



St. Teresa's Catholic Primary School Newsletter Friday 1st October 2021

Little Flowers Growing and Giving Glory to God

MacMillan Cancer Support

Thank you to all who donated money last Friday during our 'green' themed day for MacMillan Cancer Support. Several families donated far more than the £1 requested. You have raised £250 for this cause.

Visit to Kingswood Activity Centre

Last Friday afternoon, a group of Year 5 children; Laura, Maria M, Maria S, Amrit, Soyini, Rylei and Amelia, accompanied by Miss Goupilliere, set off with other children and staff from eight of our Caritas Christi In Urbe schools; our family of local Catholic schools, to Kingswood Activity Centre in Staffordshire. The group had wonderful and memorable experiences throughout the weekend, returning to school on Monday afternoon. Thank you to Miss Goupilliere for giving up her weekend to take the children on this visit.

Year 4 visit to St. John's Church, Perry Barr

On Tuesday morning, Miss Gibbon and Miss Bennett took Year 4 to visit St. John's C of E Church, Perry Barr. As expected, this class proved to be worthy ambassadors for our school. Well done and thank you Year 4.

St. Teresa's Feastday

To mark St. Teresa's Feastday, in celebration of our parish and school's patron saint the children were able to wear their own clothes to school today. The children in the Year 5 and Year 6 classes walked to St. Teresa's Church to be part of the 10.00 a.m. parish mass. Thank you to the staff involved for taking the children to church and returning them safely back to school.

Photographs

On Tuesday 12th October, the school photographer will be in school. If you have a pre-school aged child and would like a photograph of him or her with your children who are at school please bring your children to the school office from 8.30 a.m. If you do not wish your child or children to have photographs taken please inform the school in writing.

Online Free School Meals & Pupil Premium Checking Service

Registering for free school meals and pupil premium funding could provide additional funding for St Teresa's school. This additional money is available from central government for every child whose parent is receiving one of the welfare benefits listed in the form, which was forwarded to you earlier in the week. Please sign up for free school meals, even if your child is in Reception, Year 1 or Year 2, so that St Teresa's school receives as much funding as possible.

St Teresa's have enrolled in a scheme to enable you to check online to see if you are eligible. It is a very simple and easy process at the following website: <https://www.cloudforedu.org.uk/ofsm/birmingham>. Alternatively, please complete and return the application form and we will check for you.

If you have any questions or queries, please do not hesitate to contact Mrs Connell or Mrs Guest in the school office.

Attendance and Punctuality

Well done to Year 4, which was the best attending class last week with a 97.3% attendance. Congratulations to the most punctual classes for last week, which were; Year 4 and Year 5. Each of these classes had one children late being registered in school.

School meals

Next week is Week 2 of the menu choices. The menu for the first half of the Autumn Term is on the School Dinners page on the school website which is at: <https://www.stteresa.bham.sch.uk/parents-info/school-dinners>

Catholic Life

The Wednesday Word, linked to the gospel readings at this weekend's masses, is available on the 'Home' page of the school website. The theme for this weekend is 'Openness'.



Eloquent and Truthful

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.

Confirmation

Bishop Evans will celebrate the Sacramental Rite of Confirmation on Tuesday 30th November, at 7.00 p.m. at St. Teresa's Church.

A letter has been sent out to parents of children in Years 5 and 6, who have been baptised in the Catholic Church. Parents have been asked to complete the reply slip and return it to school by next Wednesday 6th October. In due course, we will send out information about parents meetings, additional preparation for the children and details about the Sacramental Mass.

As part of Confirmation preparation all of the children in Years 5 and 6 will be going to St. Mary's Convent for a day retreat next week.

Prayers Bags

Each class has been provided with a Prayer Bag. Inside the bag you will find a yellow book which offers suggestions about how to use the Prayer Bag at home. The Prayer Bags will be sent home to a child on a Monday each week and we ask for that child to return it on a Friday. The prayers written by the children will be shared with the children in the classroom.

Birmingham City Council Special Educational Needs and Disability Webinars

Birmingham City Council are leading webinars on different aspects of Special Educational Need and Disability (SEND). If they are of interest, please click on the link below. Further information can be found on the attached leaflets.

SEND and Welfare Benefits webinar:

Monday 18th October 10.30 a.m. - 11.30 a.m. <https://www.localofferbirmingham.co.uk/product/send-welfare-benefits-update-18th-october-1030am/>

Monday 18th October 2.00 p.m. - 3.00 p.m. - <https://www.localofferbirmingham.co.uk/product/send-welfare-benefits-update-18th-october-2pm/>

Speech and Language Therapy: Supporting Speech Sounds webinar:

Wednesday 6th October 1.00 p.m. - 2.00 p.m. Early Years -

<https://www.localofferbirmingham.co.uk/product/speech-language-therapy-supporting-speech-sounds-early-years-6th-october-1pm/>

Primary Age - Thursday 7th October 10.00 a.m. - 11.00 a.m.

<https://www.localofferbirmingham.co.uk/product/speech-language-therapy-supporting-speech-sounds-primary-age-7th-october-10am/>

Unwell children

Please be aware that if a child is unwell with either vomiting or diarrhoea, then they are not to return to school for 48 hours after the last bout. Many thanks in anticipation of your support in keeping all in school safe and well.

Welcome

Welcome to Andreea who joined our school at the start of this week.

Dates for the Diary

- Tuesday 5th October - Year 5 visit to St. Mary's Convent, Handsworth.
- Wednesday 6th October - Year 6 visit to St. Mary's Convent, Handsworth.
- Tuesday 12th October - Wrates Photography in school to take individual and family school photographs. Should any parent/carer not wish their child/children to have their photograph taken please inform the school office staff; Mrs. Connell or Mrs. Guest.
- Wednesday 20th October - Year 3 visit to Singers Hill Synagogue.
- Thursday 21st October - Year 3 visit to Guru Nanak Synagogue.
- Sunday 31st October - Applications for secondary schools for current Year 6 children to be completed at <https://www.birmingham.gov.uk/schooladmissions>.
- Monday 1st November - Start of the second half of the Autumn Term

D. Corkery

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