



St Albert the Great Catholic Primary School

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Headteacher: Mrs K Little



NEWSLETTER

6th July, 2017

Catholic Life of the School

Congratulations to our children who received the Sacrament of Holy Communion on Saturday 10th June. Myself and Mrs Quinn, from St Cuthbert Mayne, were invited to do the reading and the bidding prayers and it was an honour to be included in this celebration. We celebrated the Feast of Corpus Christi with a whole school Mass led by Fr Derek and the children wore their special clothes and led our worship beautifully. This marks a significant step in their life journey and we were blessed to share this with them.



We held a non-uniform day on Friday 23rd June to support the victims of the Grenfell Tower fire. I am delighted to inform you that we raised an incredible £223 which was sent to the Catholic Children's Society who are providing immediate support for the families. Thank you for your generosity.

I was privileged to accompany some of our children to the Good Shepherd Mass at Westminster Cathedral yesterday (July 5th). The Mass is organised by the Catholic Children's Society to thank the Diocesan schools for their ongoing support. We travelled by coach with children and staff from St Rose's and St Cuthbert Mayne and were delighted that our timely arrival enabled us to sit right at the front of the Cathedral. We presented a cheque for the monies raised through our Lenten Collection. The Mass was led by Bishop John Sherrington and provided a time for celebration and reflection. Thank you for your support.



'The more I learn about the world in which I live, the closer I grow to God.'



Our Year 2 pupils took part in a Singing Festival at St John's Church in Boxmoor on Thursday 22nd June. It was reported to me that they were excellent ambassadors for our school – beautiful singing and exemplary behaviour. They shared their singing at their Class Assembly on Friday 23rd June. Thank you Year 2 and Congratulations.

Fr Derek has been a highly valued member of our school community for the last 3 years. He has been a member of our Governing Body and has led whole school and class Masses on many occasions. We will miss his support, positive outlook and encouragement and wish him all the best as he moves on to his new Parish in September. We will be presenting a thank you gift to Fr Derek during the Year 6 Leavers Mass. If you would like to contribute to this, please put any donation in a clearly labelled envelope and send it in to the school office.

E-Safety

Mr Cunningham (Headteacher at Longdean School) came to talk to our Year 6 pupils about e-safety. This is part of a Transition Project across our local cluster of schools through the Hemel Hempstead Family Services based at Hobbs Hill Wood. He met with the children in 3 small groups to talk to them about the responsibilities that come with having a mobile phone, the use of social media as well as other issues linked to e-safety.

Healthy Living Week

A huge thank you to Mrs Lulham for organising, once again, a wonderful Healthy Living Week. A huge amount of time and effort goes in to making sure the timetables are accurate, visiting coaches are varied and interesting, and a determination to ensure our children experience success. We were blessed with cooler weather which enabled all of the children to take part in the many and varied activities which culminated in our annual Sports Day. The activities included Yoga, Dance, Football, Rounders, Netball, Rugby, indoor athletics, Taekwondo and a variety of healthy cooking and food choices. The week began with a Staff vs Year 6 Rounders Match. Despite some fierce competition from the Staff, the Year 6 pupils were the winners. Mrs Lulham will be producing a booklet to share all of the happy memories and this will be made available when it is completed. I would also like to make a public thank you to Billy Redman in our Year 5 class. Billy demonstrated everything we strive for in our Catholic School when he showed outstanding kindness and love for another member of our school community. Billy had won the 'Sack Race' but when he turned around to see the other competitors, noticed one boy who was struggling. Billy went back to that pupil, helped him up and encouraged him all the way to the finish line. Billy is one of our Sports Leaders during our play times and this kind of behaviour exemplifies our Gospel Values. Thank you Billy.

Sports Day

Congratulations to the KS2 **St Francis 'Canada'** Team for winning the KS2 competition. The overall winning team for 2017 were the children in the **St John the Baptist** teams

Healthy Living Week 2017 photos will be uploaded to the school website soon.



