

ST. BEDE'S CATHOLIC JUNIOR SCHOOL

celebrating life and learning

17th January, 2020

REFLECTION NEW YEAR

In this new year I pray:

- To live deeply, with purpose,
 - To live freely, with detachment,
 - To live wisely, with humility,
 - To live justly, with compassion,
 - To live lovingly, with fidelity,
 - To live mindfully, with awareness,
 - To live gratefully, with generosity,
 - To live fully, with enthusiasm.
- Help me to hold this vision
and to daily renew it in
my heart, becoming
ever more one with
you, my truest self.



NEW YEAR

May the Lord watch
over you
and protect you.
May He give you his
peace,
every blessing and good
gift
this coming year.
Amen.

CELEBRATION OF LEARNING 6TH—17TH JANUARY THE EPIPHANY

On Sunday, 5th January, we celebrated the feast of the Epiphany. We heard of the Wise Men being guided through the darkness by the light of a star; we heard the star was a sign that led the Wise Men to Christ; we heard the revelation of God to Gentiles, not just Jewish nations, which points to the reality that Christ came for all people; we focused once again on the mystery that God revealed His very self in human flesh.

The prophecy is fulfilled as the Wise Man from the east journeyed to Bethlehem to worship the Christ child and offer Him gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh— gifts which reflected the kingly status of the newborn child. Like the Magi, over 2000 years before us, we offer worship and homage to Jesus Christ, God's gift of love to our world.

As the Christmas season has drawn to a close, may each of us throughout this new year, remain close to Christ. He who is forever the light of the world, the one who will not leave us in darkness, the one who guides all who follow in the ways of peace

Thank you to our parents/carers and family members who joined us on Monday 6th January to celebrate the Feast of the Epiphany as a whole school. What a wonderful way to start the new calendar year! We are blessed to have such a supportive school community who journey together.



WHAT MAKES A GOOD LEARNER?

During this fairly short half-term, the students of St. Bede's Catholic Junior School have been considering 'What makes a Good Learner'? Perhaps this is something that you could talk about at home as a family. How does a student know what they are doing well? What they could improve and how? What does progress look like?

There is Coffee Morning on Friday 24th January 8.15—9.00 a.m. for parents/carers, pupils and teachers to explore what makes a good learner alongside our School's Expectations of Respect, Love and Achieve. How are these interlinked?

CHILDREN'S CONFERENCE STEERING GROUP

On Friday, 17th January, Ruby O'Keefe and Joe Jackson were selected to represent St. Bede's Catholic Junior School at the Archdiocese of Liverpool's Children's Conference Steering Group. There are nearly 230 schools in the Archdiocese so it was a fantastic opportunity for Ruby and Joe to ensure that the voice of our students is heard across the Archdiocese. All pupils who attend will be collaborating with one goal in mind: to devise a Conference for children by children. Watch this space for further information from the Archdiocese Primary School Improvement Trust.



LOOKING FORWARD

20TH - 31ST JANUARY

ENRICHMENT WEEK (20TH - 24TH JANUARY)

Staff and students were delighted with the success of the first Enrichment Week in the Autumn Term, so look forward to all the activities next week.

The week will begin with a whole school assembly delivered by the NSPCC. Year 5 and 6 will have NSPCC Workshops throughout the day.

NSPCC



Year 3 and 4 will learn the skills required to play Quidditch... which is being filmed alongside pupil and staff interviews. Which class will catch the golden snitch?

Wednesday will see the whole school engaging in Design Technology with a focus on food! It looks like there will be lots of tasting and reviewing and designing and making (chopping, slicing, dicing, etc.) and finally evaluating. I wonder what tasty treats await us.



Thursday (Y3+4) and Friday (Y5+6) will see our whole school visiting Chester Zoo as part of our Curriculum Development Project on Conservation. The school will be focusing on different species which are at risk of extinction and will include, not only a tour of the zoo but also workshops.

Friday, 24th January, will be our first Coffee Morning of the new year. Everyone is welcome. It is proving to be a great way to start the weekend off and an opportunity to chat with other parents/carers and teachers in an informal setting. The staff all love to hear from our parents/carers so please consider using the online comments section on the school website. Comments and suggestions are discussed at the Parent/carer Working Party.

PAYMENT FOR SCHOOL MEALS

Please remember, school meals must be paid for, in advance, via the School Gateway app. This is because the school is charged, on a daily basis, by Halton Borough Council for every meal provided. As you will appreciate, if each outstanding payment of £2.50 is multiplied by the number of children who take a school dinner, the daily arrears could exceed £400.

In line with Halton Borough Council's policy, you will be contacted daily by the school office when arrears reach £12.50 (five dinners). A letter will also be sent on Wednesdays to any parent/carers whose account is in arrears, regardless of amount outstanding.

Whilst I realise that letters and telephone calls regarding smaller arrears can be seen as a nuisance I hope we can rely on your co-operation to minimise the work that this entails by ensuring that all payments are received in advance.

Please note that any child with an outstanding balance over £12.50, will need to be provided with a packed lunch, until the arrears are settled. If this is not the case, we will only be able to provide them with the HBC minimum requirement of a sandwich and a piece of fruit and you will still be charged £2.50.

If you think your child may be entitled to Free School Meals please click on the link below to register with Halton Borough Council

<https://www3.halton.gov.uk/Pages/EducationandFamilies/Schools/FreeSchoolMeals.aspx>

Once you have completed an application we will be able to check your child's status. The system will regularly check the status of all pupils not entitled to FSM so, if your circumstances change, the school will be advised without you having visit Halton Direct Link to make an application.