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Issue: 22

St Agnes' Weekly News

*The family of St Agnes loves, learns and grows together as followers
of Jesus.*

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MARCH

4th - Year 5 British Museum
Trip

5th - Reading Breakfast

6th - Class 1Z Assembly

7th - World Book Day

8th - Reception Brent Cross
Town Visit - RS -9:30am, RB
-10:30am

10th - Family Mass 10:30am
in church

11th - Phonics Screening
Workshop 9am

12th - Class 3G Assembly
9:05am

14th - Class 2C Assembly
9:05am

14th - Year 4 River Cruise
Trip

15th - Year 3 Kew Garden
Trip

18th -22nd Book Fair

20th - Class 4AM Assembly
9:05am

20th - Choir out at Wembley
Arena - Voice in a Million

21st - Class photos - FULL
SCHOOL UNIFORM to be
worn

Dear Parents,

Thank you to those parents who came in on Monday to meet with the Governors over a coffee. It was good to see a bigger representation of parents than usual and in particular to see parents whose children have recently joined the school. The five Governors present - Gill Abbott, Maureen Brookbanks, Sharon Noden, Fiona Garnett and Ewelina Magnaye reported that parents were happy with school and took on board suggestions that were made. We will have one more Governors Morning in the summer term and the date will be sent in advance for parents to pop in their diary.

I have been writing my termly Headteacher's report for the Governors which I will present at the next Full Governing Body meeting on 19th March, which essentially is a complete round up of everything that has taken place in school from many perspectives. As always, I reflected on the opportunities that had been offered to the children in terms of curriculum enrichment since my autumn term report and the list was huge! The numbers of trips that have taken place in addition to the experiences offered here at school have been most plentiful.

In the last fortnight alone there has been a whole school Lenten Retreat (Miss Moran has written about this further in the newsletter) a Challenge in Sport Day yesterday for Year 5&6 with Juwon coming in as an athlete to talk about resilience and determination with the pupils from a sports perspective. There has been a trip for Year 3 to Westminster Abbey, a quiz event for KS2 and Year 5 are out at the British Museum on Monday, as well as several sporting events outside of school. This is in addition to the new clubs which began this week - History Club and Baking Club. All in all I think you would agree this is a packed programme, all of which is above and beyond the general everyday curriculum.

Please can I ask you to keep Sunday 10th March free at 10.30am to attend the School/Parish Family Mass at St Agnes'. We have really enjoyed seeing the children attend church termly in their uniforms, proudly showing the parishioners themselves as a school community. I am aware it coincides with Mother's Day - but what better start to the day could we have than by giving thanks for the mothers and those that are mother figures in our lives.

Wishing you all a great weekend,

Regards,

Susan O'Reilly



Please see the information below where you can celebrate the weekly gospel at home with your family.

<https://www.paperturn-view.com/uk/wednesday-word/teacher?pid=MTA101634&v=117.3>

Lenten Retreat

Last week, the children took part in an exciting Lenten retreat where they got to experience a range of activities such as: yoga, baking, prayer reflections, team tasks, craft creations and meditation.

This is the second year the children have done this and many children were excited to do it again as they remembered lots about it last year. The multipurpose room was filled with calm, quiet, reflective children whilst the hall was filled with energy and enthusiasm as children took part in yoga.

Reception:

Siera - I drew a heart to show love

Eva-Lucia - I feel so calm

Isolbel: wow, it's so beautiful in here!

Adonai: I made a mmm for my mum (using a pipe cleaner)

Year 1:

Leen: I learnt how to make the person initial with the pipe cleaner

Philip: my favourite part is when we did the biscuits, when I was mixing the ingredients

Lily: I made a heart with the pieces of paper like the window in the church

Noah "My favourite part was baking the biscuits and we can eat them at home"

Year 2:

Zara A "My favourite part of the day was the meditation because it was relaxing and I enjoyed making my own heart."

Fabian: "Baking was fun, I love to bake and I was excited to eat my purple cookie at the end of the day!"

Year 3:

Mathilde: It was very peaceful and beautiful

Eloise: It was very calming and I rate it 10/10

Daniel: I felt like it relaxed my mind

Binisha: My favourite station was the one where we could make the initial of a special family names because it reminded me about my family and friends

Year 4:

Giorgina: I liked the paper chain prayers.

Kenna: I liked that we baked cookies because I broke it in two and gave half to my sister.

Zacahary: I liked that we could walk and think of others in prayer.

