

# January Newsletter 2022 "Christ in our heads, our hearts and our hands"

Principal Mrs. K. Bickley

### Dear Parents,

It has been a pleasure joining St Chad's Catholic Primary School. I have been very impressed with the children and their positive attitude to school. Everyone has settled back into the routines of school life and our learning for the spring term is well under way.

I would like to extend a very warm welcome to Miss Wood our new Year 4 teacher. I know she is very impressed with the year 4 children and enjoyed her first few weeks at St Chad's.

As part of our learning about the Catholic faith, weekly class masses are scheduled and once the weather improves these will take place at church. The children are continuing to lead liturgy in class regularly so they become more familiar with the gospel message and scripture.

We will also be focusing on the children's learning, the curriculum and the progress they are making. We are teaching the next athletes, teachers, historians, geographers. scientists, mathematicians, authors and writers of the future! All of us have something we are good at and we all have something to offer - it's time to maximise our true potential and aim high.

# Reflection for the month of January

During our Monday morning prayer services we have been sharing the gospel message in school. Our readings have come from the Gospel according to Luke.



Luke was an Evangelist, the writer of the third Gospel. He never met Christ in person, but in his Gospel he says that he came to know about Jesus by talking to eyewitnesses to the events of Jesus' life, death, and Resurrection. Hearing those stories helped Luke to become a believer, and he wrote his Gospel so that others would come to know and love Jesus. Luke was a doctor and he traveled with Saint Paul on his second missionary journey. Luke is the patron saint of doctors and artists.

Through Luke's Gospel, we learn how compassionate and caring Jesus was and how concerned he was for the sick, the poor, and anyone in need of help, mercy, and forgiveness. Some of the most famous stories Jesus told are found in Luke's Gospel: The Good Samaritan (Luke 10:29-37) and the Lost Son (Luke 15:11-42).

The symbol for Luke's Gospel is an ox, an animal that was often sacrificed as an offering to God in ancient times.



Our virtues this half term are

**Curious and Active** 

**Curious:** Let's think about God's creation and ask questions to find out more – from tiny insects to enormous planets, from the languages of the Earth to the patterns made by numbers – brings us closer to God.

Active: We can work to make things better where we can. As we use our curiosity to explore, we can find things and help to make things become better: comforting a friend who is unhappy; talking to a neighbour who is lonely; putting litter in the bin inside and outside school By being active we take responsibility for these tasks and look after God's creation and people.

#### **Dates**

# Spring Term 2022

Fri 18th Feb: break up for half term
Mon 28th Feb: school reopens
Fri 8th April: break up for Easter



#### **Summer Term 2022**

Mon 25th April: Start of Term

Mon 2nd May: May Day Bank Holiday – school closed

Friday 27th May: break up for half term

Monday 6th June: school reopens

Wed 20th July: break up for the summer holidays Thu 21st July: (Teacher Day - School closed to pupils)

St Chad's will be taking part in Number Day on **Friday 4 February** 2022 to support fundraising for the National Society for the Prevention



of Cruelty to Children (NSPCC). We will be planning and organising lots of fun with number activities for the children. More details to follow.

Update on the **NEW ENTRANCE** to the playgrounds and to Nursery and Reception from Catholic Lane

Great news! the work on the fence around the old mobile unit and other derelict areas in that vicinity has been completed.

We are still hoping to open the gate that was the old entrance to Sedgley Kids Club as an additional entrance to the playground and to Nursery and Reception Class. This will be very useful for the nursery entrance and exit for our children and families who currently use the main office entrance in the middle of the day. Additionally everyone will have alternative option accessing school, rather than walking through the Church car park.

There is some additional work to carry out but we are confident access will be sooner rather than later.

We'll let you know when everything is ready to open!

#### **Nut Free School**

In order to maintain as safe an environment as possible, St Chad's is a nut-free school. Please can we ask that you don't send your child to school with nuts to eat or with any nut-rich products such as Nutella or peanut butter. Chocolate spread without nuts is a safer alternative.

#### Uniform

The children look incredible in the St Chad's uniform. It is certainly a uniform that can be worn with pride. Please continue to adhere to the following:

Long hair is tied back at all times

Hair bows, hair bands and ribbons are small and not excessive in size. School colours are preferred.

No jewellery is allowed – no earrings, bracelets, necklaces etc. Nail varnish is not allowed.

Safe, smart and sensible school shoes are worn, no trainers or fashion shoes.

Boys wear plain grey socks all year, girls wear red tights or knee length socks in KS1 and bottle green knee length socks/tights in KS2 (winter uniform) white ankle / knee socks (summer uniform)



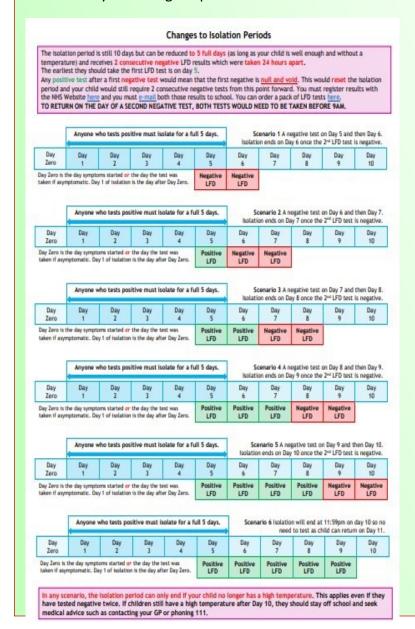
# Covid—19 Update

As you are aware from Monday 17th January, anyone who is self-isolating with COVID-19 will have the option to reduce their isolation period after 5 full days if they test negative with a lateral flow device (LFD) test on both day 5 and day 6 and do not have a temperature. For example, if they test negative on the morning of day 5 and the morning of day 6, they can return to their education or childcare setting immediately on day 6.

Should your child/children need to isolate, please contact the school to inform us. We will ensure learning is provided once your child is well enough to engage in learning.

The flowchart below provides a basic outline of the varying isolation periods.

Please seek further clarification on this from school or Public Health if you do begin a period of isolation



# **After School Clubs**



Many of the children have been asking about After School clubs.

I would like to reassure the children that is a priority. I am currently exploring different opportunities for the children as participating in sports, fitness, dance etc. are all good for the body, mind and spirit!

Watch this space we'll be in touch with further details

# **Home Learning**

As there are a number of children absent from school if your child is well enough we will happily provide learning as part of our blended approach to learning.

In the meantime please use the following websites to access additional resources.

TT Rockstars https://ttrockstars.com/

**Top Marks** https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/hit-the-button

BBC https://www.bbc.co.uk/newsround

www.spellingframe.co.uk

https://www.spellzone.com/

**Epic (Reading, all ages)** 

https://www.getepic.com/

#### **Oxford Owl**

https://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/for-home/find-a-book/oxford-reading-tree-levels/

**Please note:** I am also hoping to set up email addresses for you to contact staff directly with queries about home learning.

Best wishes; Mrs K. Bickley