



# St. Teresa's Catholic Primary School Newsletter Friday 20th September 2019

## *Little Flowers Growing and Giving Glory to God*

### Overnight experience

Last Friday night, fifty-eight Junior children came to school at 8.00 p.m. and stayed at school until 8.00 a.m. on Saturday morning for the first 'Overnight Experience' at St. Teresa's School. This initiative was linked to the focus of 'Dignity of the Human Person'; a theme running across this term's curriculum.

The children had a simple supper of biscuits and hot chocolate. The twenty-eight children from Year 3 and Year 4 who joined us slept on mats, in sleeping bags or under blankets and duvets in the hall; this was to reflect finding shelter indoors. The thirty Year 5 and Year 6 children made temporary shelters from large pieces of cardboard and slept outdoors on the grassed area by the playgrounds. In the morning, breakfast was toast and water. This

experience was to enable the children to gain an understanding and empathy for the challenges facing the homeless.

The children who participated were amazing. They embraced the opportunity fully and despite the hardship behaved wonderfully. Thank you to the parents and carers who allowed their children to participate. A particular thank you to the staff who led the event; Miss Walk, Miss Gold, Miss Gibbon, Mrs Allport, Miss Bennett and Miss Foster joined me to give the children this unique insight to the life less fortunate people lead.

### Wednesday Word

This week, the children in the Junior classes should have received a copy of the Wednesday Word. Please do make time to consider the term 'Trustworthy' from this weekend's gospel. We will reflect on this gospel reading at Monday morning's assembly.



### Playleaders

On Wednesday, twelve Year 5 children; went out of school for training to become Playleaders. Thank you to Mrs Keogh for taking the children to this event. The group were a credit to the school and have diligently taken on the responsibility of helping the Infant children to play at dinner times.

### Parents' and Carers' Briefings

Thank you to the parents/carers of Reception and Year 1 who attended the Parents' Briefings this week. I hope that the briefings have been useful and given you an insight into the year ahead as well as getting to see your child's new classroom. Thank you also to the staff involved in these briefings.

### Grateful and Generous

This half term the two Virtues that will be a focus for us and the other Catholic schools in the Archdiocese of Birmingham are to be Grateful and Generous.

We are growing to be grateful for our own gifts, for the gift of other people and for the blessings of each day; and to be generous with our gifts for others.

These Virtues lend themselves very well to the Overnight Experience noted above. Those involved are, I hope, grateful for their blessings. Next, come the generous aspect.

### Year 6 School House Captains and Vice-Captains

This morning, children from Year 6 met the children of Years 2 to 5 from their own house teams. Some of the Year 6 children made speeches to persuade the children in their house team to vote for them as house captain and as vice-captains. The children then had the opportunity to vote - an example of democracy in action. The elected



representatives are; St. Matthew: Umayer and Prince, St. Mark: Nikola and Rosa, St. Luke: Sam and Adan and St. John: O'Shae and Ruben. Congratulations to those children on the election to these roles.

### **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 Abbie, Madison, Victoria, Jacob, Carlisle and Kacper who joined me for lunch today.

### **Attendance and Punctuality**

Well done to Reception and Year 3 who were the best attending classes last week with 99.2% attendances. Congratulations to the most punctual classes last week; Year 2, Year 3 and Year 6. Each of these classes had no children late to school throughout the week.

### **MacMillan Coffee Morning**

Next Friday, there will be a Coffee morning for MacMillan Cancer Support at school. All parents, carers and parishioners are welcome. We are asking you to send in cakes and biscuits for the coffee morning. The school will provide the teas and coffees. Please bring in any cakes/biscuits from next Monday onwards.

Children may wear their own clothes next Friday; ideally to include something green which is the colour associated with the MacMillan cancer charity. We are asking that a donation of £1 is made for each child for which they may wear their own clothes, have a cake, or cakes if enough are donated, and a drink. If you are unable to attend you are welcome to make a donation at the school office in support of this worthwhile cause.

### **School Fund**

Thank you to the twenty-one families who have so far responded to the request for a contribution of £20 from each family for School Fund, also known as the Building Fund. School Fund can be paid in full to the office or through Parent Pay. Cheques are to be made payable to 'St. Teresa's Catholic Primary School'. If you pay by cash please put it in an envelope labelled as 'School Fund' and the family name.

### **Coats**

This week there have been a number of children who have come to school without coats. Whenever possible at break times and during dinner times the children will be outside. Please be aware that the weather forecast next week is that it is to be cooler and wetter. Please ensure that children have a coat, with their name in, with them from next week.

### **Found**

Last week, an amount of foreign currency was found on the playground at the end of a school day. Please contact the school office if you lost such an item.

### **Baby Cecilia**

Congratulations to Mia and Matthew and their family on the birth of Cecilia on 15<sup>th</sup> September. Mia and Matthew are very proud of their sister.

### **Dates for the Diary**

- Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> September at 3.30 p.m. - Year 3 parent/carer briefing in Year 3 classroom.
- Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> September at 9.00 a.m. - Mass in school. All are welcome.
- Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> September at 3.30 p.m. - Year 4 parent/carer briefing in Year 4 classroom.
- Friday 27<sup>th</sup> September from 9.00 a.m. - MacMillan Coffee Morning. Children may wear their own clothes; ideally to include something green.

D. Corkery

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