



# St Bridget's C of E Primary School

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*Together Everyone Achieves More*

Dear Parents/Carers

**31-1-19**

January has been an exciting month at St. Bridget's and the recent weather has certainly made it more challenging, but I would like to thank everyone for taking extra care and arriving at school safely. A number of parents have expressed their thanks to our caretaker, Mr Wilkins, who has worked additional hours to clear the pathways into school. Mr Jenkins our cleaner, who arrives just before 5am, has also had to overcome challenges today, as all of the school locks had frozen and his keys snapped when he tried opening up the gates. Year 5 have continued swimming this week and I would also like to thank all of the parents who walk with the children down to pool. Your help is invaluable and much appreciated.

## Climate Action and Global Goals

Earlier this month we started some of our work on Climate Action and Global Goals. Mr Neal and Mr Ryan challenged children to think about how they could lessen their impact on the environment. In particular, we have started to think about single use plastics. Mrs Mountain our catering supervisor has also taken up the challenge. For a long time we have worked on reducing food waste but this term we are reducing our use of plastic straws. For a trial period, we are serving just water at lunchtime rather than fruit juice. This has had a significant impact on the amount of waste each day, approximately 7000 less straws and cartons per month. Most of the children are comfortable with this change, there are a few that would prefer juice (as would I), but it is a small change that is making a bigger difference.

I would also like to make a special mention for three of our Yr2 pupils, Katie, Eve and Isobel and Euan from Yr3 who gave up their time last Saturday to help 'The High Tidiers' litter pick in the West Kirby area. Your efforts are very much appreciated by both the school and wider community.

## Curriculum Development – Chester Zoo and Coast to Country

Increasingly, over the year, but in the last half of the summer term we are working with Chester Zoo and developing our own environmental project called Coast to Country. We are one of the lead schools for this project and we launch our vision and ideas at the Deeside Headteacher Conference. We now have 17 primary schools and four secondary schools who want to take part and this will culminate in joint work in the form art exhibitions, IT collaborations and an epic beach/park clean! This project has attracted a number of private companies that would like to show support, have expertise or would like to be involved. So far, this has included waste management companies, IT, car companies and many more. Please speak to me or send me a message if you are interested in joining in.

## How can you help? Some ideas to consider at home

- It would be great if you could talk to your children about recycling and consider how much you recycle at home. What do you recycle at work?
- Do you remember to take your reusable shopping bags?
- How else do you avoid using plastic or check that you only use recycled plastic?
- Do you carry a reusable coffee cup or flask? 7 million plastic-lined coffee cups are thrown away in the UK every day.
- Do you say no to plastic cutlery?

## Vision and Mission

On the back of all of this curriculum development, the staff and governors have started to review the vision and mission statements. In the next few weeks, I would value any feedback you might have. If you have time on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> February at 3pm, to share ideas please let myself or the school office know.

### Draft School Vision Statement

Inspiring, nurturing and educating our children to serve God by reaching their full potential, serving our local community and by looking after our environment as global citizens of today and tomorrow.

### Draft School Mission Statement

'Love your neighbour as yourself.'

Luke 10:27

## School Games Gold Mark Award

Once again, we have gained the School Games Gold Mark Award which is fantastic recognition of all of the sport and opportunities we provide for the children. Well done to all the children, staff and in particular, Miss Bowler.

## Parent Readers

We are always on the lookout for parent readers to come in and promote the skill and love of reading. Please let the class teacher or school office know if you would like to do this. All of our parent readers must receive DBS clearance before they start, which the school will support you with.

## Polite reminders

- Allergy awareness – please avoid sending in **nuts** or **kiwi fruit**. We have a few children in the school who are **highly allergic** to these foods.
- A local resident has asked me to ask the parents/carers to avoid sitting in their cars with their engines running for long periods of time. This affects the air quality for all of us including the local residents.
- A grandparent has also approached me asking for parents to park safely and away from school. He has approached some of the parents who, in spite of being wrongly parked, become rude when they are challenged! Rudeness is never accepted from our children. Let us all set a good example for our children and support our neighbours.

## Inset Days

Friday 24<sup>th</sup> May

Yours sincerely,

*Neil Le Feuvre*

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