



Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School & Nursery

Newsletter No. 14

19 December 2017

Dear Parents,

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for making me feel so welcome this term. We certainly have been busy with our inspections but this has been good as it has confirmed where we are and where we are moving to in the future. Having spoken to some parents informally I have said that we will organise a couple of briefings next term where I can share with you my vision for Sacred Heart and talk to you a little about some of our foci and the strategies we are using in school to action these.

Thank you to all parents who were so very supportive and understanding about the snow situation at the beginning of last week. It was a shame that the two school trips weren't able to go ahead but we will be looking at alternatives. The weather didn't dampen our style though; once open 'we kept calm and carried on' and were fully entertained by our pupils over this last week. The infant Nativity was a true extravaganza and the children wowed us with their singing, acting and dancing. The costumes were dazzling and the message was clear, it was time to celebrate because Jesus was here! I was truly blown away by the confidence the children had in delivering their lines (without any prompts). It was a real pleasure and so I would like to thank everyone who was involved in producing such an excellent performance and a special thanks goes to Miss Grover for directing it.

On Thursday the Junior children had a beautiful Advent service and gave us much needed time to both celebrate and reflect on the Good News. They reminded us that Christmas is about the coming of the baby Jesus, our messiah and that we shouldn't get too caught up in the commercial side of the season. Thank you to all the team who prepared our classes so well. We enjoyed the singing and music very much and the orchestra were fantastic. Well done to Miss Zarandi for adding some pizzazz into the choreography but most importantly thank you to our Key Stage 2 pupils for putting Christ back to the centre of our thoughts this Christmas.

Many of the pupils then went to the INTU centre on Thursday evening to share their fabulous singing with the masses. This helped raise funds for Oxfam. The children were a credit as always as was our super Mrs Simpson who was on hand to guide them as always.

The school disco which FOSH organised on Friday was a real success and enjoyed by all who attended. Thank you to those who were involved in organising it and to the parents and staff who helped at the event too. This week has been equally fun as we have been entertained by Zoltan Koffer and our pupils who performed a show case of their talents on Monday afternoon in assembly. This morning Mrs CC led a wonderful assembly with the help of Year 6 and Mr Longman where they used puppets to tell the story of Mary. The audience was captivated. Then later the whole school, dressed in their finery with Christmas hats to boot, enjoyed a lovely Christmas dinner which was served by our brilliant staff.

I would like to end this term by informing you that we have received our RE Inspection back. For this Inspection you receive two separate grades. One for the Teaching and learning of RE and the other for the Catholic Life of the school. I am delighted to announce that we received a **GOOD** grading for the RE curriculum and an **OUTSTANDING** grade for the Catholic Life of Sacred Heart. There are one or two minor factual inaccuracies in the report so we are waiting for these to be changed before we can share the finished document with you. We will publish this early in the New Year and will evaluate some of the findings more. What we are so very proud of is how glowingly our pupils came through. To me this is the number one, most important aspect because if we have happy children then I know they will succeed.

Wishing you all a fabulous, relaxing and family fun filled Christmas and New Year.

Merry Christmas
Mrs Tregear



Christmas in a box

Thank you to ALL those who donated to disadvantaged children at Christmas. Very much appreciated.

School Photos

We have had some fabulous feedback about our school photographs this year. Thank you to Mary Hennessy for doing such a splendid job.

E-Safety

I am often shocked at how easy it is for our children to be exposed to inappropriate materials on devices. Even with what we think are the highest filters and parental restrictions it is unfortunately not difficult to come across something unsuitable. This might be through Google Images, You Tube or pop ups when on a game. I am horrified that devices do not come out initially when purchased with the highest fire walls so that our children are protected, but sadly this is not the case. Therefore I would urge you to check the settings on any devices your children may use.

We regularly teach our pupils about E-Safety and what to do if something inappropriate comes up. This is a topic I feel passionately about and something where I would like to facilitate a meeting for parents so that we are all aware of the sites that are suitable and those which may look like they are but are not! Attached to this Newsletter is some additional information on E-Safety. Please take the time to read this and discuss with your child what they should do if they experience being exposed to something online outside of school.

Reminders

Absences

Must be reported before 9.30am on the absence line after which time an unauthorised absence mark is recorded.

Manor Adventure

Continue paying in instalments.

Music Payments

Due for Spring term

Parking

Another complaint received this week. Again, we have to ask parents to be courteous to our neighbours and remember not to block driveways.

Dates for your diary

Dec

Mon 18 Dec YR/1 Retreat morning in school
Tues 19 Dec School finish for Christmas 1.15pm
Tues 19 Dec Christmas Dinner day at school (Children to wear Christmas jumper and bring a hat)

2018

Jan

Wed 3 Jan INSET day school closed
Thurs 4 Jan All children back to school
Fri 5 Jan **Game On Replacement session**

Shop Well For Less

I am a producer from the hit BBC One series *Shop Well For Less?*

We are currently casting for the third series and are on the lookout for fun and lively families and households to take part. This prime time series shows viewers how to spend without the splurge, helping to rein in spending but retain the lifestyle we all want.

Whether we're hooked by the exquisite whiff of a new pair of shoes, the shiny lure of the latest HD television, or the irresistible promises of beauty lotions and potions, one thing's for sure - as a nation we simply love to buy. With a few simple tricks, we can all learn to buy better and spend less. When should you save your money? And, just as crucially, when should you invest in spending a little bit more? This fun, surprising and perfectly practical series teaches us all the tricks of the trade we need to SHOP WELL... FOR LESS.

Smart spending is an issue which we believe affects most of us, especially with Christmas coming up! We'd be really grateful if you could help us spread the word about the new series. I've attached a flyer and wondered if you would be kind enough to share it with your staff members as well as the parents of your pupils to see if any of them would be interested in applying for the new series. If you think you know any families/households that may be interested in appearing on the programme, please do pass on our details.

If you have any questions, or would like me to send over any further information please pop me an email or give me a call on 0117 970 7670

We look forward to hearing from you

Kind regards,

Steph,

Nursery Open Morning Every Wednesday & Thursday Week commencing 15th January to 19th February 2018 Time: 10.00am

At Sacred Heart Primary School & Nursery we aim to create a happy and safe learning environment for students.

If your child was born between 1st September 2014 and 31st August 2015 and you wish to apply for a place in Nursery for September 2018 we have pleasure in inviting you to our open morning to see the school in action during an ordinary day.

The open morning is planned to give you information to help you make decisions regarding the transfer of your son or daughter to Nursery.

A school brochure, which includes an outline of the Admissions Policy, and an application form will be given out during the session. The Certificate of Catholic Practice form is available from your Parish priest.

To book your place telephone the school on 01923 493040 or email admin@sacredheart682.herts.sch.uk

