

Newsletter

St. Anselm's Catholic Primary School

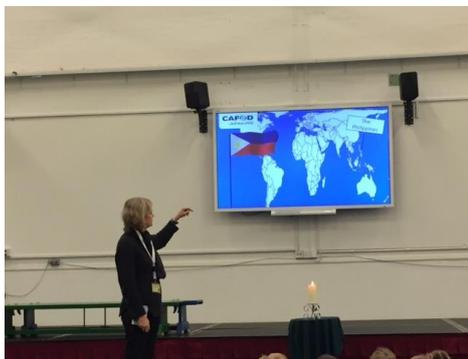


1/12/17

Dear Parents

Whilst it becomes increasingly festive and busy in school, it is important that we help the children to reflect on the true meaning of Christmas and to think about those less fortunate than themselves. I invited CAFOD into school this week to talk to the children about the work they are doing in The Philippines following the tornado in the summer. The assembly helped us all to think about the long term implications for the families who lost everything, and the invaluable work done by CAFOD to help them to rebuild their lives.

Following on from the assembly we have decided to send the proceeds of our Christmas Jumper Day to CAFOD. The children learnt how donations can be used to buy bricks and cement for families to rebuild their houses, and livestock to help them earn a living and get back on their feet. It would be lovely if the children to be encouraged to donate some of their own money.



Site security

In September an external consultant came into school to do a full review of our safeguarding arrangements. The outcomes were very positive with the report stating that '*...observations, discussions and scrutiny of documents indicate that policies, practice and procedures are highly effective. Staff are very aware of their responsibilities.*' However, there was one area of concern which is our site security. We had already identified this and had applied for funding from the diocese to address this. The main worry is that, when the front gate is open at the beginning and end of the day, there are five points of entry into the school building. Although the playground is supervised, it still leaves us vulnerable to anyone walking in off the street. Next week we will be having coded locks fitted to four of these doors so that the only point of access for anyone, other than staff, will be the door into the hall. Parents can continue to use this door to access the office. This improved security will also help us to better monitor children who are late as they will have to pass through the school office to get into the school building. There will be further improvements to our security over the coming year.

As you may be aware, our admissions arrangements were taken to the School's Adjudicator in August, following an objection to the adjudicator about the arrangements at Holy Ghost School. As a result of the adjudicator's determination we are required to change our admissions arrangements from September 2019. The main change focusses on giving priority to practising Catholic families who live in the parish rather than practising Catholic families who worship at St Anselm's Church. The governors have made the required changes and we now need to consult on these proposed arrangements. The consultation process starts today and information about this is now published on our website under 'admissions'. The consultation period will run until 31st January 2018.

As I write this, there is a frenzy of activity amongst the Year 6 parents as they prepare for the Senior Citizen's Christmas Party this afternoon. I've no doubt that it will be great success. Thank you to Year 6, and the reps in particular, for all their hard work and thank you also to all of you who have donated so generously.



Christmas Jumper Day

We will be taking part in Christmas Jumper Day again this year. Children may donate £1:00 to wear a Christmas jumper or accessory to school on Friday 15th December. All proceeds will go to CAFOD.



Do join us for our Advent Mass at 10:00am on Monday 4th December.

Best wishes

Hattie Elwes
Headteacher



Autumn Term Dates

December

4th Advent Mass - whole school
6th Y1 and Y2 Christmas play 2.15pm
8th After school clubs finish
Reception nativity 2.15pm
12th Christmas lunch
14th KS2 Panto 7.00pm
15th Christmas Jumper Day and Christmas fun afternoon
18th Talent show and parties
20th Mass
School finishes at 2.00pm

January

2nd INSET day
3rd Start of the new term