



Values:
Spring - Forgiveness
Summer 1 - Friendship

Community Matters

Lent Term 2017 Issue 13



Supporting Guide Dogs



Supporting the invaluable work of Guide Dogs continues to be our main charity focus this school year and we expect a visit from Tiger over the coming weeks. He has certainly grown and is developing many of the skills needed to become a fully trained guide dog. Please see overleaf for the different Year Group fundraising activities planned for the remainder of this school year.

VALUES MISSION - EVERYONE IS A FRIEND OF JESUS

Come and explore another of our values with your children. You will have a chance to make friendship bracelets and chains, reflect on our prayer station, support the MK food bank and enjoy some refreshments in our *friendship café*. See the dates for each year group overleaf. We hope you can come and share in this special time with us.

Prayer Zone Update

We started this term exploring the purpose of prayer zone with a few weeks of prayer and quiet reflection. We have appreciated the opportunity to be still and give some time to God. In the coming weeks, we are preparing for our Lent journey with a short reflection on Shrove Tuesday using the Cafod resources: 'little fish to big fish.' We will conclude this term with the events of Easter.

Prayer Garden

The construction of our beautiful Prayer Garden is now well underway and will provide a lovely environment for times of quiet prayer and reflection. In the not-too-distant future we intend to complement the garden with statues of Our Lady of Lourdes and our Patron Saint, St Bernadette. In the Summer term, we would love to join with our school community on a Saturday morning to plant the bedding areas of the garden. More information will follow once the construction is completed.

First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion

Please keep those children preparing for First Reconciliation and First Eucharist in your prayers.



Please note that whilst we support our children through a regular prayer group, formal preparation for these sacraments takes place within the parish, not within schools. If your child is making their First Holy Communion this year and the school has not been informed, please let Mrs Zamora know ASAP

Lent

Lent is the period of 40 days, commencing On Ash Wednesday. It is a season of Reflection and preparation before the celebration of Easter and a time when we prioritise prayer, fasting and acts of charity. This Year, Lent begins on Wednesday 1st March. The colour purple is used as a symbol of mourning, anticipating the pain and suffering of the crucifixion.



Sr Yvonne will be leading an **Ash Wednesday Service** at 2:00 pm for Y3-Y6 and you are warmly welcomed to join us. The Children's Chaplaincy Team will then administer ashes to our younger pupils.

Our Children's Chaplaincy Team will also be leading the **Stations of the Cross** in the school chapel each Tuesday morning at 8:15 during Lent. It would be lovely to see lots of members of our school community joining us for this calm, reflective start to the day.

Fr Paul will be leading Y3-6 in a **Lenten Mass** on 30th March at 2:00pm in the School Hall. Again, it would be wonderful to welcome as many as possible from our school and parish communities. Please note that the date of this Mass has been changed from the original date of

Mini Vinnies

On Tuesday 21st February we were delighted to be joined by members of the SVP at our Commissioning Ceremony of our newly formed Mini Vinnies team. We congratulate the Leadership Team formed from the successful applicants from Y4 and Y5: Senior members Franek, Mali, Stefan and Sandra. Communications Officer: Lavinia, Secretary: Prayksha, Treasurer: Marie, Vice President: Maxenne and President: Adam. They will be joined by the Children's Chaplaincy Team to ensure that the whole school community has a continuous focus on supporting the elderly, sick, lonely and vulnerable within Milton Keynes. Any suggestions for how we can fulfil this promise would always be gratefully received.

Please remember to let the office know by 3rd March if you intend to come to our special Thanksgiving Mass on 29th March at 6:30pm when we will be saying our fond farewells to Mrs Clewlow.





