

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

The Lantern



Friday 5th January

Dear Everyone

Happy New Year to you all. I do hope Christmas was an enjoyable time for you and your family.

A new term brings new challenges and opportunities. I hope it will be an exciting time for your child.

God Bless

Gary

Progress Review Meetings

During the first week back of each new term, the teachers meet with Mr Spriddle, Mrs Roberts and me to review children's progress during the previous term. Each child's progress is carefully tracked as they move through the school. This usually sees some changes to the different ability sets with some children moving up and others down. It also means some changes to after school tutoring groups and we will have written to you this week if your child will be changing after school groups, starting new groups or stopping groups. Some children in Top Sets will be invited to tutoring too, where they need an extra boost mid-year. Most children just continue as they are and so no letter home is needed. There is a tight turn around and we ask your forbearance with this. We cannot make changes until we have had the progress review meetings with teachers and we cannot have those until the test papers are marked and we don't like to take the tests too early in the preceding term because we want to give them children as many 'teaching' weeks as possible in order to show their progress. Timings are tight by the very nature of what we are trying to do for the children in our care.

The impact of after school tutoring cannot be overstated—it does make a significant contribution to children's progress. Where we are left with a particular concern about a child's progress in maths or reading, Mr Spriddle (maths) and Mrs Roberts (reading) will meet with parents later this half-term. We call such meetings **Every Child A Reader** or **Every Child a Mathematician** meetings. Again, their importance cannot be overstated.

Please do not park over our neighbours' drives.

We and they would be so grateful.

Dates for The Diary

Week commencing Monday 8th January

All tutoring, Lexia and after school clubs begin this week.

Friday 12th January 2.45 pm

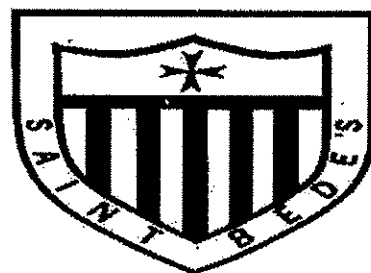
5C Class Assembly

Friday 26th January 2.45 pm

3L Class Assembly

Friday 2nd February 2.45 pm

Class 2BP Class Assembly



Early Start Back

This term started earlier than is usual. The dates for each term are set by Redbridge and although we can choose to step outside of these dates, we tend not to because it can prove difficult for parents with children in more than one school. Tuesday's return seemed to catch a number of parents out and attendance on that day was poor. Please do familiarise yourself with the termly dates, which are to be found on our website. In future, we can text our return the day before if people would find this helpful.

Thought for The Week

Some things are easier to forget than others. In a couple of months' time—if not already—most of us will struggle to remember what we watched on television this Christmas or received as gifts. Some things are just not memorable. The *shepherds* of course had no such trouble in remembering what had happened to them—what they had seen and of course they wanted to tell everyone about it. In last week's Gospel reading, we heard of Simeon who again was overjoyed to see the Messiah for whom he had been waiting. Again, something he would not forget. In the year to come I am sure we will meet with much that is memorable and I dare say some things that are easier to forget. In school, we pray that we remember each day that God's love has been offered to all of us—just as the shepherds and Simeon experienced 2000 years ago.

Someone To Turn To

To whom would you turn if you were in difficulty?

For some children, it would be an adult in school to whom they would turn. This is a big responsibility. All the adults in school are trained to know what to do if a child discloses something to them that is a worry. The first rule is that there can be no secrets. If what is shared with the adult is serious then the adult will wish to record it and share it with one of the safeguarding officers in school. That officer will decide upon next steps. Normally this would be to discuss the concern with the parent. But where we feel it would put a child at risk of harm to speak to the parent, we would need to consider alternatives. Safeguarding in school is an issue that all school staff take seriously. If you are ever concerned about a child's welfare then you can speak to someone in school too.

Vacancies

We currently have three vacancies for additional midday assistants. The posts are advertised on our website.

11th January

Panto at Kenneth Moore Theatre
for people who purchased tickets
from the PA

Lantern Certificates—very well done!

Adrian Chwedczuk; Aaron Dower; Aiden D'Souza; Erin Enriquez; Oliver Madera; Luke On; Ziva Lubin; Faye Northwood-Daly; Lillie-Mae Parry; Beyona Ramesh; Kyle Coombes; Eddie Fajemibola; Samuel Somuyiwa; Ifeoma Okonji; Cordell Ibadapo; Chloe Igere; Mya Lubin; Mia Mair; Patrick Marius; Liam McCarthy; Joshua Ojeikere; Erin Oye; Jennifer Mburu