



Newsletter—November 2017



OUR JOURNEY OF FAITH

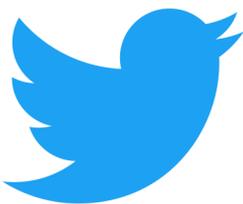
This week our children have had an opportunity to hear a message from Bishop Seamus about the importance of stillness and prayer. They have taken part in the Youth Friday assembly which all Catholic schools across our Diocese have shared. The theme of the assembly is "Yes! The Mighty One has done great things for me." - it focuses on Mary, who put her trust, faith and courage in God when asked to be the mother of Jesus. It provides us all with an opportunity to think about how we can follow Mary's example to do what we believe to be right. The message from Bishop Seamus is a beautiful one and you can view it on our website.

Over the coming weeks we will journey through Advent towards the joyful celebration of Christmas. Our children will have an opportunity—through their RE lessons, collective worship, the carols they will sing and the readings they will hear—to develop awareness of the importance of Advent as a time of preparation to welcome Jesus and celebrate his birthday on Christmas day. Please do share the Wednesday Word at home to support your family's journey of faith during Advent. Each child in our school will be bringing home an advent activity over the coming 4 weeks - further details from your child's teacher.



SCHOOL NEWS

It has been a very busy term so far with lots going on in school - we have had some really successful sporting activities - a football tournament, a tri-golf competition, sports hall athletics, Y2 sports' festival, - not to mention some wonderful school visits - Y3 visited the Dorman Museum to learn more about the Egyptians, Y4 visited Preston Park for a WW2 workshop, Y5 have visited Stewart Park to learn about Captain Cook and Y6 will shortly be visiting Beamish Museum for a Victorian Christmas experience. It is always wonderful to hear that our children are excellent ambassadors for our school when they are out and about and they make the most of the opportunities they have and ensure that everyone has a great time. Well done children.



Please remember to keep viewing our school website. We are now tweeting and you can follow us on Twitter to keep up to date with day to day events. Our Twitter address is [StPaulsRCPrimar](#). There are lots of photos in our gallery for you to see, as well as the latest news and calendar of school events.

WELL DONE YEAR 3

I received a very complimentary e-mail from Mrs Grainger who coached our Y3 swimmers this term. Year 3 were recognised as a delightful group of children who encouraged each other and achieved so much. Year 3 also led a wonderful Egyptian Museum Day in school which enabled them to share their learning and talents with their families - it was fantastic!

SAFE GUARDING AND PUPIL WELFARE

As you know we always strive to ensure that our children are safe at school and their well-being and safety is our utmost concern. Please could you take particular note of the following to support us:

- From time to time we recommend websites that children can access at home to support their learning. At school we have a fire-wall that would filter any adverts that are not appropriate for children - please check your settings at home or monitor your child's time on the internet to ensure they are not exposed to inappropriate content from adverts.
- We are aware that some of our older pupils in Y6 may walk to or from school by themselves and sometimes bring mobile phones with them. Phones must be handed into the school office for safe keeping. No child is allowed to have a mobile phone with them in school during the school day. If it is necessary for them to have a phone in school it is parent/carer responsibility to make this known to school staff so the phone can be kept safe during the day.
- We are happy to allow children to bring diluted juice to school in their water bottles. We would always encourage plain water but it is essential that children drink regularly during the day. Please try to ensure drinks are sugar free. We do not allow fruit juice, fizzy or sports' drinks.
- Please ensure that your child has a water bottle in school with them each day, whatever the weather.
- You will know that the field is now becoming wet and muddy due to the winter weather. Please can you ensure that your child uses the footpaths particularly when coming to school so we can avoid muddy shoes in school whenever possible.
- We still have several parents, grandparents and carers who are parking illegally and dangerously on Mill Lane despite many requests not to do so. It is for the sake of your children that we make this request so please do not park on the yellow lines.
- Please ensure that we are aware if anyone different is collecting your child from school. It is important that teachers know the adults who collect your child. From time to time it may be someone new; it is important that you notify the school office to let us know.
- Once again we are trying to find owners of school uniform - items such as jumpers, cardigans and even coats are beginning to accumulate - all of which are unlabelled. Please use a permanent marker pen to label your child's clothing.

CHRISTMAS IS COMING!

You will shortly be receiving a letter outlining arrangements for our Nativity Plays. The dates for plays and our Carol Service were on the October newsletter and are also on the website.

We have our Christmas craft fayre on Monday 4th December in the school hall. Details have been circulated.

Each evening from Monday 4th December to Thursday 7th December we have a book fair in school. Books will be on sale — commission from the sale of books will be used to support reading activities in school. Please come into school, via the main school door, any evening after school until 4pm.

Christmas Parties are on the following dates. On party day children may wear their party clothes all day. Teachers will request a contribution to a shared table of party food nearer the time. Any child with a food allergy will need to bring their own food—again teachers will talk to parents where necessary.

Year 3 and 4 party: Friday 15th December Year 5 and 6 party: Monday 18th December

Year 1 and 2 party: Tuesday 19th December Early Years Party: Thursday 21st December