

Friday 2 December 2022

Dear parents and carers,



Assemblies

Over the next two weeks the children will be exploring the following themes:

Our Pilgrimage to the Manger – Prepare a Way! Like John the Baptist in the Sunday Gospel and the Pilgrimage Guides throughout the Ten Ten Year of Pilgrimage, this assembly inspires children that we too can become messengers sharing the good news.

Our Pilgrimage to the Manger – Let's Celebrate! Even though the Ten Ten Year of Pilgrimage is over, children will learn that our journey isn't! Being a follower of Jesus isn't always easy, but the rewards are well worth it. Our whole lives are a pilgrimage to heaven, with Jesus with us every step of the way!

Safeguarding - Please can you support school by ensuring that if your child is ill and absent from school that you phone the school office by 9.15am. To ensure that we are compliant with Safeguarding Policies if we are not notified and we are unable to contact you with the contact numbers you have provided to school then staff may need to undertake a home visit. Please support us by informing us of absence. Following up absences and carrying out unnecessary home visits are taking staff away from other tasks unnecessarily.

I thank you all in advance for your support in this matter.

Dates for Diary

7/12/22 - Christmas Lunch
8/12/22 - Gardeners and Seeds (Rec & Y6) Visit to the crib at Church (PM)
13/12/22 - Nativity – Parents – (9:30am & 1:45pm)
15/12/22 - Party Day Lunch Party Afternoon
16/12/22 – Finish for the Christmas holidays (1.30pm)

Letters sent home

Year 5 – Staffing update
Year 6 – Staffing update

Punctuality/Attendance

School doors open at 8.50am and close at 9.00am for the start of the school day.

Well done to Year 1 who led a beautiful Share and Shine Assembly in school last week. This will be available on their class page on the school website for parents to see. Thank you Year 1.

We have had a very busy time in school since the last newsletter with trips out and visitors coming into school. Below are some of the wonderful things the children have enjoyed taking part in!

Two weeks ago Year 3 visited the beach at Lytham St Annes to learn about the effect of human and physical geography on the coastal environment and what we can do to protect it. They learned about how tides work and formed a mini sand dune to investigate how they act as a sea defence. The children saw the impact that different materials have on the environment and wildlife and found out how long plastic takes to break down. Well done year 3, you were amazing and we are all very proud of you.

Last week Year 1 became toy experts as they took part in a drama workshop that brought toys from the past hundred years to life. They found out about teddies, dolls and moving toys by using their bodies and voices and even invented their own original toy. Year 1 loved the workshop and enjoyed learning about even more toys!

Last Thursday Reception, Year 2 and Year were lucky enough to take a trip into the 'Wonderdome'.

Reception class learnt how you get to space. The children were able to name the parts of a rocket and learnt that the sun is a star and we go around the sun. The children talked about the planets, how many there are and their names. The children were well behaved and able to answer all questions they were asked. Well done Reception class.

Year 2 Wonderdome experience was linked to their topic 'Explorers' and the children could share their knowledge all about Neil Armstrong. They watched a real-life rocket launch and embarked upon a trip around our solar system. They recognised many planets and discussed why the climate of Earth makes it such a perfect place for us to live!

Year 5 had a great time learning about our solar system in the Wonderdome! They visited each of the 8 planets of our solar system and talked about how each of them is very different in size and what they are made out of. They learnt that we are part of a galaxy called the Milky Way and that at some point in time, our galaxy will collide with another one! We finished by looking in more detail at the moon and how we are looking at creating a moon base there soon. Did you know that it is easier for us to launch a rocket on the moon than on Earth due to the weaker gravity?

The football team have been busy over the last few weeks playing in a league match against Boarshaw last week winning 5-1, and then a Clayton Cup game against Bowlee winning 4-2 this week. Thank you for displaying good sportsmanship throughout all games. Thank you Mr Whiteside for supporting the team.

Many children in the UK are entitled to free schools meals but often parents are not aware that they are eligible or they choose not to claim their entitlement. The school can claim Pupil Premium funding for every child receiving their free school meal entitlement. This additional funding helps us provide a wider range of opportunities and learning experiences for your child. For more information about free school meals please visit the RMBC webpage: <http://www.rochdale.gov.uk/schools-and-education/Pages/free-school-meals.aspx>

The Lighthouse Project in Middleton are collecting for their Christmas Toy Appeal. If you are able to donate a new toy to support families this Christmas please send it into school by Friday 9 December. The Lighthouse Projects supports families in our community and throughout Middleton.

'St John Fisher RC Primary School Uniform Swap' has now been established - this is where good condition donated school uniform can be swapped or can be purchased for a small donation to school funds. The aim is to save parents money and also ensure that school uniform that is still in good condition does not go to waste. If you would like to swap or purchase any uniform please call at the school office.

School Uniform - We have a school uniform because it looks smart, wears well and contributes to a sense of belonging to St John Fisher RC Primary School. Please ensure that the school policy is kept with regard to school uniform. Black shoes/trainers (no other colours) must be worn in school and nail varnish must not be worn to school. Please support school in ensuring that all children come to school looking smart.

Christmas Services at St John Fisher RC Church and Our Lady of the Assumption, Langley

St John Fisher

Christmas Day: Mass at 9:15am

Our Lady of the Assumption

Christmas Eve: 5pm

Christmas Day: Mass at 10:30am

School Fund

We are now attempting to raise £4,000 for computing equipment and library books. Please support PTA events. Thank you for everyone who supported Chocolate Bingo we raised £705 for school funds. Thank you to Sophie's Mum for coming to help. Raffle tickets for Christmas hampers went on sale this week - £1 per strip of raffle tickets. This raffle will be drawn on Monday 12 December. Please support us with this raffle if you can.



We have raised £2061 so far this year. Our target is £4,000.

PTA - As always, we are incredibly grateful for your ongoing support of school and the generous monetary contributions you make to school. We understand that it is a difficult financial time, however this is why it is more important than ever to raise funds for our wonderful school.

As such, we hope to provide a varied calendar of fundraising events this academic year. However, this cannot be done without your help. We hope that many of you will be able to join us in running and helping to deliver these events. We will need at least 2-3 parents per event to help. If you are interested in volunteering for any of these fundraising efforts, without obligation, please register your interest by emailing PTA@st-johnfisher.rochdale.sch.uk

We have arranged the following events for this year:

9/2/23	PTA Meeting (5.30pm)
9/2/23	KS1 Disco (6-7:30pm)
2/3/23	KS2 Disco (6-7:30pm)
9/3/23	Movie Night (until 5pm)
24/3/23	Chocolate Bingo or Quiz Night (6pm)
18/5/23	PTA Meeting (5.30pm)
25/5/23	Possible date for PTA Summer Fair (3.30-5.30pm)
15/6/23	KS1 Disco (6-7:30pm)
20/7/23	KS2 Disco (6:00-7:30pm)

Please remember that if you have any worries or concerns we are here to help. Please feel free to speak to a member of staff if you have a worry or a really good idea. Your child's class teacher is available at the start and end of the school day. We are an open school and the children benefit from the special partnership we have with parents and carers.

School closes Christmas holidays at 1.30pm on Friday 16 December. School re-opens on Wednesday 4 January October at 8.50am.

Please keep informed of future events within school via our school website www.st-johnfisher.rochdale.sch.uk as this has the most up to date information. We will continue to share our in- school activities via Twitter @st-johnfisher.co.uk and Facebook page.

Best wishes

Mrs N Hadfield

Our Mission Statement

Love Jesus, love learning,

Inspiring each other to be the best that we can be.