

The Lantern

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



Dear Everyone

I hope you have had a good week.

Pupil Behaviour and Attitudes

Without excellent behaviour and positive attitudes, children will not learn in school. The standard of our pupils' behaviour remains outstanding. They are fantastic children to work with and are very well supported by their parents. I rarely have to express my disappointment to a child for not meeting our expectations. I have Head teacher friends who spend a significant part of their week doing just that. There is no great secret to how we achieve high standards at our school: we set the bar high; we praise positive things we see children doing; and, we are consistent and persistent when applying the school's Behaviour and Discipline policy. We currently have 344 children in Years 1 to 6 and only a handful have presented behaviour and attitudes that have challenged us in past weeks. When saying this, I am not speaking about the even smaller number who struggle to behave as well as others because they sometimes see life differently: I am talking about those children who sometimes make wrong choices.

Notwithstanding the fact that we have very few children about whom we worry, I am making a significant change to the school's Behaviour and Discipline Policy from next half-term. Currently, if a child is entered into the Miss a Play book three times a half-term, their behaviour is monitored more closely by Mrs Roberts for the subsequent week. If there continues to be problems during that time, they then work away from class mates for part or all of one school day. The change, moving forward, is that if a child finds themselves on report for a second time during a school year, they would be asked to work at home for all or part of one day if there had not been an improvement. I am very much hoping that we will not see this happen. I think what is important to remember that in making poor choices, this small number of children may be affecting their classmates' schooling and that would be unfair.

We will review how effective this one change has been this time next year and I will share with you our thoughts at that time.

I thank you for your support and understanding.

In this way we aim to ensure that whilst there may be primary schools where behaviour and attitudes match those at St Bede's, there are none where it is bettered.

Parents' Association - Penny Challenge and Mother's Day Gifts

A reminder that the deadline for both of these is 10th February. The children are really enjoying bringing their pennies into class to fill up their class plastic bottles. More information regarding both fundraising initiatives can be found in the Parents' Association Fronter page.

The Parents' Association January newsletter is now on Fronter (Parents' Association page).

Parent Voice Meeting

The next meeting is diarised for 7th February at 10.30am. Teams invitations have been distributed.

School Council Fundraising—10th February 2022

We have a non-uniform day on 10th February (£1) in support of the School Council fundraising efforts for an outdoor table tennis table.

Mrs Donohue

We are delighted to share with you that Mrs Donohue has given birth to a beautiful baby boy, Shay. We send our warmest wishes to Mrs Donohue and her family.

Lantern Certificates – youngest to oldest

Joshua A; Evita; Kayshanna; Sonny; Kai; Leira; Leo; Isla; Fiorella; Samantha; Renesmae; Kaylen; Chisom; Maria-Anastasia; Ifeoma; Bartosz; Mitchell; Enoch; Noe; Alaia; Ruheen; Amani; April; Joshua; Zachariah H; Bokeh; Patrick M; Zikorachidi; Joshua O; Jamie; Eesa; Debra; Chelsea A; Jaida; Alan; Daniel; Oluwatamilore; Dwayne; Taiwo; Piotr; Gia

Head teacher Awards

Patrick M; Rose; Aiden L; Leonard; Jeremiah S; Kacey; Fikunmi; Adriana

Spring Term Assessments

These will take place for the majority of our pupils in the week beginning 21st March. Results will be shared with parents at Consolation Evenings on April 21st or 28th.

Mental Health Week

Next week is national Mental Health Week. I tend to refer to ‘mental fitness’ when I talk with the children. Just as we eat the right things and exercise to maintain physical fitness, there are things we can all do to maintain or improve mental fitness too. I will be talking to the children about these in a special assembly on Monday morning and teachers will build upon these messages in Personal, Social and Health lessons as we move towards half-term. If any of you have words of wisdom in this regard that you would like us to consider sharing with the children, please do message us.

Have a great weekend

God Bless

Gary

PLEASE SEE THE SCHOOL HOMEPAGE FOR A LINK TO OUR CALENDAR

School closed to all pupils on Friday 11th February (staff INSET day)

Weekly Reflection, with Mrs Mackie

This week, when driving home, I have seen some spectacular sunsets - streaks of gold and pink adorning the sky and when I marvel at them, I thank God for his glory. I wonder if you have had the same experience seeing God in the beauty of our wonderful natural world.

This week we celebrated a feast day where we celebrated the Glory of God not in awe and majesty but seen by an old man looking at a tiny baby. The man was Simeon and the child he was holding was Jesus.

Mary and Joseph had brought Jesus to be presented in the temple when he was around six weeks old. Simeon, who had overwhelming trust in God, saw in an instant that this was no ordinary baby but the Saviour, the Son of God.

In our youngest year groups we have been exploring the story and acting it out; the children really began to show the excitement and overwhelming joy when Simeon first met Jesus, exclaiming, 'He is the Light of the World' with beaming smiles on their faces.

That day God's glory was seen in a simple but beautiful way but God made us in his image and we need to appreciate the glory of God is not just seen in our Saviour Jesus but in everything we are and everything we do.

I have a friend and whenever she sends a message she always thanks God for what he does for us and how he acts through us. So this weekend take time to see the glory of God in each other and thank God our Father for what he has given us.

God bless

Mrs Mackie