

16th February 2024

Dear Families,

I hope that you are all well.

Lent

Everyone came together this week to begin their Lenten journey with a moving Ash Wednesday service led by Deacon John Hawthorne. We talked about all of the positive things we can do over the next 40 days of this very important period in the Church's Liturgical year. On Thursday, Bishop Stephen Wright visited St Oswald's and led the whole school in a celebration Mass. He was very impressed with how beautifully the children sang, read and prayed throughout. It was a lovely start to the season of Lent.



Year 6 Drama Club

Earlier this week, the Year 6 drama club treated their families to an amazing performance of 'The Boy, the Mole, the Fox and the Horse,' based on the book by Charlie Mackesy. They conveyed some lovely messages of positivity and encouragement through a fantastic performance that they shared with the rest of the school today - a wonderful end to the half term.



PTO

PTA Fundraising Events

Our fantastic PTA are organising a 'Half-term Heroes' challenge to all of the children in school. Everyone is welcome to take part and any funds raised will be added up in your child's House Group and the overall winners will be revealed in our Friday Celebration Assembly! More details can be found in the attachment alongside this newsletter – Good luck!

A huge thank you to everyone who contributed and bought cakes at our Bake Sale last Friday – despite the awful weather, we still raised a whopping £241! What a brilliant achievement.

PE Arrangements for next half term

After half term, a number of classes will have PE on different days again due to the fact that there will be external sports coaches working with the children in school (apologies for any inconvenience this may cause).

Children will have PE on the following days (classes whose days have changed are highlighted):

Reception: Monday & Thursday

Year 1: Monday & Thursday

Year 2: Tuesday & Friday

Year 3: Tuesday & Wednesday

Year 4: Thursday & Friday

Year 5: Monday & Wednesday

Year 6: Thursday & Friday

Dates for diaries:

Please find below some key dates for the Spring Term:

February

Friday 16th February – Break up for the half term holidays

Monday 26th February – School re-opens for the second half of the Spring term

Tuesday 27th February – Year 1 & Year 2 begin their 'Story Maker' sessions led by the Newcastle Music service

Thursday 29th February – 'Safety around the Metro' assembly led by Nexus

March

Friday 1st March – Year 5 Liturgy for parents in school 9am

PTO



(Dates for diaries cont.)

Monday 4th March – Year 3 visit to the Discovery Museum linked to their Science topic ‘Light’

Friday 8th March – Year 1 Liturgy for parents in school 9am

Friday 15th March – Year 3 Liturgy for parents in school 9am

Monday 18th March – Year 6 visit to the ‘Safety Works’ interactive safety centre

Monday 18th March – Parents’ Consultation Evening in school 3:10pm – 6:00pm (Reception - Year 6)

Tuesday 19th March – Year 1 visit to the Castle Keep

Wednesday 20th March – Parents’ Consultation Evening in school 3:10pm – 6:00pm (Reception - Year 6)

Thursday 21st March – Year 4 Dance Festival (details to follow)

Friday 22nd March – Year 6 Liturgy for parents in school 9am

Monday 25th March – Easter Egg Competition in school

Tuesday 26th March – Year 4 Stations of the Cross with other Catholic schools at St Mary’s Cathedral

Wednesday 27th March – Year 4 & Year 5 Easter Production at Sacred Heart Church 7pm **TBC**

Thursday 28th March – Reception Easter Story for parents in school 9am

Thursday 28th March – Break up for the Easter holidays

April

Monday 15th April – School re-opens for the start of the Summer term

Other Important Dates:

Monday 13th - Thursday 16th May – Year 6 SATs week (please do not book holidays during this week)

Friday 24th May - Staff Training Day (School Closed to children)

Wednesday 5th - Friday 7th June – Year 4 residential to Hawkhirst

Saturday 15th June – Year 4 First Holy Communion Celebration at Sacred Heart Church

Monday 17th - Wednesday 19th June – Year 5 residential to Keswick

Wednesday 19th – Friday 21st June – Year 6 residential to Borrowdale

With my very best wishes,



P Marley

