residential Trip  
 . EYFS Parents Evening
- 12<sup>th</sup> Oct . Year Six – Schools Mass Dunstable [Details](#)
- 14<sup>th</sup> Oct . Education Sunday

### **Looking Ahead**

- 16<sup>th</sup> Oct . Inter-House Music Day
- 17<sup>th</sup> Oct . Mufti Day  
 . Year Four Norman Day  
 . STPA Disco Party (Year One - Year Six) [Details](#)  
 . Last day of half term – normal dismissal times
- 18<sup>th</sup> Oct . HALF TERM BEGINS
- 31<sup>st</sup> Oct . School Open to Pupils for start of half term  
 . Secondary School Application Deadline
- 1<sup>st</sup> Nov . Key Stage Two Mass – All Saints 10am
- 14<sup>th</sup> Nov . **Flu Vaccinations Reception to Year Five**

Items in red added to the diary since the last Weekly Letter to Parents was published

Dates for this academic year are all available on the school website.

There you will also find copies of school policies (hard copies may be requested from the office) and details of the curriculum for each year group.

# Notices

## **Catholic Schools Week 8-14<sup>th</sup> October**

This week we are celebrating our Diocesan Catholic Schools' Week. We are given an opportunity during this week to continue to foster, build on and enhance relationships between our parishes, schools and homes for the good of all.

Bishop Peter has asked us to celebrate a Diocesan Year of Prayer and Vocation this year as a way of thinking about our following of Jesus Christ. Below is a prayer by St Richard of Chichester that many are praying this year, we invite you to pray it this week.

Thanks be to you, my Lord Jesus Christ for all the benefits  
you have given me,  
for all the pains and insults you have borne for me.  
O most merciful redeemer, friend and brother,  
May I know you more clearly,  
love you more dearly,  
and follow you more nearly, day by day. Amen.

## **Photographs**

Individual and sibling photos will be taken tomorrow – please ensure your child is looking smart in full winter or summer uniform. All siblings should be dressed in the same summer or winter uniform. Photographs will be taken of all children as well as sibling groups, however, there is no obligation to purchase photographs.

## **Uniform**

After half term all children should be in full winter uniform. We have had a couple of queries about the new winter coats; to clarify – the new winter coats are to be worn to and from school over the new blazers. They will also be worn as a playground coat during the school day. As we appreciate some children are driven to school, or on milder days they may not wear their coats, children are also expected to have in school a school rain jacket which will be kept in school. This is to ensure on days when the children do not have their winter coats they can still go outside and play with some weather protection.

If your child has the old style winter duffle coats they will still be expected to have a playground coat in school as well. As the old blazers are quite thick the children are not expected to wear these under their winter coats.

## **Flu Vaccinations**

This year flu vaccinations are going to be offered in school to children in Reception to Year Five on 14<sup>th</sup> November. This will be administered by way of a nasal spray and not an injection. Please look out for more information and a consent form in the coming weeks.

## **Activity Week**

Christmas Activity Week for children in Years One to Six this year will take place on Friday 14<sup>th</sup> December until Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> December. Registration forms will be going out next week.

### **Journey in Faith**

A new programme will be commencing at St Teresa's Church for anyone who would like to discover more about the Catholic faith. The programme will start on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> October with an introductory session in the Clubroom - gather at 7.15pm for coffee/tea and start at 7.30pm. Come join in!

### **Children's Mass**

A reminder about the children's Mass taking place on Sunday. If you would like to attend with your child, please reply to the [EmailMeForm](#).

### **School Disco**

Don't forget to fill out the [EmailMeForm](#) and return your money to the school office for the school Disco taking place Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> October for Year One to Year Six pupils.

### **Mission Together Red Boxes and Rosaries**

We have asked the children to fundraise for the charity Mission Together this term as their motto is 'Children helping children'. The children were given boxes to take home for loose change last week. These can be returned to school at the beginning of January 2019 all proceeds will be go towards Mission Together. You can find out more information [www.missiontogether.org.uk](http://www.missiontogether.org.uk)

The children have also been presented with Rosary beads from Mission Together, which have been blessed by Father Wayne on Community Day. As October is the month of the Holy Rosary the children have the opportunity to pray the rosary every day and will keep the rosaries in school until the end of October.

