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NEWSLETTER

Friday 4th March

Inside this issue:

News

Confirmation

Swimming Gala

Year of Mercy

Attendance

Garden Project

Parish Message

Assessment

Dates for Diary

Parents Evening Slip

Year of Mercy

'24 Hours for the Lord'

There have been and will be a number of international days that have been organised to mark the Jubilee of Mercy. Friday 4th—Saturday 5th March has been named '24 hours for the Lord'

This is a day when exposition of the Blessed Sacrament will take place in Catholic churches

throughout the world. We had exposition this morning after mass until lunchtime. It was a time when

any child or adult could sit and pray quietly before the Lord. At the same time that we had Mass this morning, Corpus Christi

School had Benediction in Church—they took our class candles with them and put them on the altar to be blessed.

Exposition will take place at Corpus Christi Church from 7:00pm—8:00pm this evening and from 10:30am—5:00pm tomorrow Saturday 5th March. Anyone is welcome, at any time.



Good afternoon to you all; the sun is shining as I write this letter and dare I say it—does it feel as if Spring might be on the way? To begin this weeks newsletter I would like to express my thanks for the support you have shown the school and Robby's family at this time. By closing the school on Wednesday all the staff were able to attend the funeral as they wished. I know that Mr and Mrs Lebita greatly appreciated this and certainly the staff and I were very grateful for your support. Robby's funeral was an incredibly sad but peaceful and beautiful service. We will now continue to support Mr and Mrs Lebita and Annabeth in the difficult times ahead.

- 1 The past two weeks in school have passed by ridiculously quickly and have been packed full with many events and activities. Your children always bring a smile to our faces and commit themselves 100% to whatever it is we are doing, Mass, lenten activities, swimming galas, trips, assemblies, sacramental
- 2 preparation, sponsored walk and lesson activities.
- 2 Many thanks to Year 5 who prepared a lovely Mass this morning and Year 6 who organised Lenten activities this afternoon, well done to Year 4 who launched Lenten activities last Friday and did a sterling job in starting us off—they raised £359 in one short afternoon—amazing.
- 2 Well done to Year 3 who presented Mass last Friday and also came with their parents for a sacramental preparation meeting which was thoughtful and reflective.

+ Year 5 had an excellent trip into Birmingham city centre last Thursday visiting some of our main city buildings and Year 2 had a brilliant day at Kingsbury Water Park this Tuesday.

For me, one of the many highlights in the past two weeks was the sponsored walk yesterday—there is nothing like letting 210 children loose on a field together to walk and run round and round whilst chatting and genuinely enjoying each others company—it was lovely—if a little muddy!

Confirmation

We celebrated the Sacrament of Confirmation last Sunday 28th February. Bishop Byrne came to the parish and confirmed 20 of our Year 6 pupils and two children of the parish, Ben and Nohsnoji. It was a lovely occasion, the church was full and the children were fantastic. The Year 6 children led us throughout the Mass, the Bishop was most complimentary about the school.

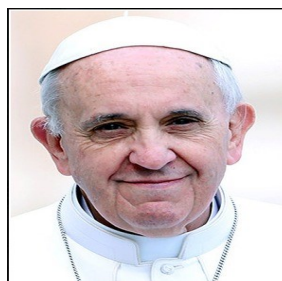
Congratulations to Lauren NC, Casey, Lauren B, Yasmen, Keanan, Arianne, Macy, Edward, Niall, Ryleigh, Samantha, Julianna, Ross, Clíodhna, James, Joseph, Keira, Marley, Dainis and Michaela. Thank you to Kieran, Lewis, Zahra and Dhanyall who came to support their friends on the day.

Many thanks to all the staff and children and families who came to support our Year 6 children, the singing was fantastic and it makes me so incredibly proud on these occasions when the children are so well supported. Thank you.

Swimming Gala

Last Saturday 27th February, Mrs Baker took St Cuthbert's Swimming Team to the annual gala. The children were complimented on their behaviour and the effort they put in to all their events. It was a great evening. Congratulations to Arianne, Samantha, Joseph, James and Juliana from Year 6, Grace in Year 5 and Karl in Year 4 who represented our school so well. A special well done to Joseph who reached the finals of the boys freestyle—a fantastic achievement.

