



**St. John the Baptist**  
Catholic Primary School

*We will prepare the way by loving, living and learning with the Lord*



"In the beginning the Word already existed; the Word was with God, and the Word was God" John 1:1

# Newsletter

This half term's virtues are:

Friday 04.09.20

*Curious*

*and*

*Active*

## Happy New School Year!

We have been thrilled with the way our children have returned to school this week, after such a long period of time for some. They are all so happy to be back; full of enthusiasm and have been very sensible in supporting our safety systems and restrictions. It's so lovely to see everyone back; to hear laughter and to re-establish routines, now let's get back to teaching, learning and preparing for a bright future!

### Staggered School Day Start and Finish Times

Thank you to all families who have supported us this week. We realise that there are certain entrances to our school site that can become a 'bottleneck' and are therefore less than ideal. After receiving constructive feedback, we have already adjusted our original plans and we will continue to do our best to ensure the safest possible environment for everyone. It really will support this goal if you could arrive to the school gate at your child's allotted time.

**Turning up early, or arriving late is the main reason why we have had some gatherings of parents that could possibly compromise people's ability to socially distance. If we all do our bit, we can collectively make St. John's as safe as it can possibly be.**

### Healthy Snacks

At present we are not receiving our usual delivery of fresh fruit for break time snacks. You are welcome to provide your child with an alternative snack but we ask that these are in line with our Healthy Eating Policy. Therefore, please only choose: fresh fruit, low sugar cereal bars, dried fruit bars, or portions of dried fruit. Chocolate and crisps are not an appropriate school snack. Thank you for your support in this matter.

## Dates for your Diary

### Monday 19th October

All day - Inset Day (school closed to children)

### Friday 23rd October

2.00pm - Break up for October Half Term

### Monday 2nd November

8.55am - Children return to school

### Friday 18th December

2.00pm - Break up for Christmas Holiday

### Monday 4th January

All day - Inset Day (school closed to children)

### Tuesday 5th January

8.55am - Children return to school

**Please see below for start and finish times:**

| Year Group  | Start Time | Finish Time | Entry/Collection Point |
|-------------|------------|-------------|------------------------|
| Early Years | 9.00am     | 3.00pm      | Key Sage One Gate      |
| Year One    | 8.55am     | 3.15pm      | Key Stage One Gate     |
| Year Two    | 8.50am     | 3.10pm      | Key Stage One Gate     |
| Year Three  | 8.45am     | 3.05pm      | Key Stage One Gate     |
| Year Four   | 8.50am     | 3.10pm      | Key Stage Two Gate     |
| Year Five   | 8.45am     | 3.05pm      | Key Stage Two Gate     |
| Year Six    | 8.55am     | 3.15pm      | Key Stage Two Gate     |

## ***Birthdays***



Happy birthday this week to: Ini A, Kai A, Abbasyn H, Elisha I, Jacob K and Georgie C.

# Arrangement - reminders

## PE Arrangements

Children will participate in taught physical activity twice a week but must only come to school in their PE kit for the day when they have PE with Coach Steve or Coach Hale, the days are as follows:

|             |           |
|-------------|-----------|
| Early Years | Wednesday |
| Year 1      | Tuesday   |
| Year 2      | Wednesday |
| Year 3      | Wednesday |
| Year 4      | Tuesday   |
| Year 5      | Friday    |
| Year 6      | Tuesday   |

## Friday End Times

We have resumed our 2pm end of the school day, however to assist with social distancing and keeping our bubbles separate we are asking that these times are adhered to:

From Early Years/Key Stage 1 gate:

|        |                      |
|--------|----------------------|
| 1.55pm | Early Years & Year 3 |
| 2pm    | Year 2               |
| 2.05pm | Year 1               |

From Key Stage 2 gate:

|        |        |
|--------|--------|
| 1.55pm | Year 5 |
| 2pm    | Year 4 |
| 2.05pm | Year 6 |

Thank you for your cooperation with regards to this.



## Reception

Reception class have settled well into the EYFS setting. The children bounced back into class on Wednesday morning and it was wonderful to see their cheerful, smiling faces!

They have spent their first few days getting to know the different learning areas and having lots of fun! We're really looking forward to the rest of the year.



## Year 1

The children have settled back well and have adapted to the new rules with ease.

They are enjoying the activities and being together again. Well done Year 1, we are proud of you.



## Year 2

It was really wonderful to welcome back so many excited Year 2 children this week. As a class they have settled back in really well and quickly adapted to the changes put in place to help keep them safe. The children have had the opportunity to explore their new role play and reading areas in the classroom which I hope they have told you all about.

We have also done lots of different indoor and outdoor activities including; scavenger hunts, creating a class charter with our class rules, drawing pictures for another person to show we care, reading to an adult, sharing our thoughts and feelings, active learning through imoves and counting during active maths. I hope the positive attitude shown by the children this week will continue throughout Year 2 to ensure we have an enjoyable and rewarding year.





