

ST. BEDE'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Mrs S Clarke
Headteacher

15th October 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

Just a few updates before we head into our final week before half term. Fr Chris commented on how quickly time passes the other day and I'm in full agreement with him.

Mini Vinnies

The Mini Vinnies start their harvest collection for Durham Foodbank on Monday. Please support them by sending in a donation of non-perishable food, tins etc – or sanitary items, toothpaste/toothbrushes. All donations will be sent straight to the Foodbank and really do go a long way in supporting local families in need. Please send any donations into school with your child and this will be collected by their class teachers.

The Mini Vinnies Harvest Liturgy is also on Friday at 2pm and their parents will be welcome to attend. Entry will be via the hall entrance and we would ask that you sign in and sanitise upon arrival. Unfortunately we do not have permissions for all children to be photographed, so we would politely ask that no photos/videos are taken on the day.

Traffic survey!

The School Council have already been busy and conducted a traffic survey today to gauge the volume of traffic passing St Bede's at busy times of the day. Our next step will be writing to our local MP to see what traffic calming measures we can get in place (if any!) We hope that we can have some impact – and feel strongly that this will not only benefit pupils and parents in our school but also other members of our local community and Parish. Watch this space for updates!

Book donations

The School Council would like to ask parents/carers for book donations if they have any old children's books that are no longer in use. We would love to add to our library and/or classrooms and this also provides opportunity for a clear-out just before the Christmas season begins! Any donations are greatly appreciated and will hopefully go a long way to helping resource our library.

With the library in mind – we are hoping to develop this and will be raising funds throughout the year. In order to start this off – the School Council have asked for a non-uniform day next Friday 22nd October. They would ask for a small contribution of £1 for this. Mrs Daynes will add this to School Money system for parents that wish to contribute (please note that this is optional).

Hopefully, we will organise a much bigger fundraiser in the future, with any monies raised, again going towards refurbishing the library.

Year 6/Reception Liturgy

Our Welcome Liturgy for Reception Class will take place on Thursday 21st at 2:30pm. Parents of children in Y6 and Reception are welcome to attend. Entry will be via the hall entrance and we would ask that you sign in and sanitise upon arrival. Unfortunately we do not have permissions for all children to be photographed, so we would politely ask that no photos/videos are taken on the day.

Half term & INSET

School closes on Friday 22nd October at 3:20pm for half term. Please remember that school is closed for essential first aid training on Monday 1st November. We will reopen as normal on Tuesday 2nd November.

Meet the Teacher

Thank you to all parents who came to 'Meet the Teacher'. Staff were thrilled to finally have some parents in school – albeit still having to maintain social distancing! We hope that things will become more normal over the course of the coming weeks and months.

Next half term

A 'What's on' notice at the end of next week, outlining what events will be taking place in school after half term. Unfortunately, we cannot always guarantee that events will go ahead due to restrictions etc. that may/may not be imposed but will let you know of any changes in good time.

Class 3 Swimming

Freeman's Quay have cancelled swimming lessons for Class 3 for the foreseeable future due to staffing shortages. This is beyond our control unfortunately but please be assured, as soon as we get the go ahead once more – they will pick up where they left off.

Wishing you all a safe, happy and restful weekend.

With every best wish from all the staff at St Bede's,

Mrs S Clarke

Headteacher