



*In everything we do  
today, we're following  
Jesus and his way*

# School Newsletter Newsletter 6

Spring Term 2024

Thursday 22 February

Headteacher: Mr P O'Rourke  
Deputy Heads: Mrs C McGivern  
Mrs S Hukowski  
Assistant Head: Mrs L Byfield  
SENCo: Mrs J Burke

## Our School Houses

St Thérèse of Lisieux

Blue

St Oscar Romero

Red

St Francis of Assisi

Yellow

St Josephine Bakhita

Green

## This Week's Merits

*Each week, teachers nominate children in their class to receive a special merit. This could be in recognition for working hard, achieving something particular, being a good friend, or any number of reasons that show that they are living up to the school motto - 'In everything we do today, we are following Jesus and his way.' There is even a special music merit! The following children have been chosen by their teachers (CM = Class Merit).*

Class	Name of children
RG	Callum, Cillian
RW	Conor H, Maya Platt
1GS	Alanna, CM
1W	Clara, Celine
2B	Arti, Nikolas G
2K	Michael M, Shindara
2DS	Orla, Diana
3M	Jevon, Semi
3OS	Kayden J, William O
3S	Nico, Kieran
4A	Tyrone,
4P	Ysabelle, Eva
4R	Lila
5B	Sean, Emmanuel
5CN	Ethan, Sofia
5S	CM
6C	Tymon, Obaa
6K	CM, Alex
6M	CM
Music	Yannick 6M, Erin 3OS

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## Next Week in School

**Friday 23 February**

RG Stay & Play 8.45am

Year 3 at Celtic Harmony

Year 5 at Church 10am

**Tuesday 27 February**

Netball at Enfield County 3.45pm

Governor committee meeting

**Friday 1 March**

Year 6 at Church 10am

It has been an eventful week here at St George's, filled with enriching assemblies, each one leaving a lasting impact on our pupils. We had the privilege of hosting four of them this week, and I would like to highlight two particularly special ones. On Monday, we were fortunate to have the Hands On, Hand Out charity lead an assembly, shedding light on their incredible work with homeless individuals in central London. This assembly not only supported our understanding of Catholic Social Teaching principles of Dignity and Option for the Poor but also provided our children with a deeper comprehension of homelessness and its effects. It was truly fascinating to hear about their efforts.

In addition, we were honoured to welcome Sister Silvana from Caritas this morning. Her assembly not only reinforced our understanding of Catholic Social Teaching but also marked the beginning of a special project for our school's Caritas Ambassadors.

As always, I am grateful for the unwavering support and dedication of our staff, students, and parents. Together, we continue to foster an environment that promotes academic excellence and spiritual growth. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to reach out to me or any member of our team.

Wishing you a blessed weekend ahead.

## Parent survey

We are distributing a parent survey today. I would appreciate all parents completing one survey per child and returning the completed documents to school by the deadline of **Friday 8 March**. They can be returned by your child to their teacher. If you decide to return it in an envelope, it will only be opened by me or one of the deputy heads.

Full instructions are contained within a letter being attached to this newsletter today.

I would like to thank you for your time in completing these surveys and reassure parents that the responses do make a difference. I would also like to remind parents that they are not a forum for complaints (see complaints policy on the school website), and please do not make any negative or hurtful personal remarks about members of staff.

*"For there will never cease to be poor in the land. Therefore I command you, 'You shall open wide your hand to your brother, to the needy and to the poor, in your land.' (Deuteronomy 15:11)*

## Dress Up

### World Book Day

We will be celebrating World Book Day on **Friday 8 March** and this year we invite children to dress as a book character. We celebrate World Book Day each year, but dress up every other year, and it is always great fun.

There are many costumes that can be bought for this occasion, but we always stress that this is not an expectation. Each Book Day, parents and children prove how creative they can be at recreating the look of a book character for little or no cost.

For those of you who drive your children to school, please:



- **Drive carefully** on the roads surrounding school
- **Park considerately** to our neighbours
- Turn your **engine off**, not leave it running while parked
- Make every effort to walk all or some of the way to school if possible. It's healthy and good for the environment.

It has come to my notice that some parents have been parking their vehicles on the car park of **Shelley Lodge**, which is private property. This act of inconsiderate parking has caused immense frustration among the residents of Shelley Lodge. They have repeatedly raised their concerns about being blocked in and the resulting difficulties they face on a regular basis.

I want to emphasise that the car park at Shelley Lodge is exclusively for the use of its residents and is not intended for parents dropping off or picking up their children from our school. Unfortunately, the persistence of this issue has forced the residents to seek a private parking enforcement order, which could potentially lead to financial penalties for those found in violation.