I would also like to thank Mr Kelly, who organises and runs the whole competition, Mr Gallagher who was gallant in his role as scorer, and Mrs Baker who supported our school team.



A little bit of mercy makes the world
less cold and more just.

— Pope Francis —

AZ QUOTES

Attendance

Many congratulations to Jayden in Year 2 who won the attendance award this week and

Attendance Since September

96.01%

Weekly attendance: 22nd—26th February 2016

95.48%

Winning Class

Year 3—100%

Congratulations

PARISH MESSAGE FOR OUR CHILDREN'S FAMILIES

Dear Parents,

Father Paul, Father Michael and I would like you to know that we are having a special **SERVICE OF HEALING** in the Church on Tuesday 15th March at 7pm.

It is called **'COME TO THE CROSS'**. It will give you time for quiet prayer or just to light a candle for your family and have a chance to bring your worries and needs to God. Confession will be available for anyone who wants it.

All of us carry our own crosses – it could be ill health, unemployment, addiction, breakdown in relationships or any form of stress.

During Lent we can bring these to Jesus who died on the Cross for us because He loves us.

You are most welcome to come and receive a **BLESSING FOR PEACE IN YOUR LIFE.**

TUESDAY 15th MARCH at 7pm. God bless you and your families.

Sister Maureen

"Every saint has a past and every sinner has a future."

Pope Francis



Mrs Laidlaw's Garden Project—Design A Garden Competition

A little reminder that we are running a garden design competition for children to enter—entries should be in school by March 18th—they can be drawn, 3D models or designed on a computer!

Father Paul, with Year 3 and parents went into the courtyard to bless the area this morning and David Robinson from Up The Garden Path came into school today. He brought with him some design ideas for the garden and also drew the winning tickets from the Mother's Day Raffle organised by the Garden Team.

We are currently putting in some bids for funding and then we hope to move onto the next stages of the design and planning.

Assessment and Attainment

You may well be aware that in Primary education we are going through a period of change in the way in which your children are assessed in KS1 and KS2. The government introduced a new National Curriculum in September 2014 and they are starting the testing and outcomes on this curriculum this year. The standards are incredibly high.

In addition every primary school now has to assess each child against the National Curriculum and demonstrate that your child is making progress, whatever their need or from whatever their starting point. In the past 18 months we have researched, identified and started using an assessment system within school.

Next week I will be giving out information of the new format of assessment that we are using, introducing you to some of the terminology that we are now using and explaining how we assess your child. As always if you have any questions please come in and see me or ask your child's teacher at Parents Evening.

I don't mention assessment, standards and testing very often as it is only one part of all that we do for children in Primary Education but the changes that the government have implemented are vast and wide. They have raised the standards and will hold Primary Schools to account for their schools outcomes and results. It is a challenging situation for all involved - however I want you to know that your children will continue to receive the best education we can provide for them, including trips, assemblies, activity afternoons, health and safety weeks, dressing up days, Masses and fun times.

I hope over the next term, or so, to be able explain clearly to you all what is being asked of Primary Schools by the government and what we are doing about it.

Dates for the Diary

Tuesday 8th March—Year 3 Trip to Kingsbury

Tuesday 8th March—Year 2 and Year 5 Swimming

Wednesday 9th March—Reception Inspire

Thursday 10th March—Year 1 Assembly

Friday 11th March—Year 2 Mass

Friday 11th March—Year 5 Lenten Activities

Tuesday 15th March—Swimming Year 2 and Year 5

Wednesday 16th March—PARENTS EVENING

Friday 18th March—Year 4 Mass

Friday 18th March—Year 3 Lenten Activities

As you can see from our dates list we will holding a Parents Evening on Wednesday 16th March, attached to the newsletter is a slip for you to indicate whether you would prefer an early time 3:30—5:00pm or a later time 5:30pm—7:00pm. Please return these to school as soon as you can—we will be giving out appointment times next week.

Parents and families of Year 5 children your children will present their Easter Play for you on Tuesday 22nd March at 9:20am.

Yours Sincerely

Mrs Hobbs and all the staff