



Wednesday 16 March 2022

Dear Parents and Carers

Please see below this weeks' notices.

Important Update around Class Acts of Worship

Following the review of our school risk assessment, we are now in the position to welcome parents into school to join class Acts of Worship on a Friday. In order to keep everyone as safe as possible we do ask that parents do not attend if they are presenting with COVID or cold like symptoms or if there is a positive case in the household. We also ask for parents to wear masks during the worship (unless you are exempt). This will ensure we maintain high levels of vigilance and can continue to open our doors more widely to parents which we know has been well overdue as a school and country.

When it is your child's class Act of Worship, you will receive a notification through ClassDojo 2 weeks in advance. When you receive this notification and you are able to attend, please ensure you comment on the post as the number of parents able to attend will dictate where the liturgy takes place and whether the partner class can attend as normal.

We ask that parents attending wait in the playground where they will be collected by a member of staff at approximately 8.50 and escorted to the Chapel or Hall (depending on numbers attending). Staff will then escort parents to the exit following the Act of Worship. We are looking forward to a time when we might be able to invite parents into the classroom following worship but will continue to monitor this aspect throughout the remainder of the year.

Catholic Life: Faith in Action

Last week, Class 14 shared a wonderful Act of Worship around their RE Topic 'Unity'. It was wonderful that we were in a position to be able to invite the parents and carers of Class 14 to watch the Act of Worship in person. It was lovely to see some able to attend. The children shared poems and letters they had written to the children in Year 2 explaining quite clearly what unity meant to them:

- U-united together
- N-no to bullying and racism
- I-inspirational
- T-trust in God
- Y-be yourself

The singing was loud and uplifting and all the adults there joined in with the excitement of once again being united together as a school community. Not only did the children link their Act of Worship to our SPIRIT, but also to the Gospel and British Values. By working together in unity we can all be better people because being united we grow stronger. During Lent, we invite you to unite with God and be one with Jesus. Just as the children reminded us in song – we're all in this together.

Clothing Bank

Many thanks to our families and carers for the donations of uniform received so far. These are now displayed in the school office area. If any of our families are in need of school uniform, please come along and have a browse through the uniform displayed on the rack and help yourself; if there is something there you need, please feel free to take it.

In our continued bid to Live in Solidarity with the Poor, we ask you to keep donations of school uniform and donations of food and toiletries coming in so we can restock our clothes rack and refill our food hampers. We have already been able to donate 4 hampers to the Padley Centre and we would like to continue to be in a position to donate some more.

Please see the following message received from the Padley Centre last week:



St Mary's Catholic Voluntary Academy

Broadway, Derby, DE22 1AU
www.stmarys.derby.sch.uk
admin@stmarys.derby.sch.uk
Twitter: @stmarysderby
Company Number 7937154



**St Ralph
Sherwin**
Catholic Multi Academy Trust



Dear Friends of St Mary's CVA

RE: Donation

We would like to thank you for your very kind and generous donation to the Padley Group.

Donations such as these are invaluable in enabling us to continue delivering our services and will be used to support the delivery of our Padley Centre in Derby providing services to people who have experience of, or are at risk of, homelessness:

- Food, clothing and toiletry parcels to those in need;
- Prepared meals for those choosing between eating or heating;
- Cooking courses providing recipes of balanced nutritious meals on a budget;
- Activities to support the wellbeing and mental health;
- Activities providing the simple pleasures we all take for granted, such as watching a film, reading a book and sharing a meal with friends;
- Activities encouraging engagement with appropriate support services;
- Access to support services such as substance misuse;
- Access to services to support physical health conditions
- Have a haircut;
- Self-contained supported accommodation to develop the skills to maintain a tenancy;
- Obtain the support needed to make positive life changes.

Last year we cooked 16,217 hot meals, handed out 841 food parcels. We had 57 people stay in our hostel with 61% having planned and positive move on into their own accommodation or accommodation best suited to their needs. We have also had 2,191 visits to our Day Centre seeking support.

Without the generosity of the people of Derby and Derbyshire our services to people who are experiencing homelessness, social isolation and insecurity would not be here.

With the kindest of regards and many thanks
The Padley Group

Celebrating Achievements

Huge congratulations to the following children who received a Headteacher's Award for excellent work and/or demonstrated outstanding behaviour and attitude towards learning this week: Ajana G, Emilia S, Grace K, Viona I, Adrian V, Isabel R, Lorenzo M, Philip L, Stefan J, Shaquan M, Minahil H and Wiktoria L.

A special mention goes to Charlie M for achieving his red belt in martial arts, Yuna P for coming second in a solo gymnastics performance and to Lorenzo M who has independently raised £700 for Ukrainian refugees through his home baking. Congratulations to you all.

Coffee Morning

We are delighted to let you know we will be holding our first coffee morning here in school on Tuesday 22nd March from 8:45am onwards. We would love you all to join us; it has been such a long time since we have been able to meet within the school itself, so this is a wonderful opportunity. We will also be giving an update on the school's new and innovative approach to the curriculum. Please come along and feel free to bring any younger children too. It is a great way to meet other parents and get to know the school community better.



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In response to the feedback we received from the parent survey last half term, we will be uploading all Knowledge Organisers for each term onto your child's portfolio in ClassDojo. This way, we hope they will be easier to access. Finally, just to inform you that the new Home-School Communication Policy is now on our website to view.

Dates for your Diary

Please see below a list of upcoming key dates for your diaries:

- Tuesday 22 March – Coffee morning in the school hall at 8.45am
- Friday 8 April – Last day of term
- Monday 25 April - School re-opens for the Pentecost Term
- Friday 27 May – Last day of term
- Monday 6 June – Children return following half-term
- Friday 1 July – INSET
- Friday 22 July – Last day of term

Please feel free to contact us if you require anything in addition to the information above.

Best wishes and God Bless

The Leadership Team



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