

St John's Catholic Primary School

Newsletter

Please remember to visit our website which is constantly being updated -
www.stjohnskirkdale.co.uk

Issue: June/ July 2016

Dear Parent/ Carer,

Welcome to our end of year Newsletter. I would like to thank you for your kindness and support. Your children are a real credit to you and we look forward to seeing you all in September.

Good Luck Year 6



Over the last 2 weeks Year 6 have had lots of fun and exciting outings, as a reward for working incredibly hard this year and we wanted them to leave St Johns with the very happiest memories. For example, children overcame their fears at Active Adventures at Otterspool climbing and abseiling. As well as team building and enjoyment in Bubbles Adventure Area, and then relaxing and making a splash at Bootle swimming pool.



All the staff and children in St John's would like to wish the Year 6 children a very special farewell and good luck on their new and exciting adventures towards secondary school. A special well done towards your attitude and behaviour this year in preparation for your SATs and the big move to your new schools. Many special memories have been made here in St John's over the years. However, it has come to that time to move on and make more memories. We want to wish you all the very best, you will do brilliantly in your new secondary schools and will be missed here at St John's Primary.

Don't forget to download Parents App

Windmill Farm

Year 2 had a wonderful day out at Windmill Animal Farm in Burscough. They enjoyed learning about the animals, feeding lambs, riding on the miniature train and having lots of fun in the play areas. As always, the children were a credit to St John's and their parents, and a great day was had by all!



Year 1 recently visited the Blue Planet Aquarium. We had lots of fun learning about sharks, stingrays and other sea creatures. We even had our photo taken with a statue of Jack Sparrow. Since our trip we have been busy writing our 'Fishy Factfiles' using all the interesting facts that we have learnt.

We are still collecting CAFOD money and our total so far is £237.52. Please return any outstanding monies before end of term! Thank you!

Attendance Awards



Attendance is an important feature of school life and we look forward to the assembly next week to present certificates and prizes to the best attenders including a 'Tablet' in a draw from the children who have an excellent attendance over the year. The children have enjoyed spending their 'piggy bank' money accumulated over the year when their class achieved 97% attendance or better. They chose to spend it on a variety of events such as a McDonald's / KFC lunch or a cinema trip depending on how much was collected.

WELL DONE!!!



Nursery – Knowsley Safari Park Trip

Nursery enjoyed a fun packed visit to Knowsley Safari Park. They learned about different species and what they need to live, and even got to see a giant snail! The children met 2 sea lions who could balance balls on their noses and jump through hoops far above the water. They also saw lots of birds of prey close up, such as owls and eagles. The final part of the day was a leisurely drive through the Safari Park, enjoying close views of rhinoceroses, ostriches, zebras, and very sleepy lions!

Reception had a wonderful day out at Martin Mere. We enjoyed pond dipping, finding out about flamingos and we even did a flamingo dance! We finished off with a lovely time in the play area and came home tired but happy!



Remember:

School closes 19th July 2016 at 3.15pm

Metropolitan Cathedral



On the 17th June, Year 5 visited the Metropolitan Cathedral to celebrate the year of mercy and take part in a pilgrimage of mercy, starting at the Holy Door. They participated in many discussions as they were shown around the Cathedral. Those working for the Cathedral were very impressed with the children's knowledge and understanding and the interesting questions that they asked. Additionally, the children were praised for their exemplary behaviour and respect. Year 5 were specially chosen to participate in this pilgrimage, as they will have the opportunity to create their own Holy Door at St. John's.

A visit from our friends in Notre Dame

Notre Dame recently brought their school chaplaincy group to visit our school 'Faith Friends'. It was nice to share ideas about how we can work together on our Faith journey. Our school 'Faith Friends' have also been busy designing our new Faith garden.



Our school Faith Garden.

Our Faith garden is now open and the children and staff are really enjoying using it for Collective worship.



Hinduism week

During our Hinduism week we had a visitor, Prags, from the organisation Cultural Educ-Asian. All the children took part in a Hindu dance workshop. She talked about Hinduism as a way of life. Lots of fun was had by all and we can't wait for next year.



St. Joseph's Prayer Centre

On Tuesday 16th and Wednesday 17th June 2016, Year 3 went to St. Joseph's Formby on a retreat with Father Michael. We played lots of team building games and thought about the qualities needed to be a good friend. Afterwards, we made little creatures which featured key words describing the qualities we would like in a friend. We even had some time to play on the sand dunes! At the end, we had the chance to write our own prayers, which we shared with the rest of the group.