Olivia: I really liked it was calm with music and it was so nice.

Year 5:

Kristiana: I liked the prayer chain the most because we are praying for people in need.

Enzo: I enjoyed the drawing activity as it was fun drawing what my partner was trying to describe.

Year 6

Sheldon: the room was quiet and peaceful it helped me to meditate

Soant: the day was calming because it was so quiet and I could do different activities calmly

Tommy- the experience was soothing and I liked praying for others in different countries

Jahmase- it was a good way to connect with God

Kyla: it was a peaceful event because we sat on beanbags, did a labyrinth and thought about God.

Miss Moran, RE lead

Lenten Retreat



Goodbye

We will be saying goodbye to Kerry Dannie on Wednesday who will be leaving her role as a Teaching Assistant.

We all join in wishing Kerry well in the future and sincerely thank her for her contribution to the school in the time she spent with us.

Good luck Kerry!



Year 3 Westminster Abbey Trip

On Tuesday, Year 3 visited Westminster Abbey and got to explore a very historic church. They were able to identify the many famous Kings and Queens who were buried there as well as many others from history. The children were able to see the similarities with our church and also what is different.

Zara: 9/10 because I wish I could see more

Liam: It was very interesting and lots of amazing things like the Tomb of Edward the Confessor

Binisha: We saw statues of famous poets

Daniel: It was very nice and we learnt a lot

Thomas: It was very interesting

Juliana: I saw many new things that I didn't know

The purpose of the trip is for the children to explore places of worship they may have not been before. Year 6 will be visiting a Gurdwara and exploring Sikhism, Year 4 will visit a mosque and explore Islam and Year 5 will be attending a Catholic retreat centre in the summer term.



St Agnes' Catholic Primary School

Full Time Teaching Assistant Grade D

Required as soon as possible

Salary range Grade D (£28,272 - £29,583). Term time only (40 weeks)

32.5 hours/wk (8:30-3:30)

We are looking for an experienced and enthusiastic Teaching Assistant who has worked with primary aged children in a school environment. You will support pupils in their learning under the direction of the class teacher. You will be flexible and willing to work within the foundation and primary age range. We are looking for someone who will work well as part of our wonderful team, is able to use their own initiative and who has good literacy, numeracy and ICT skills. As part of your role you may be asked to support pupils with additional needs in the classroom. We can assure you of a warm welcome, excellent professional development, supportive colleagues and enthusiastic pupils.

'Leaders and teachers provide an education of exceptional quality.' St Agnes school was graded Outstanding in all areas by Ofsted, October 2019

Closing date: Wednesday 6th March 2024 (Noon)

Interview date: Monday 11th March 2024

CES application forms are available on our website and returnable to the school (we will not accept CV's). Visits are warmly welcomed to enable you to come and see our wonderful school – please make an appointment via the school office.

St Agnes is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, young people, and vulnerable adults and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Appointment is subject to an enhanced DBS check.

St Agnes Catholic Primary School Reads!



In February 2024, students have read...

844 Books

12,122,107 Words

for **35** minutes/day!
(individual student average)

RENAISSANCE

Accelerated Reader®

Top Tips for Supporting Children Who Are EXPERIENCING BULLYING

In a DfE survey, 36% of parents said that their child had been bullied in the past year, while 29% of secondary school headteachers reported bullying among students. Public Health England states that young people who maintain positive communication with their family were less likely to experience bullying – so it's important that parents, carers and educators know how to talk to children about bullying.

1. WATCH FOR BEHAVIOURAL CHANGES

Children who are experiencing bullying may become quiet, withdrawn, or anxious; however, they may also act on the pain and anger that they're feeling. A shift in attitude towards their existing friends (or not mentioning them any more at all) or alluding to new friendships which seem notably different could also be warning signs. It's important to be alert to such changes and talk to your child about them if they occur.



2. THINK THINGS THROUGH

Before acting, ask yourself if this is the right time and place to address concerns about bullying. Might your worries trigger strong feelings – perhaps from your own experiences – that could discourage your child from opening up to you? You could try discussing what you've noticed with another trusted adult who knows your child well.

3. BE OPEN AND UNDERSTANDING

Try to outline to your child the changes that you've noticed in their body language, appearance, behaviour, or tone of voice – and do so without sounding judgemental. Help them to describe what they're feeling – be it anger, sadness, fear or something else – as accurately as possible. If they say they're "angry", do they mean "enraged" or "frustrated"? This will help them to understand how they're feeling and why.

