



ST. JOHN BOSCO CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Headteacher - Mr D MacAreavy

Chair of Governors—Mrs A Parkinson

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Dear Parents

As another school year draws to a close school is as busy as ever with so much going on that it will be a challenge to cram it all in by 2.00pm on Friday. I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for the support that you have given to your children throughout the year and the kind words that have been sent to our extremely hardworking teaching and support staff. It is much appreciated, however a quick thank you or a smile and a wave does go a long way. Thank you for completing the summer questionnaires, which again shows how much you value and appreciate all that we do for your children both in school and after school. We strive to provide a safe and happy learning environment and with your support and understanding we feel that this is achieved, however everybody can make improvements and we do value your positive opinions which can help us further in providing a truly outstanding learning experience. We currently have 11 families on a waiting list for our reception class in September 2018. As a staff we are looking at developing a more relevant curriculum for our children which will involve projects that the children will engage in and recent trials of this process have included the Reception and Year 1 Art Exhibition, Year 2 habitat display in the polytunnel and the Year 5 Grand National Project culminating in the fantastic race afternoon tea event. Keep an eye out for the article in the local paper.

It is clear to me from staff meetings and general discussions that our school has never been a happier, more purposeful place and I would like to thank all the teachers and staff who go that extra mile to make your child's learning experience just that bit more exciting. A recent visit from an Ofsted Inspector suggested that we should write requesting an extra inspection as she felt our school was clearly outstanding when compared to schools that have been given such a grade. We were delighted but respectfully replied that we were happy to wait until the inspection cycle returned in about four years.

We say a big thank you to two of our Governors who will be leaving at the end of this year. Mrs Brannigan who has been a Governor for all of my twenty years at St John Bosco School and Mrs Parkinson who has been our Chair of Governors for the past four years and a foundation governor before that. We hope they will be able to enjoy valuable time with their families and I thank them for their years of support in ensuring that our school continues to develop its learning opportunities both inside and outside of the classroom and supporting me in securing the very best teaching and support staff for our children. I am sure that you will join me in welcoming Fr Grant onto the governing board and I know that he is currently in the process of securing new governors who are keen to continue our governors good work and our school's excellent standing in the community.

The school has a fantastic reputation which is richly deserved and I would like to thank everyone who contributes to this important part of our extended curriculum. A special thanks should go to The Friends of St John Bosco who supported me throughout the year by providing a number of enjoyable social events and it was wonderful to see so many parents offer their help at the Summer Fair. It was unquestionably our best ever.

Children's University

This year we had another exciting trip to Edge Hill University where our children in Year 2 and 6 graduated. It was great to see just how many of our children were able to attend due to the number of credits that they had achieved in after school clubs and activities outside of the school environment. Our aim is for every child in Year 6 to experience this and we would like to thank you for encouraging your child to support our 'have a go' culture. Well done to all our graduates.

I was so proud that Shane was asked to entertain the parents as they waited for the celebration to begin. He said he was a bit nervous at the start but once he got going he did not want to stop. Here he is pictured with George (The Sheriff of Nottingham) his classmate who was awarded the outstanding achievement award.



The Year 6 Sports Personalities were chosen by our teachers and congratulations go to Hannah and Ethan for their participation achievement and effort throughout the year.

As I have said in previous newsletters the children have worked extremely hard throughout this year and have been well taught and supported both in school and at home and we are all extremely pleased with the achievements and progress that they have made throughout this year. In an era where schools are pitted against each other and league tables seem to indicated everything it is most encouraging that as a school that is so openly inclusive we continue to achieve significantly above national and local authority standards. Many congratulations to all our children in Year 2 and Year 6 who worked so hard as they prepared to their National Tests. Well done to everyone of you. This can only happen with a dedicated and high professional teaching staff who plan and deliver exciting and relevant lessons everyday. As I have indicated the schools teaching compliment has never been stronger and it is with some sadness that we say goodbye to Mr Greenwood who has had a noticeable impact in Year 3 as he leaves us to take up his new teaching position. Many of the parents in year 3 have commented on their children's standard of work and the support and exciting learning environment that Mr Greenwood has created, I would like to thank him on behalf of our Governors and all the staff and children and wish him every happiness and success in the future. We welcome Miss Briscoe who joins our school in September. She has already been into school on several occasions and our current year 2 class are looking forward to Miss Briscoe teaching them in September. I am also delighted to welcome Mrs Maitland who will be joining our Year 1 team every morning to provide support and challenge for our children in reading, writing and maths