Knowsley Safari Park

On the 6th and 7th of July, Year 5 went to Knowsley Safari Park. They had a fantastic day full of lots of activities! The boys and girls particularly enjoyed the safari drive on the bus as we got close to many different animals. At one point our bus had to stop to allow two lionesses to cross the road. Our tour guide called us 'lucky charms' as all of the animals came out to see us. We also enjoyed the Sea Lion show and the Birds of Prey show – both were very talented animals.



Dance Club children performed at Show Night last week performing the dances they have learned over the last two terms, it was great to so many parents attending and enjoying the spectacle. Well done to all the children who took part.



Mrs Burns' Retirement

Mrs Burns, our Bursar, retires after a long and dedicated service to St. John's. Having been a past pupil, parent, governor, as well as bursar, she has been closely connected, and served our school for most of her life and she will be greatly missed. We wish her a long and happy retirement.



Year 4 Lighthouse Project

Year 4 have worked very hard over the last few weeks to design and build a lighthouse model, complete with a working circuit! The lighthouses are also made from recycled materials!



Reminder

School closes on Tuesday the 19th of July at 3.15pm.

We wish you all a happy and safe summer and look forward to welcoming you back to school on Monday the 5th of September at 8.55am.

Beat the Street



A huge thankyou to all the children for joining in the 'Beat the street' competition. We have done our school proud whilst having fun and staying fit - well done! Don't forget the competition continues until the 20th July...plenty of time to earn more points and climb the leader board.

Community Family Services

We are very excited to inform parents of a new Afterschool Club opening at St John's in September 2016. Community Family Services are an Ofsted Registered Childcare Provision with over 20 years experience. They will cater for children aged 4-11 and will be open Monday-Friday from 3.15-6pm. To book your child to attend please call Joanne or Janine on 0779 683 4146/ 07793 436 282. Please be aware that places will be limited.

A sad farewell to Father Michael



As you all know, Father Michael leaves us at the end of the summer. During his five years at St. John's, his hard work and commitment has been phenomenal. He will be greatly missed but we wish him the very best of luck in his new role.

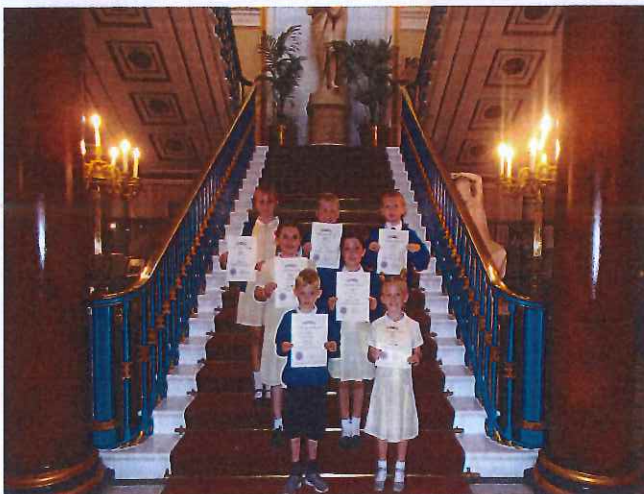
Connect Careers

Year 5 and 6 experienced two days working with Connex Careers looking at career opportunities, examining what areas of employment are 'available' and which might appeal. The children took part in a number of workshop activities which they found fun and interesting with a final session where the children had to present a business plan and present it to two employers who acted out a 'Dragon's Den' scenario.

The children also visited the Jaguar/ Land Rover factory in Halewood where they saw the robot technology in action and experienced the different job roles on site as they toured the working factory building the Evoke.

Finally the year 6 visited the Willmott Dixon building site on Great Homer Street to see how the building industry works and the many career opportunities there are through construction. The children were shown the real jobs of electricians, plumbers, plasterers etc alongside the planners and architects work.

This year's Aspiration Week has been a great success where our children have had an opportunity to be thoughtful about their future and possible careers at this young age.



School Council

Well done to all of the children who have been part of School Council this year. We have attended all of the meetings at Liverpool Town Hall for Schools' Parliament in which the children have participated in and thoroughly enjoyed.

They each received a certificate for their attendance and contribution.

Forget Me Not Coffee Morning

Thank you to all parents and staff who supported our coffee morning. An amazing £700 was raised for families of people living with dementia - a very worthy cause. Many thanks to Mrs Melia and Miss Moran who worked tirelessly to arrange the event.

