



*"Created by God to love and learn"*

## NEWSLETTER 4 2018-2019

14.10.18

School's  
Attendance

95.1%

We have had another eventful two weeks at school. Last week we had our open days where we opened our school to potential parents who may wish to send their children here. The overall feeling was positive, and everyone was impressed by what they saw. It was also great to see our E-safety evening so well supported by parents and we hope you took some valuable information away with you to help keep your children safe when using technology. Years 1 and 2 visited Bristol Zoo on Thursday of last week. Their behaviour impressed all adults on the trip and everyone had a great time. I know that providing this real-life experience has inspired the children with their writing.

This week started off with our annual conker competition which was won by Vincenzo, a Year 5 child. Following the harvest assembly, St James' Priory collected the kind donations of food and they were very grateful for what they received. We also held our autumn round of Mathstermind to help raise the profile of the importance of rapid recall of their multiplication tables. This event was the closest Mathstermind yet, as it was tied with four children scoring 10. The winner was the person who had the least incorrect answers and fewest passes. Congratulations to all those who took part and the overall winner Jayden from Year 4.

Mr Isaacs

Here are the results from question 3 from the pupils' survey.

| 3. How fair is your teacher? |                  |                |       |
|------------------------------|------------------|----------------|-------|
| Always                       | Most of the time | Not very often | Never |
| 49%                          | 42%              | 6%             | 3%    |

This is no surprise to me with 91% of pupils agreeing that their teacher is fair or mostly fair. In school, we have policies to guide staff about how to deal with situations and incidents. This is, of course, regardless of who it is. In fact, through compiling this data, those pupils (who will remain nameless) who expressed their opinion that their teacher was not very fair or not fair, were names of children who were spoken to by staff on a regular basis for their poor choices in their behaviour, so I can see why they think and feel like this. What we have explained to the pupils, is that the code of conduct outlines our expectations and that it exists to support all pupils academically, socially and emotionally. It is unfortunate that a small minority of pupils do not always choose to follow these guidelines which then interferes with the education of others and is therefore why staff feel they must speak to them.



Again, Parent View is the platform where you can give your opinion about the school. Unfortunately, the last time I checked, there were only two entries. It was my hope, that most parents would have used this and would give the school some valuable information about the views of parents.

In preparation for cycling proficiency and to help promote safe cycling to school, Dr Bike are offering free bike checks to make sure that all bikes are in safe working order.



Dr Bike will visit on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> November 9:00am - 12:00noon. Please bring your bike to school, lock it in the cycle racks and inform the office that you wish to have your bike checked.

## Calling all 'green-fingered' friends.....

If you know anyone who has a passion for gardening, a few extra hours on their hands and would like to support the school, our 'courtyard' area would benefit from their attention.

Sadly, our 'courtyard' is starting to look overgrown and children are not using it as often as they could. With a few hours of effort, it will provide pupils with an extra outdoor space that they can once again use for class reflections. However, at the moment as it is slightly overgrown and disorganised, pupils tend not to choose it for their reflections.

If you do know someone, or would like to volunteer yourself, please speak to the ladies in the office who will be happy to help.

## School Matters!



**Attend Today, Achieve Tomorrow**

The school's overall attendance last year was disappointing at only 95.1%. This meant that, on average, every pupil had 9 days off from school. To help support parents and pupils with our drive

to improve the overall school attendance data, at the beginning of every term, we will send home attendance data for all pupils as well as celebrating pupils with an attendance over 96%. To support this, we have started to celebrate the class with the highest attendance each week and already the children are getting very competitive in trying to win the certificate.

Just to remind parents if you have not booked an appointment yet, next week is an opportunity to come into school, look at your child's books and speak to the teachers about your child's progress and work. At the meeting, you will also be given your child's targets that they are working on in class, so you can support them at home as well. Appointments can be booked through the school office.



Please remember each appointment is only 10 minutes – if you need longer, please arrange another meeting (at a later date) so you don't unwittingly overrun.

Many thanks to Mrs Scott who has managed to secure the services of a potter, to support the pupils next week with using clay to create either an authentic Roman oil lamp (for Key Stage 2 pupils) or an African pinch pot (for Key Stage 1 pupils). Hopefully, the pupils will enjoy their clay experience and be able to take their work home.



## Dates for your diary

|           |                  |          |  |
|-----------|------------------|----------|--|
| Monday    | 7 <sup>th</sup>  | January  | INSET Day 3 – School Closed  |
| Monday    | 25 <sup>th</sup> | February | INSET Day 4 – School Closed  |
| Monday    | 3 <sup>rd</sup>  | June     | INSET Day 5 – School Closed  |
| Tuesday   | 21 <sup>st</sup> | May      | Sports day   |
| Thursday  | 23 <sup>rd</sup> | May      | Sports day reserve   |
|           |                  |          |  |
| Tuesday   | 23 <sup>rd</sup> | October  | Parents' Evening 1 (4:00pm to 7:00pm)<br>PTFA Christmas card viewing and purchasing session.                                   |
| Thursday  | 25 <sup>th</sup> | October  | Year 6 Class Mass (9:30am)<br>Parents' Evening 2 (3:50pm to 6:30pm)<br>PTFA Christmas card viewing and purchasing session      |
| Monday    | 29 <sup>th</sup> | October  | Half Term  |
| Tuesday   | 6 <sup>th</sup>  | November | Individual Photographs   |
| Thursday  | 15 <sup>th</sup> | November | Year 5/6 Class Mass (9:30am)   |
| Wednesday | 21 <sup>st</sup> | November | School Open Day (tours at 9:30am, 11:20am and 2:00pm)  |
| Thursday  | 22 <sup>nd</sup> | November | School Open Day (tours at 9:30am, 11:20am and 2:00pm)  |
| Friday    | 23 <sup>rd</sup> | November | PTFA Film Club – letter to follow soon.  |
| Saturday  | 25 <sup>th</sup> | November | PTFA – Quiz Night (6:00pm)   |
| Friday    | 30 <sup>th</sup> | November | Year 2 Cake Sale (3:30pm)  |
| Tuesday   | 11 <sup>th</sup> | December | Key Stage 2 to Old Vic for Christmas Carol performance   |
| Wednesday | 12 <sup>th</sup> | December | Reception Class Nativity (2:30pm and 6:00pm)   |
| Thursday  | 13 <sup>th</sup> | December | Key Stage 1 (Years 1 and 2) Nativity (2:30pm and 6:30pm)<br>Year 4/5 Class Mass (9:30am)                                       |
| Tuesday   | 18 <sup>th</sup> | December | Christmas School Lunch<br>PTFA - School disco – letter to follow.  |
| Thursday  | 20 <sup>th</sup> | December | School Mass - St Augustine's Church (9:30am)<br>Key Stage 2 (Years 3, 4, 5 and 6) Christmas performance in the church (6:30pm) |
| Friday    | 21 <sup>st</sup> | December | Last Day of Term.  |
| Monday    | 24 <sup>th</sup> | December | Christmas Holidays   |
| Monday    | 7 <sup>th</sup>  | January  | INSET Day 3 – School Closed  |
| Thursday  | 10 <sup>th</sup> | January  | School Mass - St Augustine's Church (9:30am)   |
| Friday    | 11 <sup>th</sup> | January  | Year 6/R Buddy Cake Sale (3:30pm)  |
| Friday    | 18 <sup>th</sup> | January  | Year 6 class assembly  |
| Friday    | 25 <sup>th</sup> | January  | PTFA Film Club – letter to follow soon.  |