### **Thank You!**

Thank you so much for showering us in Roses for St. Teresa' Day; the roses looked and smelt truly wonderful. Thank you also to Father Joseph, Father Wayne and all the adult helpers from the Parish, as well as Governors and Mrs Aggett for all her hard work in putting the day together. All the children, staff and visitors thoroughly enjoyed the day.

## **NEWS**

### **We Can All Love God and Make God Loved**

Last Monday we celebrated St Therese's Feast Day, which coincided with Little Way Week and was the basis for our day of celebration. Little Way Week is inspired by St Thérèse of Lisieux, patron of mission. As a child St Thérèse dreamed of being a missionary. With age she understood that very few of us are called to make big and radical gestures, but that through small, loving actions we too can deliver God's love to the world.

Aged seven, Thérèse joined The Society of the Holy Childhood, now known as Mission Together. It was as a member of the Holy Childhood that Thérèse grew in faith and admiration for the work of the missionaries. She treasured the work of Holy Childhood in her heart throughout the rest of her short life.

We were very fortunate to have Father Wayne from Mission Together with us to take the Assembly and to say Mass for us. Father Wayne was very impressed with our school and our children.



Throughout the day the children were involved in different activities involving prayer. The hall was set up with different interactive prayer spaces. There was a 'Be Still' tent, where the children could be still and pray. A map of the world where prayers could be said for people across the world, linking to our Tanzania Charity and Misso.



There was an opportunity to say sorry to someone in prayer, be part of a family tree and express feelings, to name but a few.

St. Thérèse thought of herself as 'scattering flowers' before God, little flowers of love that would give Him so much pleasure. The children were asked how they could do things with love. Year Three responded with prayers which culminated in a flower display which can be seen in the Reception Area.



"God I will try to love other people as I would like to be loved."

"Be nice, be kind. I will give people a smile."

"Behaving kind is not the solution for everyone so just be yourself and care for others. If people look like they look sad and ask if they want to play with them."

## **Year Two & Year Four Trip - Warwick Castle**

We were feeling very excited about the trip to Warwick Castle with Year Four. Some of us were nervous about the possibility of seeing some mean knights, thankfully no knights of any kind were found.

As we arrived at the gates, we ate our snacks to fuel ourselves for the Horrible Histories Maze. We rushed around the maze, finding stamps from different periods of history. We liked the bunkers and finding Rattus Rattus.



Then we went to see the giant Trebuchet in action. We all loved when the machine let loose the huge missile, high up into the air. But, what was so impressive, was the people inside the squirrel wheels, charging up the machine ready to fire!

We then enjoyed lunch down by the river and so did the ducks. Who were very greedy and wanted to share some of our food.

It was amazing walking up to the keep, where we could see some of the Warwick landmarks, like St Mary's Church.

Then we had two brilliant tours of the castle, but in-between these, we visited the Bear Tower, where we saw the chains they used to keep bears. We also got to see birds of prey and the castle archer, shoot lots of arrows at targets very far away. This was very hard for him, as he only hit the middle once.

It was a wonderful place and we had an enjoyable day.

- Written by Year Two (with a little help by Mr Palmer)



**Information about the Girls Football Tournament will be in next week's letter.**

We wish all our Year Five pupils a fantastic experience at Condover Hall this week, they will have lots of opportunities to take risks, show their resilience and pause for reflection too. This trip is a good opportunity to create wonderful memories and helps them to work as a team, preparing them for their role as Stewards next year.

J Draper & Y Roberts

Mrs J Draper & Mrs Y Roberts - Joint Head Teachers

STPA

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*thank  
you*

Many thanks to all who volunteered to help with the teas and coffees at last week's open mornings.

# YEAR 1-YEAR 6 DISCO!

Wednesday 17th October

4.30-6.00pm

Walsingham Hall

Cost £7

(includes a hot dog dinner)

For more details, and to sign your child up for this event, please complete the relevant Email me form a.s.a.p.

Deadline: Friday 12th October

Please note that after school clubs will run as usual should your children wish to attend those as well/instead.