## Year 3

Year 3 have settled into life in Juniors extremely well. I am pleased with how they have adapted into being in the classroom and working hard after such a long break.

This week we have enjoyed meeting Loz the worry monster and recreating some art work after studying Charlie Mackery's 'The Boy, the Mole, the Fox and the Horse.' Well done Year 3.



## Year 4

Year 4 have had a very busy start to the new school year! On Wednesday we explored our new topic, 'Roman Rule'. We created some fantastic mosaics for the front of our Topic books, taking some inspiration from some very intricate designs. We then explored some Roman architecture, using marshmallows, biscuits and icing. As you can imagine, this got a little messy, but it was worth it because we got to eat our masterpieces!



Our busy week continued as we started to think about ourselves. We took some time to appreciate our wonderful world, changing the lyrics from a very famous song by Louis Armstrong.

Take a look at some of our ideas! We also took part in some yoga, to help relax our minds and bodies. Some of us found this hard but it was good fun! We also looked at some important current issues and created posters to put around school to help others understand.



I see the wonderful fish  
Swimming in the pretty sea.  
The beautiful colours of the rainbow  
Shine upon me  
And I think to myself  
What a wonderful world!

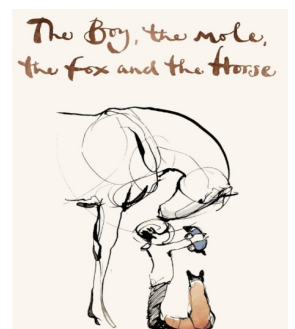
I see the pretty flowers  
Flowing in the wind  
Blossom trees  
Swaying in the breeze  
Daisies too  
For me and you  
And I think to myself  
What a wonderful world!

## Year 5

Year 5 have made an excellent start to the new term with high attendance and a really positive attitude. Everyone has enjoyed showing their number skills in lots of Maths games and has thought carefully about the messages in our new book, "The Boy, The Mole, the Fox and the Horse." Children are pleased to be back at school and are following the new routines well. They are not quite as pleased about homework starting next week.

## Year 6

Year 6 have had a successful and settled week after returning to school. We have used the book 'Here We Are' to create some creative, cosmic poetry. We have also used the book 'The Boy, The Mole, The Fox and The Horse' to discuss life aspirations, ambitions, friendships and personal goals. We did some role-play based around the concept of 'Conflict', looking at how we could use kind words and actions to find compromises and positive resolutions to situations. Our peer mediators were fantastic in sharing their knowledge and sentence starters to the rest of the class. Also, the children have planned to create some imaginative and powerful artwork next week based around a "motto to live by". Well done Year 6 for a positive start!



## Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time

*Christ Jesus, be with us now as we gather together in your name. Guide us in all that we say and all that we do, as we try to follow you.*

In this Sunday's gospel, Jesus encourages us to meet together in his name and says he will be with us.

### **Gospel: Matthew 18:15-20**

*"If your brother sins against you, go to him and show him his fault. But do it privately, just between yourselves. If he listens to you, you have won your brother back. But if he will not listen to you, take one or two other persons with you, so that 'every accusation may be upheld by the testimony of two or more witnesses,' as the scripture says. And if he will not listen to them, then tell the whole thing to the church. Finally, if he will not listen to the church, treat him as though he were a pagan or a tax collector.*

*"And so I tell all of you: what you prohibit on earth will be prohibited in heaven, and what you permit on earth will be permitted in heaven.*

*"And I tell you more: whenever two of you on earth agree about anything you pray for; it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three come together in my name, I am there with them."*

Jesus says that God listens to and answers our prayers. He says that He is there with us. It has been hard to meet together in person this year. But fortunately many of us have still been able to meet together through our computer screens. However, we meet people, in person or virtually, whether it's to pray, to learn, or to talk, or to do something else together, if we invite Jesus in, then He will be with us, listening to us and guiding us.



In the coming week, when you join together in Jesus' name with other people to pray or to talk, remember that all around the world others are also joining together in His name. Say a prayer for them: that everyone around the world may live happy and healthy lives, in peace and free from poverty.

*Christ Jesus, we thank you for being with us. Watch over us and all our sisters and brothers around the world. Help us to work together in peace and unity, so all people may live free from poverty. Amen.*

*Have a lovely weekend*

Headteacher: Mr.I.Gallagher

Arran Way, Smiths Wood, Birmingham B36 0QE

Telephone: 0121 770 1892 Fax: 0121 779 7177

Email: [office@sjb.solihull.sch.uk](mailto:office@sjb.solihull.sch.uk)

[www.sjb.solihull.sch.uk](http://www.sjb.solihull.sch.uk)

*I. Gallagher*

Mr I. Gallagher  
Headteacher