



Dear Parents,

We're pleased to share that we've received the findings from the recent parents' survey conducted by the CMAT. Thank you for taking the time to share your thoughts and experiences. It's encouraging to see so many positive comments about St John Fisher CVA and the education we provide. We value your partnership in your child's learning journey and will be sharing how we plan to address the constructive suggestions for improvement in the coming weeks.

## **Our Catholic Mission**

*The Feast of St Thomas Aquinas*

On Tuesday 28th January, we will celebrate our Trust's Feast Day of St Thomas Aquinas.

On Tuesday, Year 5 and Year 6 chaplains will be joined with others from across the trust at English Martyrs Secondary School in Leicester to celebrate Mass. The Mass was streamed across all 23 Trust schools to watch.

The chaplains will also be joined by Sophie in Year 5 who was one of children in the whole trust to win a prize for her drawing of Mary.



## **Year of Jubilee - Pilgrims of hope**

Pope Francis has announced that 2025 will be a year of Jubilee – an event that happens every 25 years. The theme for the upcoming Jubilee is "Pilgrims of Hope".

*The 2025 Jubilee will begin in Advent 2024 and will run until the Feast of the Epiphany in 2026.*

More information is available on the Jubilee 2025 website. Access the website by clicking [here](#).

There will be special certificates given out this year to children who nominated to be 'Pilgrims of Hope'.

## **PTFA**

Thank you to the PTFA for all the activities we had before Christmas. Santa couldn't have delivered all those gifts to the children in school with the PTFA support. Also, all children in the school could go on a pantomime trip thanks to the PTFA. We are blessed to have such a wonderful association.

## **Parents' Evening – 11<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> February**

We will be sending out a monitoring report beforehand which gives an indication of where your child is at academically at this point of the year after the Christmas assessment period. Details on how to book to in a visit will be released shortly.

## **Winter uniform**

A reminder that the children should be wearing their winter uniform now or at the latest after half term. This includes a blue shirt and tie. Also, remember to bring a warm coat or jacket every day in the winter. The weather can be changeable as we all know. The children have been taking great pride in their appearance. We expect the very best from our children with regards to school uniform and appearance, and strongly believe that our high standards promote positive behaviour. Thank you for your support.

## **Reading Books**

A request for all families to have a look at home for any SJF reading books and return these to school. Thank you to those families that have returned outstanding books.



Thank you to some of our parents who donated new or nearly new books to our new school library and classrooms. They have been very well received.

## **National Handwriting Day – A word from Mrs Barrow, Writing Lead**

Next Thursday 23rd January is National Handwriting Day.

### ***Why is National Handwriting Day Celebrated?***

In today's society, technology is everywhere. Gone are the days when we would need to send handwritten letters or postcards to relatives to keep in touch: we're now at a stage where we can send a quick text message for instant communication. Despite the growth of technology, handwriting is still part of our daily lives, especially in education and employment. That is, even if we find ourselves doing it less often. There are still cases where people won't have access to devices and will need to make notes by hand. Plus, handwriting can be a beautiful art form, which means there's all the more reason to preserve it.

### ***Competition***

With this in mind, I will be holding a Handwriting competition. There will be one winner from each Key Stage for the neatest handwriting and they will win a badge and a special handwriting pen. To enter, I would like the children to either copy out an existing poem or compose their own poem and write it up in their neatest handwriting. This only needs to be a few lines long! Years 2-6 should be using their cursive handwriting and I would like to see correct letter joins.

## **Non-school uniform day**

January 24<sup>th</sup> is a non-school uniform day across the Trust and we are raising funds for two causes: Catholic Hardship Fund ( This fund gives financial aid to families in the trust) and Menphys. So if everyone donates generously be it online via Arbor (go to 'School Shop Products') or by cash on the day, that would be wonderful support.

God bless

Mr Gallagher



## Dates For the Diary

### **January**

20th	Year 4 Music Lessons Start – Ukeles
23 <sup>rd</sup>	Boys Football
	Year 6 – Info Evening for SATS & End of Year Trip at 6p.m.
24 <sup>th</sup>	Non-School Uniform
25th	Cross Country at Ratcliffe
27th	Menu Change – Jamaican Theme
28 <sup>th</sup>	Feast Day Mass
29 <sup>th</sup>	Year 6 St Paul's Musical
30 <sup>th</sup>	Heights & Weights (Reception and Year 6)
	Change in Menu – Indian Theme
	Girls Football
31 <sup>st</sup>	Change in Menu – British Theme
	Year 6 Class Liturgy – 9.a.m

### **February**

6th	Cross Country – Victoria Park
11 <sup>th</sup> & 13 <sup>th</sup>	Parents Evening

### **17<sup>th</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup> – HALF TERM**

25 <sup>th</sup>	Drama Club Starts (KS2) - More info to follow
------------------	---

### **March**

17 <sup>th</sup>	Year 5 Bikeability Starts
31 <sup>st</sup>	Group Photos

### **14<sup>th</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup> –END OF TERM**