As a school, we pride ourselves on fostering a strong sense of community and respect for others. It is crucial that we uphold these values both within our school premises and in the wider community. Therefore, I kindly request that all parents and guardians refrain from parking on the car park at Shelley Lodge.

There is street parking available in the vicinity of our school, which can be utilized while adhering to local parking regulations. I urge all parents to be mindful of the impact our actions have on the residents of Shelley Lodge. Let us demonstrate our commitment to being considerate and responsible members of the community by finding suitable parking alternatives.

Thank you for your attention and cooperation in this matter. If you have any further questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact the school office. Together, we can make a positive difference and ensure the smooth functioning of our school community.

## Girlguiding World Thinking Day

Thank you to Mrs O'Doherty for providing me with the following information:

World Thinking Day remains one of the most important dates in the guiding calendar, and every year the theme of the event encourages members to think about the big issues affecting them and their global community. Previous World Thinking Days have tackled the subjects of poverty, gender inequality, environmental sustainability and access to education.

## Upcoming Dates

Advance warning of some key school dates. The school calendar is constantly updated on the school website, under the parents information section.

### February

Fri 23rd Year 5 Mass (at Church) 10am  
RG Stay and Play 8.45am  
Year 3 to Celtic Harmony  
Tues 27th Netball (3.45pm) Enfield County

### March

Fri 1st Year 6 Mass (at Church) 10am  
Tues 5th Girls Football (3.45pm) Grammar School  
Fri 8th Book Day (Dress as a book character)  
Mon 11th Year 4 reconciliation  
Sublime Science Workshops  
Tues 12th Football (boys) Grammar School 3.45pm  
Sublime Science Workshops  
Fri 15th Year 5 reconciliation  
Mon 18th Year 6 reconciliation  
Parent Consultations 3.40pm - 6pm  
Tues 19th AIM High poetry workshops  
Parent Consultations 3.40pm - 6pm  
Thurs 21st Enfield Sings (2.40pm) Year 4 performance  
Fri 22nd Year 4 Mass (at Church) 10am  
RG Stay and Play 8.45am  
Tues 26 Easter Praise (9.45am & 2.15pm) Year 3  
Weds 27 Mass in school (Holy Week)  
Thurs 28 School closes for Easter 2pm



We celebrated Numbers Day on Friday 9 February by coming to school as Times Tables Rock Stars. Adults and children alike transformed themselves into a whole range of characters for the day, adding fun and vibrancy to many engaging, number-based activities. With your generous support, we were able to make a donation of £200 to the NSPCC who promote Numbers Day.



Our Brownies celebrated World Thinking Day today



## SECRET READER for World Book Day

Friday 8<sup>th</sup> March



### The Aim of the 'Secret reader'

Our school will be celebrating World Book Day on the 8<sup>th</sup> of March. Parents, carers and grandparents can visit their child's class, as a surprise, to read a story.

The adult will choose a book/story suitable to their child's class age group. During the day the teacher will let the children know that the class will be having 'a very special visitor' and a time will be allotted to the adult to come to the class. The day we would like to invite adults in is Friday 8<sup>th</sup> March between 1.30 and 3.30pm.

The daily class timetable has lots of commitments like games, Spanish and music, if you commit to a slot we ask please to be prompt at the time required.

Unfortunately we will not be able to accommodate all parents on the day. We understand that many parents have other commitments, this is going to be something which we would like to do on a regular basis so that over time, hopefully all parents/grandparents/carers will get the opportunity.

If you are available to read to the class, please email the office- FAO; Mrs Smith, with your name, phone number, child's name and class and time you will be visiting and I will get back to you.

Thank you for your support!

**Remember to keep it a secret from your child.**

### **Absence from School**

If your child is absent, please let the school office know about their absence and the reason for it. It is only through this way that absences can be authorised.

### **World Book Day**

It is just around the corner and I'm sure you're prepping for what will be a busy few days.

The Nightingale Charity Shop (118 Baker Street) are holding a World Book Day sale, next Thursday 29th February, to help all parents and children get ready for the day. We will have books from 25p and Costumes from 50p. So children can find their favourite book and costume for under £1!

We want everyone to be able to take part in such a magical and fun day.

### **Final Score**

*I am thankful to Theo (6C) for this excellent football report.*

On Tuesday we went to Enfield Grammar's astroturf pitch to play two matches. Against Lavender and St Andrew's. We rested for 15 minutes before playing Lavender. It was a tense and close match with a goal from one team followed by a goal from the other. The final score was 3-2 to Lavender who played extremely well. We then played against St Andrew's Primary. Yet again both teams fought valiantly but St Andrew's scraped a win, with the final score being 3-2 again. We had a great time and we put on an excellent performance.