Ubi caritas et amour Deus ibi est

(Where there is charity and love, God is there)

Liturgical Dates for your diary:

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| 20/02/17 | New Value = Forgiveness |
| 01/03/17 | Ash Wednesday Service Y3-6. Ashes administered to FS/KS1 by children's Chaplaincy Team 2:00pm. Families and local community are welcome |
| 05/03/17 | First Sunday in Lent |
| 06/03/17 | Forgiveness and Renewal service 1:45 - 2:00 Y1-Y6 followed by pre-booked 1:1 confessions for Y6 with Fr Paul in chapel. |
| 07/03/17 | Weekly Stations of the Cross Tuesdays 8:15 - 8:40 Led by Children's Chaplaincy Team in chapel followed by quiet prayer and reflection. Families and local community are welcome |
| 15/03/17 | 2:30 Y1 Starfish Class Worship with parents |
| 17/03/17 | Bridgebuilder Trust assembly |
| 22/03/17 | 2:30 Y1 Seahorse Class Worship with parents |
| 25/03/17 | Feast of the Annunciation |
| 29/03/17 | 6:30 pm Mrs Clewlow's Leaving Mass with Mgr McGinnell and Fr Allan. Please ensure you have signed up with School Gateway by 3 rd March if you are attending this Mass. |
| 20/03/17 | 2:00 Y3-6 Mass for Lent with Fr Paul. Families and community are welcome Please note that this Mass date has changed from original date of 29th March. |
| 14/04/17 | Good Friday |
| 16/04/17 | Easter Sunday |
| 16/04/17 | St Bernadette's Feast Day (Saturday) |
| 18/04/17 | New Value = Friendship |
| 18/04/17 | 9:00 am assembly - celebrating St Bernadette's Feast Day (16 th April). Led by Sr Yvonne |
| 19/04/17 | Year 3 Danceathon for Guide Dogs |
| 25/04/17 | Friendship Values Mission - small hall 3-4pm for FS and Y3 and their families. |
| 26/04/17 | Friendship Values Mission - small hall 3-4pm for Y1 and Y4 and their families. |
| 27/04/17 | Friendship Values Mission - small hall 3-4pm for Y2, Y5 and Y6 and their families. |
| 02/05/17 | And each Tuesday during May KS2 lunchtime rosary club 12:30 - 12:45 |
| 03/05/17 | 2:50 Y4 Leopard Class Worship with parents |
| 07/05/17 | Y4 Bake Sale for Guide Dogs 3pm - 4pm |
| 11/05/17 | Y6 Retreat |
| 12/05/17 | Bridgebuilder Trust assembly |
| 23/05/17 | Kang/Leopard Pentecost Praise 2pm |
| 25/05/17 | Panda/Lion Pentecost Praise 2pm |
| 28/05/17 | The Ascension of the Lord |
| 04/06/17 | Pentecost Sunday |
| 05/06/17 | New Value = Respect |
| 09/06/17 | Bridgebuilder Trust assembly |
| 11/06/17 | Feast of the Most Holy Trinity |
| 18/06/17 | Feast of the Body and Blood of Christ (Corpus Christi) |
| 21/06/17 | Y2 Fun Run afternoon for Guide Dogs |
| 23/06/17 | Feast of the Sacred Heart of Jesus |
| 23/06/17 | Y6 mini fair for Guide Dogs (all day) |
| 24/06/17 | Feast of the Nativity of John the Baptist |
| 28/06/17 | 2:30 FS2L & FSB Class Worship with parents |
| 29/06/17 | Feast of St Peter & St Paul |
| 30/06/17 | 2:15 pm Mass for St Peter and St Paul - Y3-6 Parents are welcome |
| TBC | First Holy Communion Celebration Mass Y3- Y6 and parents of First Communicants. |
| 06/07/17 | Y1 Ice-cream sale for Guide Dogs |
| 12/07/17 | Y6 Leavers' Mass 6:00pm with Fr Paul Planned for and led by Y6 pupils, supported by Sr Yvonne |

PLEASE SEND ANY ITEMS FOR INCLUSION IN OUR COMMUNITY MATTERS NEWSLETTER OR SUGGESTIONS TO HELP DEVELOP THE SPIRITUALITY OF OUR SCHOOL TO MRS ZAMORA