



St. Teresa's Catholic Primary School Newsletter Friday 11th January 2019

Little Flowers Growing and Giving Glory to God

Welcome back to school for the start of the Spring term and 2019.

The Catholic Pupil Profile Virtues

This half term the two Virtues that are to be a focus for us and the other Catholic schools in the Archdiocese of Birmingham are to be 'eloquent' and 'truthful'.

Eloquent: the ability to speak or write fluently, persuasively and appropriately. We are eloquent when we use language to express our ideas or opinions clearly and with conviction. When we choose our words, we should do so carefully so they are kind and compassionate, and don't hurt others. Eloquence isn't limited to speaking and writing. We can express ourselves in other ways like music, drama, painting or dance. We should use our creative gifts to say things in a way that is interesting, truthful, memorable and faithful.

Truthful: God wants us to be truthful in all we do. Jesus said, 'I am the way, the truth and the life', so being honest and truthful means we are following in his footsteps and living life the way God wants us to. Being truthful is being faithful to ourselves and to Jesus. We should stand up for the truth.



Wednesday Word

The Wednesday Word sheet was given to the Junior children earlier this week. Please do make time to consider the theme of 'Baptism' from this weekend's gospel.

Reception places for September 2019

Parents/carers who have a child born between 1st September 2014 and 31st August 2015 need to make an application for their child to start a Reception class in September 2019 by no later than next Tuesday, 15th January 2019. This is done by an application at www.birmingham.gov.uk/schooladmissions.

Autumn Reading Challenge

Well done to all of the Junior children who have completed and returned the Autumn Reading Challenge. If there are children who have completed but not yet returned their Reading Challenge please do so on Monday. Any Junior children who are interested will be offered the Spring Reading Challenge.

School dinners

The school menu choices are on our school website (www.stteresa.bhamsch.uk), click on 'Parents and Carers Information' then click on 'School Dinners' and scroll down the page. Next week is Week 3 of the rota.

Top Table

Children are chosen from a year group each week to eat at the Top Table for a range of positive behaviours or work. The children selected to eat at the Top Table this week are from Year 5. Well done to O'Shae, Dezaunte, Adan Chiaku, Rosa and Ewa who joined Miss Walk for lunch today.

Attendance and Punctuality

Well done to Year 5 who were the best attending class for the last week of the Autumn term with a perfect 100% attendance. Congratulations to the most punctual classes for that week, which were Reception, Year 1, Year 2 and

Year 6, each with two children late all week.

Attendance for the Autumn term.

The attendances for the Autumn term were:

- 1st -Year 5 - 97.8%
- 2nd - Year 3 - 97.1%
- 3rd - Reception- 97.0%
- 4th - Year 4 - 96.6%
- 5th - Year 2 - 96.4%
- 6th - Year 1 - 94.4%
- 7th - Year 6 - 93.8%.

Well done Year 5! You are the class to beat! Which class will have the best attendance in the Spring term 2019?

The average attendance for the school in the Autumn term was 96.2%, which is an increase on the attendance during the Autumn term of 2017 which was 95.3%.

100% attendees

In the Autumn term there were nine children in Reception, nine from Year 1, ten from Year 2, ten from Year 3, ten from Year 4, ten from Year 5 and five from Year 6 with 100% attendance. Well done to all sixty-three of these children.

However, there are twenty-two children in the school whose attendance, being less than 90%, classes them as 'persistent absentees'. This is a worryingly high number. Several of these children's absences are for reasonable, usually medical reasons, but this degree of absence equates to at least a day out of school every other school week!

If your child is absent from school please do contact school to inform us of that absence. Please do not make avoidable appointments during school hours. I will be asking parent/carers of children's whose attendance is concerning to provide evidence of any appointments for which they wish to remove their child from school.

Beauty and the Beast performance

On Monday 21st January, the school will be visited by M&M Theatre Company for a performance of 'Beauty and the Beast'. To contribute to the cost of this event we are asking for a donation of £2.00 from each child, payable on the day. Children may also come to school dressed as a character from a fairy tale on that day.

Welcome

Welcome to Umayr, who joined St. Teresa's School at the start of this week.

Baby Joshua

Congratulations to Victoria and Lewis and their family on the birth of Joshua on 20th December. Victoria and Lewis are very proud of their baby brother.

Dates for the Diary

- Thursday 17th January at 9.00 a.m. - Mass at school. All are welcome.
- Monday 21st January - Visiting theatre group performance of 'Beauty and the Beast' at school for all children. Children to pay £2.00 for performance and may dress as fairy tale characters for the day!
- Wednesday 23rd January from 9.00 a.m. to 9.30 a.m. - School Nurse to lead a briefing for parents/carers about Asthma management. (This is relevant to parents of children with a diagnosis of asthma and any parents/carers who are asthmatic).
- Wednesday 30th January - Year 4 visit to Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery.

D. Corkery

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