

ST. ANNE'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

FREE PRAE ROAD, CHERTSEY, SURREY KT16 8ET

Tel: 01932 562251 / 562366

e-mail: office@stannes-chertsey.surrey.sch.uk

www.stannescps.eschools.co.uk

Leanne M Harris B.A. (Hons)

Headteacher



22nd October 2020

Dear Parents,

As we close for the end of our first half term, I can't quite believe we are finally here. So much has happened since the beginning of term and so much to celebrate. It is important for us to take stock of what has been achieved in such a short space of time and applaud the hard work of every member of our community in order to achieve these great strides. Therefore, this letter stands as a celebration of what has been an unprecedented half term like no other!

Firstly, thank you to all parents for your commitment to making this work. Your patience, understanding and flexibility have enabled the staff and myself to focus on the prime role in hand, to serve the children. You have helped to keep our school community as safe as it can be by following procedures for drop off and pick up, as well as your co-operation on the wearing of face masks. You have supported my messages in regard to your child looking smart in their uniform and greeting people by name. This does not go unnoticed. Your commitment to the catch-up groups on the whole which have worked seamlessly. These will continue after half term and throughout the year with a new group starting w/c 23rd November. Your kind words of support either face-to-face or by email to staff means so much. The pupil, parent champions for their enthusiasm and drive to work with me to enhance the school for the children. I feel really blessed.

Then I turn to the dedicated staff who I work alongside every day. Words such as vocation, enthusiasm, flexibility, care, love and commitment are just a few to describe these people. This has been a whole new way of working for each of them but to which they have adapted very quickly to meet the needs of the children and always with love and a smile. What more can I ask for. A day doesn't go by when staff appear at my door with a new idea, way of working or suggestion to help and support one another and the children. They deserve a 'shout out' too and a well deserved rest next week.

Finally, but most importantly, our wonderful, talented, kind, hardworking and inspiring children. I spoke to them yesterday in our virtual collective worship about how proud I am of every single one of them. Their hard work and conscientious attitude to getting back into work surpassed my expectations tenfold. Our future will be something to look forward to when I look across the sea of faces at St. Anne's – we will be in safe hands with these children. They have a strong sense of right and wrong and a growing awareness of key values that will support them into adulthood such as respect, forgiveness, resilience. I did say to tell you that I have given them all permission to 'chill out' over half term - they need it and deserve it!

As we draw to a close, I spoke to the children about donations for Harvest Festival and in particular about how it is our collective responsibility to help others in need where poverty and hunger are a reality for other children near and far. Please take some time to look at the CAFOD website over the break with your child to reinforce this message.

<https://cafod.org.uk/Education/Primary-teaching-resources/Harvest-resources-children>

For further information on the way we use your data, please see the Xavier Catholic Education Trust Privacy Notice. This can be found on the Xavier Catholic Education Trust website in the About section under the list of Central Policies and Financial statements.

This week in classes, we have spent some time on 'Black History Month' with the children. Please do take the time to discuss with your child what they have learnt.

What I have seen this week on my daily tours:

- EYFS - working hard to write their names
- Rigorous phonics in Year 1
- Year 2 reading their Florence Nightingale text
- Year 3 have been working on an argument for whether they would like to live in the Stone Age
- Year 4 listening to the words of Martin Luther King and reflecting on them.
- Missing numbers with thousands in Year 5
- Baptism with Year 6 as part of a topic on vocation

Harvest Festival

Many thanks for all the wonderful contributions we received this morning for our Harvest Festival which make a magnificent display in our prayer garden. The Salvation Army will distribute your generous donations to those who need it most in our community.

Remote Learning Booklet

Attached is an updated version of the Remote Learning Booklet. It is important for everyone to have read this booklet which is also available on the school website.

RSHE (Relationships, Sexual and Health Education)

This became statutory from September 2020. As a Catholic school we consulted with parents regarding this 2 years ago but with some additions of 'Health Education'. There will be another period of consultation after half term. This will consist of a powerpoint presentation with key information on an updated policy and an opportunity to ask questions. More details to follow when we return.

Pupil Parent Champion Events

The team have agreed that our first mission will be toadstool seats to add to our prayer garden. In order to fund this all the children will be given a bucket and funnel after half term to collect as many coins as they can during the month of November. The winning class will choose the first locations of the toadstools. Please see attached flyer.

Tuesday 1st December will see the launch of our 'Christmas Wonderland' and there will be a competition to design a magical winter wonderland. If anyone can lend the school a large gazebo with windows for this event by Friday 27th November it would be greatly appreciated.

First Holy Communion

Sadly, our current Year 4 children were not able to have the same celebrations as previous years due to the lockdown but thankfully these important milestones are now going ahead. We wish all those children making their First Holy Communion the very best for their special day.

I-Pads

We are still missing 7 school I-pads. If you still have one at home they **must** be returned by Monday 2nd November.

I wish you all a very safe and restful half term break and look forward to another successful half term in the lead up to Christmas.

A final quote from Mother Teresa that I often read to myself and want to share with you:-

“If you want to bring happiness to the whole world, go home and love your family.”

Mother Teresa

God Bless,



Mrs Murphy
Acting Head Teacher



For further information on the way we use your data, please see the Xavier Catholic Education Trust Privacy Notice. This can be found on the Xavier Catholic Education Trust website in the About section under the list of Central Policies and Financial statements.