4. LET THEM SPEAK FREELY

Use open questions and a welcoming tone to encourage your child to talk. Listen closely and summarise what they've said at appropriate points (ideally without interrupting) to demonstrate that you're understanding clearly. Bullying may have undermined your child's sense of control, and they may fear that you'll judge them, overreact or impose consequences – so this conversation can reassure them being honest with you was the right decision.

5. CALL A TIME OUT

A conversation about bullying could leave both you and your child feeling distressed. It's important to recognise this and pause at suitable moments to calm down. Take deep breaths, enjoy a hot drink or even have a cathartic cry. This can reinforce trust, while also helping you both feel that you have control over the situation and the emotions that you're feeling.

6. STAY INFORMED

Make sure you know your child's school's definition of, response to and relevant contacts for bullying. This information should be in their anti-bullying policy, which ought to be available on the school's website. Class teachers or form tutors are usually the first point of contact, though there may be dedicated support teams or key workers to help your child, depending on the specific situation.

7. PREP YOUR CHILD FOR THE RESPONSE

Schools' responses to bullying vary depending on whether they're resolving disagreements and arguments, or addressing unintended verbal or physical harm and so on. It's important to work out with your child whether any harm was intentional, how much control they had over the situation and how often such incidents have occurred. Reporting concerns accurately will get the best outcome for your child more quickly.

8. SUMMARISE YOUR CHILD'S EXPERIENCE

When you contact the school, make sure you've precisely described what your child experienced: what happened; when, where; and who was involved. This will help the school to investigate further, identifying any witnesses, as well as those who were directly involved. It can also help the school to know how your child is feeling and how they'd like the matter to be resolved.

9. LIAISE WITH THE SCHOOL

Any school has a duty to ensure that the members of its community feel safe and included. It's important for children to learn their role in this. The school must determine how best to restore these feelings of safety and respect. It's often best for schools to keep parents and carers informed of any action taken – and for families to avoid taking matters into their own hands.

10. CHECK IN FREQUENTLY

Once the issue has been resolved and the bullying behaviour has stopped, your child may still feel anxious and might find it difficult to rebuild relationships or develop new ones. Parents, carers and the school should all keep an eye on how the child is feeling and acting over the following months. Any relevant information should be shared, so that further support can be planned if necessary.

Meet Our Expert

Bob Bosley is the Director of Anti-Bullying Quality Mark-UK, which challenges and supports schools to develop sustainable whole-school approaches to prevent bullying. Including working with parents and carers. More than 80 schools in England and Wales currently hold the quality mark.



The National College

Source: https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/280000/anti-bullying-quick-guide_for_parents_and_carers.pdf

https://www.ons.gov.uk/education/articles/2018/08/14/anti-bullying-quick-guide_for_parents_and_carers.pdf | https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/280000/anti-bullying-quick-guide_for_parents_and_carers.pdf



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Class	Star of the Week
RB	Kiara
RS	Aliden
1B	Alejandra
1Z	Philip
2C	Leo
2M	Georgina
3C	Isabelle
3G	Liam
4AM	Zac
4D	Zefania
5M	Emma
5P	Cruz
6M	Adriel
6S	Targol
TT Rockstars	Adley 4D
Reading Eggs	Kyra-Lin
AFS	KS1 Hassan 1B
	KS2 Michal 3G

Autumn Term Attendance		
Class	Attendance %	Number of Lates
RB	89	3
RS	91	4
1B	95	2
1Z	96	3
2C	96	3
2M	96	0
3C	97	2
3G	97	1
4AM	92	4
4D	97	3
5M	95	3
5P	97	0
6M	96	2
6S	99	2
School Target 97.5%		

Birthdays up to 3rd March 2024

February

26th Liseli RB & Arvyn 1Z

March

1st Sura 2C, Juaquin Nursery, & Cairo 3C

2nd Noah 2M

3rd Kiansh 1Z, Junayd 3G & Fabian 2M



Safeguarding

The wellbeing of our children is of paramount importance to all staff. Should any person (parent or staff) have a concern regarding a child's wellbeing, please inform one of the school safeguarding team (Mrs O'Reilly, Mrs Hourihan, Mrs Gale, Mrs Breslin or our Chair of Governors Gill Abbott). In cases where school staff have concerns, they have a duty to discuss the issue with Social Services to seek further advice. This is the statutory obligation of all schools.

Thought of the Week

'There is always light, if only we are brave enough to see it. If only we are brave enough to be it'

Amanda Gorman