St John the Baptist Team
Overall Winners



The St Francis 'Canada' Team
1st Place



FS2 Children in the House Teams



The KS2 'Crossing the River' Problem Solving Activity



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Staffing and Curriculum

We held our 'Moving Up' morning on Tuesday 4th July. The children were able to meet their new teachers as follows:

Nursery: Teacher - Mrs Turp, Supported by - Mrs Lewis

Year R: Teacher - Mrs Lulham, Supported by - Mrs Redman, Mrs Watts,

Year 1: Teacher - Miss Wallek, Supported by - Mrs Smith, Miss Baird, Mrs Krezel, Mrs McDonagh

Year 2: Teacher - Miss Lally, Supported by - Mrs McIntosh, Miss Herring, Mr McIlroy

Year 3: Teachers - Mrs Galloway, Mrs Wilson, Mrs Jones, Supported by – Mrs Nolan, Mrs Oscher

Year 4: Teachers – Mrs Wickens, Mrs Ansell, Supported by – Mrs Oscher

Year 5: Teacher – Mr Gibson, Supported by – Miss Kelliher

Year 6: Teacher – Mrs Anderton, Supported by – Mrs Adams, Mrs Hesty, Mr McIlroy

Mrs Wilson will continue to be our excellent Inclusion Leader and will have an additional day in this role.

Mrs Rivers will take on a new role for the 2017-18 academic year – 'Speech and Language Champion' where she will provide support with Speech and Language, Phonics acquisition and other interventions during the morning sessions across the whole school.

Mrs Ansell, supported by Mr McIlroy, will extend our Forest School provision so that we will be able to offer 2 mornings each week, which will enable more classes to experience the success of Forest School each year.

I am also delighted to let you know that our very successful music programme will be extended. The Year 2,3,4 children will all learn to play the Recorder and our Year 5 and 6 children will learn to play the Ukelele. It is my intention that as children move up through the school, they will learn to play 2 instruments.

There will be some changes to the swimming provision and our Year 6 children will have a 'top up' session on Friday Mornings during the Autumn term, followed by lessons for our Year 4 children in the Spring and Summer Terms.

French Ice-Cream Parlour

The children in Years 3-6 have been learning French this year and to celebrate their success, they will be using their French speaking skills in an ice-cream parlour in the last week of term. Please let the office know by Friday 14th July, if your child has an allergy that we need to be aware of so that Mrs Oscher can make alternative arrangements for those children. Thank you.

KS2 SATs results

Congratulations to our Year 6 pupils who have excelled in their KS2 SATs this year. A huge thank you to their teacher Mrs Anderton, to the Teaching Assistants Mrs Adams and Miss Kelliher, and to all the other staff who gave up their lunch breaks to help these children achieve. The results will be published on the school website.

Extra-Curricular Music Lessons

The school currently offers piano, violin and guitar lessons. These take place during the school day. If you are interested in your child starting any of these instruments in September, then please speak with Mrs Tompkins who will be able to provide you with further details.

School Gateway

The school's preferred method of payment is via schoolcomms. If you have not yet signed up to the school gateway payment system, please can you do so at your earliest convenience. Mrs Tompkins will happily help should you have any queries.

SUMMER READING CHALLENGE

The theme for this year's reading challenge is 'Animal Agents.' The challenge of reading six books over the Summer break and telling someone in the library about them, runs from July to September. Further information is available from the library.

PLEA FROM SCHOOL OFFICE

Parents are asked to respond as quickly as possible to requests for information, signing of forms, etc. A significant amount of time is spent in the office chasing up paperwork and making follow-up phone-calls. Please help us by providing information and responses in a timely way. Thank you for your help and understanding with this.



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MESSAGES FROM JOHN F KENNEDY CATHOLIC SCHOOL

GOLDEN JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS 2017-18

The JFK Governors are beginning to plan a number of events to celebrate our Golden Jubilee. We are looking for past governors, staff and students, particularly from the early days of the school to 'like and share' our Facebook page (search @jfk50). We are also looking for photographs and memories that span the 50 years which could be posted on our page or sent into school for the attention of the Governors.

VACANCIES

The Governors are looking to appoint a Cover Supervisor for 28.75hrs per week and a Teaching Assistant for 25hrs per week, term time only. Please visit our website (www.jfk.herts.sch.uk) for further details and an application form.

Dates for the SummerTerm:

7.7.17	End of Year Reports go out
10.7.17	District Sports at Jarman Park Year 6 Play 7:00 pm
12.7.17	Year 6 Play 7:00 pm
13.7.17	Year 5 class to Frogmore Paper Mill
14.7.17	Nursery Class to Langleybury Farm, Reception Class to Woodside Animal Farm Year 2 'Graduation' at 2:00
17.7.17	Year 6 Leaver's Mass 7:00 pm
18.7.17	Year 2 class to Mead Open Farm Year 5 Class – Contemporary Dance Assessments
14.7.17	Year 5 sharing music at the sharing assembly
20.7.17	Sports Awards Assembly at 9:15 with Claire McCawley
21.7.17	Term Ends 1:30 pm

Mrs K Little
Headteacher



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