



Dear Parents and Carers,

As the sun begins to shine brighter and the days grow longer, we at St. John Fisher CVA are excited to usher in the month of May! Last week after much prompting from students, they were finally allowed, after the grass was cut and it deemed dry enough, on the school field for breaktimes and lunchtimes – they loved it! Like new born lambs springing on our spacious green fields, they enjoyed the space, fresh air and the time for play with friends and class mates.

This newsletter brings news of upcoming events, student achievements, and important reminders as we approach the upcoming first May bank holiday weekend.

We hope you all have a relaxing and enjoyable long weekend, filled with time for family, friends, and perhaps some well-deserved rest!

Catholic Life

Ascension Mass

We are pleased to invite you to a special Mass to celebrate Ascension Thursday on May 9th at 9 a.m.

Ascension Thursday is a holy day in the Christian calendar that commemorates the day Jesus Christ ascended into heaven. This Mass will be a wonderful opportunity for our school community to come together in prayer and reflection.

Parents/carers/families/parishioners are also warmly invited to join us.

Parish Links:

Our school serves: St Mary's and St John Bosco parish. Please see the website below for more information.
<https://cathparishmje.co.uk/>

May

The month of May is especially dedicated to Mary, Our Blessed Mother, and it is the occasion when Catholics from every part of the world pay a moving tribute of love for Mary. The Blessed Virgin Mary is the Mother of the Church and therefore our guide and inspiration for devotion to Jesus. The children will have the opportunity to pray the Rosary and learn the prayers of the Rosary, including the Hail Holy Queen. We will share some resources on Arbor so that you can pray the Rosary with your children at home too.

Mrs Johnson will be running a Rosary Prayer time every Wednesday morning during May starting Wednesday 8th May at 8.30am in the Learning Lounge. All are welcome, children too.

First Holy Communion

This year's programme is coming up to the important final stages for Year 4 children in St John Fisher School. Please keep all the children in your prayers as they prepare for this special sacrament.

Sun protection

As we enter the season of summer, please remember to apply sun cream to your child before they come to school, as well as providing them with a sun hat and a water bottle each day. The sunscreen in school should only be used when there are prolonged outside activities and the sunscreen from home may need 'topping up.'

Start of the school day



It is important that children arrive at school on time. The gates open at 8.30am, all children should be in school by 8.40am. Reception parents may walk their children to class from 8.30 to 8.40am. School gates will be locked by 8.45am.

Sportshall

Congratulations to our fantastic sportshall athletics team who achieved an impressive but agonising 4th place finish at the Loughborough University competition on April 22nd!

Their hard work, dedication, and impressive skills truly shone through on the day. We are incredibly proud of their accomplishment. For a school our size to be competing in such an event as winners of our district area is impressive indeed and then to give such a great account of ourselves is a testament to the talent and skills of the children!

A big thank you also goes out to our dedicated coaches (Mrs Astill, Mrs Barrow and Mrs Pinel) who have tirelessly supported the team throughout their training and on the competition day.

Team: Josh, Zadie, Dylan, Stanley, Kiedis, Declan, Kiyara, Isla, Aria, Ganga, Savannah, Jack O, Daniel H, Sadie, Tyler, Daniel O, Eireanna, Emily, Raj, Celia, Jack P.

Babies & Tots

Babies & Tots takes place every Wednesday in the school hall. 8.50am to 10.30am. Check out the Babies & Tots Facebook page for more information.

Staffing

We bid a fond farewell to Mrs D'Souza who leaves us on May 10th for a new chapter in her career. We thank her sterling work here as teaching assistant and as a midday supervisor.

We are delighted to announce that Mr. McVea's contract has been extended and will be staying with us at St John Fisher CVA for another year. The entire school community is thrilled to have Mr. McVea's dedication and passion for primary education continue to benefit our students. We look forward to another 12 months of learning and fun in his class!

Mark your calendars – Walk to School week is coming!

Get ready to lace up your walking shoes, grab your scooter, or dust off your bike! The exciting Walk to School Week is coming to St. John Fisher CVA from 20th to 24th May!

Stay tuned for more details about exciting activities planned for Walk to School Week as the eco-council finalise their plans!

Of course, you are more than welcome to start earlier like a lot of families are already doing by scooting, walking or cycling to St John Fisher.

