

Friday 10th November

Dear Everyone

I hope you are well.

Brrr! It has certainly turned cold this week.

God Bless

Gary

St. Boniface said of St. Bede that
'he shone forth like a lantern.'



The Lantern

Prefects and Guardian Angels

We were recently asked to clarify the criteria for these two groups of pupil helpers and we are happy to do so.

Y6 prefects are chosen on two criteria—effort and conduct. At the start of the year, the Y6 teachers speak with the Y5 teachers, who know the children better. Y6 children wishing to be considered as prefects are also invited to write a letter of application, which is taken into account. Prefects are not chosen according to academic ability – they represent the broad spectrum of abilities to be found in a Y6 year group.

The Guardian Angels are drawn from Y6 and Y5 and their selection is based upon the quality of their responses in RE lessons—how good is their knowledge of their faith?

We have lots of other helpers in school: the School Council; Maths Mates and Reading Buddies. The children elect the School Councillors. The Maths Mates and Reading Buddies are children who are secure in these two areas. They help younger children with their reading and their maths and are drawn from Y5 and Y6.

There are always more children who would make good prefects than can be practically selected. We try to work with as big a number as possible and make the selection as fair as is possible.

Lantern Certificates

Emily Ramtohol; Ryan Altham; Dwayne Balogun; Liesl Burgess; Daniel Feshanets; Shaye Gardner-Charles; Jeniyah-May Green-Kalunga; Darcy Boateng; Favour Felix; Kyle Hutchinson; Rasmine Monahan-Tayo; Emmanuel Paul-Imoh; Arianna Suthakar; Grace Anjeh; Kyle Coombes; Ralphie Dinnadge; Joy Felix; Teilan Lea; Lilly Mackenzie; Andrew Osei-Mensah; Ruthie Eguakhide; Nikodem Gruszczyk; Cairo Richards ; Harry Skelton; Olivia Conneely

Changes

We are constantly looking for ways in which we can work smarter in school. Two recent changes in our Office are becoming a cashless school for trips and donations; and in future, Miss A Play letters will be sent out only once a week, on a Friday. The School Office is a very busy place and these little changes will help us balance workloads.

Dates for The Diary

Saturday 11th November 9.00-11.00 am

Y2 Tutoring

Monday 13th November

Deadline to send in Flu Immunisation papers

Deadline for Love In A Box

Wednesday 15th November

School Photographer—Individual and Family

Thursday 16th November 4.45pm onwards

Nursery and Reception Parental Consultations

PLEASE ENSURE THAT YOU HAVE BOOKED YOUR APPOINTMENT USING OUR ONLINE FACILITY

Friday 17th November

9.00 am Parent Advocates Meeting

Odd Socks Day—50p donation

NCMP Reception and Y6 Height and Weight Check

Saturday 18th November 9.00-11.00am

Y2 Tutoring

Sunday 19th November

PA Coffee Morning after Mass

Monday 20th November

Y6 Trip To Hargreaves Junior Citizenship

Thursday 23rd November 6.00pm

SATs talk to Y6 parents

Saturday 25th November 9.00-11.00am

Y2 Tutoring

Parking

Please, please, please do not park over our neighbours' drives when collecting from school—whether it be at 3.20 or after tutoring or Saturday mornings. Thank you.

Thought for The Week

We have a problem. Too many boys in Years 3 and 4 are not doing well enough with their reading. We have an afterschool tutoring set in both Y3 and Y4 for reading and these sets are made up exclusively of boys. Not one girl amongst them. We are investing £4000 during December into books for these year groups that will appeal specifically to boys .

Research suggests the following:

- ♦ boys like action stories and non-fiction texts;
- ♦ black boys respond best to stories where characters are sometimes black;
- ♦ boys respond well when they see their fathers and grandfathers reading.

The children take their next assessments in the week beginning 4th December. Prior to this, we will meet with parents of boys where we have concerns to see how we can work together to better support our young men!

Who do you think said this?

We need to set limits and expectations. We need to replace that video game with a book and make sure that homework gets done. In our house, we find glory in achievement, self-respect, and hard work.

It is good advice.

Answer at the bottom of the page.

Parents can have a huge impact upon their child's success with reading by hearing them read, reading to them and talking about books. In January, we will be running workshops entitled 'Getting Boys To Read'.

Very Positive News

In the summer term, no fewer than 185 children were awarded an A for effort with 171 children given the top grade for conduct. Well done children! If you were a B last time, will you make it to an A this time round?

Anti-Bullying

The children took part in workshops on Monday and Tuesday aimed at exploring the themes of anti-bullying in school; it is anti-bullying week in schools next week. Whilst expensive, these workshops are invaluable as an annual reminder that bullying in schools will not be tolerated. Children at our school say incidences of bullying are rare and when they are reported they are dealt with. That is what any school wants to hear.

As part of anti-bullying week, we are encouraged to take part in an odds socks day—with a donation of 50P for the anti-bullying alliance—a charity that works to prevent bullying. Next Friday, 17th November will be our Odd Socks day. Everyone can take part regardless of whether they make a donation—just make a pair of odd socks! Silly fun!

America's first black president, Barack Obama