*Theo (6C)*

 **THE NIGHTINGALE**  
Cancer Support Centre

WORLD  
**BOOK  
DAY**

## **WORLD BOOK DAY SALE**

**Thursday 29th February**

The Nightingale Charity Shop, 188 Baker Street, EN1 3JY

Get ready for  
World Book Day with  
**reduced** costumes and  
your **favourite** books!

Children's books  
from **25p**

Dressing-up gear  
from **50p**



## Catholic Social Teaching

Our Caritas Ambassadors have had a very busy week! On Monday, we were delighted to welcome Paul and Justine from the non-profit charity Hands On, Hands Out. The Caritas Ambassadors met every Wednesday lunchtime for the last few months, looking at the principles of Catholic Social Teaching. Following this, they then researched the needs in our local area. The children decided that homelessness was the area that they thought was most in need of addressing. They then had the tricky job of researching a charity to support, but decided to choose Hands On, Hands Out, *'because it is not just food and drink that they offer, but a listening ear and laughter'* - they thought that this was very important and particularly highlighted the Catholic Social Teaching principle of Dignity. We were delighted when Paul and Justine said they would be happy to have our support. Paul and Justine led an engaging and interactive assembly on Monday to talk to all of the children in school about the work that they do. Our Ambassadors then met with Paul and Justine to talk a little bit more about why they chose their charity and also to plan how we can support them over the coming months and years. The first part of our social action project will be to provide treat bags for our homeless friends for Easter. Therefore, we invite you all to please bring in one or more of the following items to school by 22nd March:

- Easter eggs
- Chocolate
- Crisps
- Biscuits
- Gift card for Greggs/Starbucks/Costa Coffee/Pret a Manger

Paul and Justine suggested that gift cards for coffee shops would be a nice treat. The Ambassadors thought that giving a gift card was important too, so that our homeless friends can have the opportunity to purchase food and drink of their choosing- again highlighting the dignity of the person. We want people to 'Thrive, not just survive'.

The ambassadors then met with Fr Patrick- he was very impressed with all of the work that our Ambassadors have done. Lilly showed Fr Patrick her logo and our team's favourite slogan, 'Thrive not just survive' and he also thought it was great! He spoke about a statue of a homeless person and we thought that it was amazing- it has given us further ideas about what we can do to further raise awareness. We look forward to working with our Parish to support our homeless friends.

Long term, the Ambassadors would like to ask for donations of socks and hygiene products, plus the writing of cards and messages to our homeless friends- more information will be provided in the summer term. We have also contacted our local MP with regards to homelessness and look forward to hearing back. If you are unable to donate, Paul and Justine reminded us of the importance of smiling to our homeless friends when we see them.

Today, Sr Silvana from Caritas Westminster came in to speak to the children in all year groups. She spoke about the work that she does and how Caritas means 'Love' and the ways in which we can put Love into Action, inspired by the lived faith of Jesus and Pope Francis. She also brought along a special visitor - Nigel P Enguin! The Ambassadors then spoke about the work that they have done over the last few months, why they chose to raise awareness and support of homelessness and to launch their project to help support the work of Hands On Hands Out. They then received their special badges from Sr Silvana and are currently wearing them with great pride! I am very proud of our Ambassadors and look forward to seeing the fruits of all their hard work! Thank you in advance to our families at home for supporting this very worthy cause.

*Mrs McGivern and our Caritas Ambassadors - Julietta, Anaya, Lilly, Martina, Sofia and Rosie*







*The wonderful **Young Shakespeare Company** led engaging workshops with Year 6 this week*

## Primary Maths Challenge

A few weeks ago, on the 8th February, four talented pupils from year 5 were selected to participate in a maths competition at the Guildhall, hosted by the numeracy enthusiasm company: DCBeagle Challenges and the Christ's Hospital School. These four individuals were myself, Freddie (5S), Tyler (5B) and Daniel (5CN). We had to wake up bright and early for we had to catch the 8:09 train at Enfield Town Station with Mrs Angland and Mrs Divira all the way to Liverpool Street. Once we had arrived, we were split into tow groups and were allocated to different tables. We began with a starter activity before the real event commenced. There were three rows of five tables. Each table had one maths activity and we had eight minutes to compete each of the challenges. Overall my school a reasonable amount of points. Despite our efforts though, we couldn't manage to calin a top four position. However, we still had a thrilling experience and each and everyone of us were proud we had achieved.

*Dylan (5S)*

