******

**St. Ethelbert’s Catholic**

**Primary School and Nursery**

***‘Learning, achieving and growing together with Jesus’***

**Headteacher: Mrs F.Maynard**

Wexham Road, Slough, Berkshire SL2 5QR

Telephone: 01753 522048 Fax: 01753 552613

“The glory of God is a human being fully alive!”

post@stethelberts.slough.sch.uk

Friday 18th September 2020

**Friday Newsletter**

This week has been a glorious week weather-wise and the children have very much enjoyed playing outside at lunchtime and break. The children have staggered breaks and lunchtimes so they stay within their class and year group bubbles. This has made timetabling a challenge, but all the children have adapted very well and understand which ‘zone’ is theirs when playing outside. As many children as we can safely accommodate are now eating their school dinners at a table in one of the halls. Year groups are distanced and tables are not reused by more than one year group. We feel this gives children an opportunity to practise the important skills of eating with cutlery and sitting with others while eating.

We welcomed our new Reception pupils who have started with half days this week. The children have been amazing and have settled so well. Miss Harper, Early Years lead, is so impressed with them all. Thank you to our new parents, who have had to leave their children at the gate on their first days at school, for following our procedures – your children are fantastic!

The Gospel on Sunday was concerned with forgiveness, and in assembly this week we have been reminding the children that it is important to be able to forgive, which is not always easy when you feel you have been wronged. This Sunday’s Gospel reading theme is selflessness, the assemblies next week will focus on this.

Thank you to all parents who are sending their children in to school in PE uniform on PE days. If you need to order a new PE shirt, these are available from Recognition Express who also supply our jumpers and cardigans. When the weather turns colder, navy shorts can be swapped for navy joggers.

**Celebration Assembly**

It's been a busy week at school with our pupils showing their teachers just how hard they have been working. This week in Celebration Assembly the following certificates were awarded:

**1M – Wojciech for working hard all week.**

**1I - Alessandra for contributing to class discussions.**

**2M - Lily for working hard and challenging herself all week.**

**2M - Daniel for being an excellent, hardworking member of 2M.**

**2S - Heidi for good listening on the carpet.**

**3F – Zoe for taking pride in her role as Faith Ambassador and leading the class in prayer.**

**3P – Kudzaishe for fantastic manners and being a brilliant role model.**

**4C – Natalie who has been so helpful and enthusiastic about her learning. She has made positive choices and has had a great start to the year.**

**4W - Kate for working hard in maths and persevering when the work became challenging.**

**5M - Joanna for always showing good manners and being a role model for her class.**

**5E - Kaden who is 5E's star of the week. He is always ready to learn, always trying his best in lessons, participates thoughtfully in class discussions and usually does it with a smile too!**

**6D - Musa for returning to school with a mature attitude. He is a fantastic role model for all of the other pupils.**

**6G - Sumbul for a great start to Year 6! She has been working hard in all lessons and always trying her best. She has also been a wonderful buddy to a new student in our class, taking the time to explain things and help her with everything. A wonderful role model for the other students!**

**6M - Oliwia will be receiving a certificate this week for coming to school with an amazing attitude and persevering with developing her confidence in all subjects.**

**School Uniform**

Please ensure your child has the correct uniform:

* Grey trousers, shorts, skirt or pinafore
* Blue shirt
* St Ethelbert’s school jumper or cardigan
* School tie
* Plain black shoes
* Hairbands, bows and hair beads should be navy or brown/black

On PE days, pupils wear PE uniform all day:

* St Ethelbert’s coloured house polo shirt
* Navy shorts or joggers
* School jumper
* Plimsolls or plain black trainers
* In very cold weather, a navy sweatshirt may be worn as an additional layer outdoors only

If you are having difficulty in providing uniform, please make an appointment to speak to Maggie Brennan, Welfare and Parent Support Officer, in confidence.

**October Inset day cancelled**

We were due to have a staff Inset day with the other Catholic schools in Slough on **Friday 16th October.** Due to distancing regulations, this has been cancelled so school will be **open** on Friday 16th October, closing at 1pm as usual for our parent consultation meetings. Please amend your diaries and calendars.

**Parent Consultations**

These will be held remotely on Wednesday 14th October from 3.30pm to 7.00pm and Friday 16th October from 1.30pm to 3.30pm. Information will be sent shortly informing parents of how to book appointments.

**Secondary Admissions - reminder**

The application process for secondary school admissions for our current Year 6 pupils for September 2021 opens on **Saturday 12th September 2020** and closes on **Saturday 31st October 2020**. Parents can enter their applications through the online portal using the link below. All information is on the Slough BC website.

<http://www.slough.gov.uk/schools-and-learning/school-admissions.aspx>

If you wish your child to sit the 11+ test for grammar school entry, it is essential that you read the information on the council website carefully, and in good time. **Parents must enter their children themselves; the primary schools do not do this.**

Please read the admission criteria for each secondary school carefully, if you apply for schools where you do not meet the criteria, your child is unlikely to be awarded a place. For St Joseph’s High School, a priest’s reference is required.

**Reminders for next week**

* **Reception children in all day**
* **Homework will be set on Seesaw from Friday 18th September, due in Friday 25th September. Weekly homework will then be set every Friday.**

**Clubs start next week**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Day**  | **Club** |
| **Monday**  | **Girls Only Football (Years 4-6)** |
| **Tuesday** | **Multi-skills (Years 4-6)** |
| **Wednesday** | **Multi-skills (Years 1-3) and Dance (Years 1-3)** |
| **Thursday** | **Athletics (Years 4-6)** |
| **Friday** | **Gymnastics (Years 1-3)** |

**Welfare Reminder**

If you have any welfare concerns, please contact the school office to speak to Ms Brennan in confidence.

**Please do not send your child to school if they, or anyone in your household, is showing symptoms of coronavirus.**

**Safeguarding Reminder**

It is becoming apparent that some of our older pupils are spending large amounts of time gaming and/or using the internet in the evening without supervision. Children who stay up late on games consoles or other devices are not able to function effectively in school due to lack of sleep. Sleep is vital for children for growing and brain development. Please take your child’s devices away from them at least an hour before bed and ensure they get a decent night’s sleep. Parents should also be aware there is hugely inappropriate and disturbing content easily accessible on the internet by children if they are not supervised carefully.

Our school staff member with responsibility for safeguarding is:

**Miss Kerry Slattery, Safeguarding and Pupil Wellbeing Officer**

If you wish to speak to Miss Slattery, please make an appointment via the school office.

God Bless

**St Ethelbert, pray for us**

**Mrs Maynard**

**Headteacher**