Swimming Arrangements for Autumn Term 2018

We are pleased to be able to continue with our extended swimming provision and the swimming sessions will continue on Wednesdays and Fridays as has been the case throughout the past year. The first swimming session for our children will be on Friday 7th September for Year 6. The Wednesday swimming session will commence on 12th September and will be for Year 5. Can you please ensure that your child has the appropriate equipment including a cap in order for them to enjoy this activity.



A special congratulations to our girl footballers who have had an amazing season. It has been great to enter them into so many tournaments and lovely to see how well they have played together and the way that they have encouraged each other throughout the year. Here they are at the Southport and Formby Girls football tournament which celebrated the World Cup. There were twelve schools taking part and our girls came third losing only two matches to the teams that eventually came first and second. Wherever we go everyone comments on the girls fantastic football kit.



Early Morning Cricket Club
(What a way to start your day)



Year 3 & 4 LFC Foundation Finalists



Recent events which have shown the strength of our family school have included an amazing summer fair, the two fantastic sports days, the wonderful music evening and the amazing Year 6 production. The children have also been involved in making their scarecrows as well as continuing to take part in a number of sporting events including boys football, girls football and cricket.

We would like to introduce you to our new Senior Leadership Team, who shall be running a very tight ship in September. Anyone found parking on yellow lines or using the staff car park inappropriately will be expected to walk the plank and have their monthly rum rations removed.

After School Clubs

After school clubs will commence on Monday 10th September and the children will be given the after school options when they return in the usual way.

Please encourage your boys and girls in Year 4, 5 and 6 to attend Hi Five/Netball Club as we really would like to promote this in the same way that we have done to the early morning cricket club which has been a tremendous success with 20 children regularly attending.

School Funding and School Improvement

The Archdiocesan School Levy (£10.00) is the main way in which the Archdiocese supports school building improvement. Thank you to all of you who have contributed to this important funding stream. Without it school development becomes extremely difficult and I am delighted to inform you that I have secured £30,000 of funding to improve our perimeter fencing as well as provide an electric gate system at the front of the school which will be shared by both school and enable us to have greater control over who is able to access our school grounds. I have also obtained a £10,000 grant to upgrade and make some additions to outdoor facilities. Our new polytunnel will have the ground levelled and an artificial grass flooring installed which will be utilised by the teachers to provide similar facilities to those which many of the children have used by way of exhibiting their work. I am also awaiting the outcome of a National Lottery bid which will see the Darby Ground converted to an all weather surface (fingers crossed).

School App

We are currently trialling a school app which is linked to our school website. You simply need to download the school jotter school mobile app from the Apple App Store or Google Play. Open the app and select our school from the drop down list and hopefully you will never miss any school information again. I must stress that this is a trial and we will seek your views in the new term in order to consider purchasing this product.

School Dinners and Breakfast Club Payments

School dinners remain at £2.10 per day (£10.50 per week). Please pay for school dinners and breakfast club (£3.30) on Wednesday 5th September for w/e 7th September and then again on Friday 7th September for school meals for the w/b 10th September. Thank you for your help.

May I take this opportunity to wish you all a very happy summer break and hope that you enjoy your time with your children. I look forward to welcoming you all back to another exciting school year on Wednesday 5th September.

Thanking you for your continued support, kind words and appreciation.