Uniform: Summer

As the weather is getting warmer, the children can now wear their summer uniform. This includes grey shorts or a blue checked summer dress. The children have been taking great pride in their appearance and dressing to impress! We expect the very best from our children with regards to school uniform and appearance and strongly believe that high standards promote positive behaviour. Thank you for your support.

Uniform: Change of supplier



This message is to inform you about a change to our school uniform supplier. Marks & Spencer (M&S) will no longer be offering embroidered uniform items for St John Fisher CVA or indeed any other schools. We understand this may cause some inconvenience, and we apologise for any disruption this may cause.

What this means for you:

From 14th October 2024, you can no longer purchase pre-embroidered uniform items directly from M&S. Until then you still can buy these items.

We are actively searching for new suppliers to provide embroidered uniform options for the future. We will keep you updated on our progress and announce the new supplier as soon as possible.

Class Dojo – Communication

We are currently developing a comprehensive ClassDojo policy to ensure clear and consistent communication between staff and parents. This policy will be shared with the school community in the coming weeks.

In the meantime, we kindly ask parents to be mindful of a few key points when using ClassDojo to communicate with staff:

Response Times: Teachers prioritise their time during the school day to focus on delivering engaging lessons and supporting students. While they will endeavor to respond to ClassDojo messages as soon as possible, there may be times when a response is delayed.

Best Method of Communication: Urgent matters or those requiring a detailed response may be better by scheduling a meeting or phone call with the teacher.

We appreciate your understanding and continued cooperation. If you have any questions in the interim, please don't hesitate to contact the school office.

Lockdown policy and procedures

At St. John Fisher CVA, the safety and well-being of our students and staff is our top priority. As part of our ongoing commitment to a secure learning environment, we are currently in the process of formulating a comprehensive lockdown policy.

We understand that lockdown procedures can be a sensitive topic. We want to assure you that we are approaching this matter with the utmost seriousness and care. Our goal is to develop a plan that is effective and practical, while also minimizing any potential for alarm within our school community, especially our children.

We will be transparent in communicating the basics of the plan with families once it is finalized after discussions with governors.

Clubs

Extracurricular after school clubs have resumed this term as well as some invitational, subscribed and PTFA clubs. Thank you to all our teachers, staff, volunteers and coaches for giving our children these extra opportunities. Please let us know of any absences in advance so we may update our club registers.

SATs

Our Year 6 children are doing their end of Key Stage 2 SATs in the week beginning 13th May and our Year 2 children will be completing their assessments in the last couple of weeks of the term. Other year groups will be



taking part in annual assessments after half term. Thank you to all our parents for your support with homework, as it does make a difference!

To give your child a really good start for SATs week, we are inviting all year 6 children to join us for FREE breakfast from Monday 13th May to Thursday 17th May.

Breakfast club starts at 7.40 a.m.

God bless,

Mr Gallagher



DATES FOR THE DIARY

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| May | 6 th | Bank Holiday |
| | 7 th | Year 4 Trip to King Richard III Visitor Centre |
| | 8 th | Year 4 Toplink festival at St Paul's |
| | 9 th | 9 a.m. Ascension Mass |
| | 13 th – 16 th | Year 6 SATS |
| | 15 th | 6 p.m. New entrants parent's evening |
| | 23 rd | 2.45 p.m. Year 4 Multiplication Times Tables Check info for parents |
| | 24 th | Interhouse sports day (all children to come in their house colours) |
| | 27 th – 31 st May | Half term |

June

In this half term, Year 3 swimming begins

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| | 3 rd | Return to school |
| | 4 th | Year 4/5/6 East Leicester City Athletics |
| | 5 th | Reception Trip to Mini Meadows |
| | 6 th | Year 1 Victorian Day at Beaumanor Hall |
| | 12 th | Year 5 Toplink festival at St Paul's |
| | 18 th | Year 5 Greek Day |
| | 21 st | Year 5/6 Swimming Gala at Parklands |
| | 25 th | Year 6 Toplink festival at St Paul's |
| | 26 th | p.m. KS1 Sports Day |
| | 26 th – 28 th | Year 6 residential to The Briars |
| | 29 th | PTFA Summer Fayre |

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| July | 4 th | Year 6 Leavers' production |
| | 5 th | p.m. KS2 Sports Day |
| | 10 th | 6 p.m. Year 6 Leavers' Mass |
| | 12 th | End of academic year 2 p.m. finish |
| | | After school club finish at 4.15 p.m. |