

St Charles Newsletter

21st September 2018

WELCOME BACK
TO SCHOOL

RE Life of the School

We celebrated our return to school with a whole school Mass this morning with Father Peter in our parish church, Pius X.

Class Assemblies will resume with 6F next week and we shall celebrate our annual Harvest Assembly on 19th October.

During this academic year, we shall continue our focus on our pupils taking an active role in preparing collective Acts of Worship in class.

The Wednesday Word will continue to be sent home weekly. Please take a few minutes to read the weekly Gospel with your child. Pupils and their parents are expected to reflect on this as they form the focus for class payers on Mondays and Key Stage Assemblies.

RE Home learning

Gospel: Mark 9:30-37

Using the Wednesday Word reflect on the questions below with your family.

You will have an opportunity to discuss them next week in School.

Gospel reflection: What do you remember from the gospel reading?

-Why do you think Jesus did not want everyone to know about what was going to happen to him?

-What was the message Jesus wanted to share with his disciples?

-How did the Disciples feel when they heard the message?

-How did Jesus say they could be the first? What kind of things can we do today to be the first for Jesus?

Safeguarding - Beginning and End of Day

Breakfast club is open for pupils from 8am. For all other pupils and their parents, the School gates open at 8.45am. KS1 pupils must be accompanied by their parents/carers until 9am, when their class teacher will collect them from the playground. Pupils in KS2 should be left at the entrance to their playground where a member of staff will take a message for you to be passed on to your child's class teacher if necessary. In the interests of safeguarding the children, parents/carers are not permitted into the School buildings without an appointment.

Contact Details

It is a requirement that the school has a minimum of **2 emergency telephone contact numbers** for your child. We need to be able to contact you at all times. It is vitally important that we have your up to date contact details at all times. **If your phone number/s or address have changed, please inform the office.**

Parking Legally

Please do not block the car park gate at any time as Emergency vehicles need to be able to get quick access at all times.

General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR)

I would like to take the opportunity to remind you that new Data Protection laws, including the GDPR regulations, came in to force in May 2018. These give individuals greater protections for their personal data and more control over how it is used. Our Data Protection Policy and our Privacy Notices can be found on the website.

We take data protection very seriously. In light of GDPR, we will no longer be able to issue parents or children with class lists as we do not have consent to do so. Please do understand if we turn down your request as we are striving to keep your data and that of your children safe.

Attendance

Last year for the first time ever, our attendance figures at St Charles were below the national figures. We finished the year on 95.5%, which was 0.9% below our figure for the previous academic year. The national attendance figure was 96.1%, 0.6% above St Charles. This is very disappointing. There is a very strong correlation between school attendance and attainment and unless your child is sick he/she should be at school.

Late arrival

If your child arrives at school after the 9 o'clock bell has rung, it is necessary for him/her to collect a late card from the office. Children will then give it to their class teacher. Parent/s of Reception children will be expected to wait with their child/ren for up to 15 minutes until a member of staff is available to take them over. **Parent/s are not permitted beyond the office after this time.**

Attendance raffle

Pupils who have 100% attendance each week will be given a raffle ticket. At the end of each term the raffle will be drawn for a prize.

Late pick up

Nursery finishes at 3.05pm and the main school finishes at 3.15pm. It is your responsibility to ensure that your child is collected promptly by yourself or a responsible adult (**16 or over**) at that time. It is very upsetting for children to be left at school when everyone else has left and it is unfair to staff who have to care for children who are not collected on time because they are prevented from carrying out their planned tasks.

If you make an alternative pick up arrangement, please inform the school office before 3pm so the message can be relayed to the class teacher in good time. Nursery and Reception parents will be asked for a password.

Child/ren Absence

In the event of your child being absent, you must let the office know. It is school policy that you phone the office by **9.15am** each day your child is absent, as the school has a legal responsibility and a duty of care to know where your child is between 9am and 3.15pm.

A text will be sent to parents if an absence is not reported. If we do not receive a reason for an absence, it will automatically be recorded as unauthorised.

Any sickness absences between 2 and 5 consecutive days will require you to fill in a sickness note in the office. If your child is absent from school for a period longer than 6 consecutive days or more due to illness, we ask that you provide a note to explain the absence accompanied by doctor's certificate. If this is not received the whole period of absence will be unauthorised.

Medical Appointments

All doctor and dentist appointments should be booked outside school hours when possible. The office should be informed in advance when your child has a medical appointment and proof will be requested (text or letter).

Secondary Transfer

We held our annual Secondary Transfer meeting last Thursday. Father Peter will be signing the Certificate of Catholic Practice for those applying for Catholic Secondary Schools between 9-10am on Tuesdays. The Local Authority application form should be returned to the Borough in which you reside by 31st October 2018. The supplementary information form(s) should be returned to the individual school(s). If you decide to take your child/ren to an open morning, please inform the school office or bring in any test letter you may receive so your child/ren can be marked in accordingly on the register.

The Year 5 parents were also invited to the meeting so that they can start thinking about this.

Please make an appointment to see me if you would like to discuss this further.

Parents' Evenings

Dates for your diary - this term's parents' evenings will take place on Tuesday 16th and Thursday 18th October. **On Tuesday 16th October school finishes at 3.15pm when the children will need to be collected promptly** with parent consultations starting at 4pm. **On Thursday 18th October school will close early and children will need to be collected at 2.30pm** with consultations starting at 3.15pm. Opportunities to make appointments will be sent in advance of these evenings.

After School Clubs

Thank you to Miss Harris who coordinates our after school provision. I know you will appreciate the work Miss Harris has put in to arranging and extending the range of clubs available including animation, Japanese and so on. Between school and club, pupils often eat a snack which you provide. St Charles is a healthy school and we actively promote healthy eating. Therefore we ask you not to give your child/ren chocolate, crisps or cake to eat at school.

KS1 children attending PE Clubs after school will change into their PE kit during last play under the supervision of a Teaching Assistant. Parents should not be in the hall at this time.

Learning and Action Heroes

Congratulations to the following children who were recognised for making good choices during the weeks beginning 10th and 17th September:

	Action Hero		Learning Hero	
	10/09	17/09	10/09	17/09
RA	Blessing	Lucas	Joshua	Rioco
1S	Victoria	Kara	Charlie	Paylan
1/2F	Darcy	Keeran	Naiara	Mia
2T	Jacob	Sarah	Zeena	Juliette
3D	Christopher	Tanya	Malu	Naod
3/4B	Joseph	Ethan	Heidy	Stephany
4B	Ethan	Olivia	Claudia	Cian
5A	Amon	Isabella	Kate	Tadgh
5/6H	William	Amayah	Paris	Karim
6F	Sebastian	Epiphany	Emaan	Caitlin

Roald Dahl Day

Thank you to all the children who dressed up as Roald Dahl characters last Friday. The hall was a wonderful sea of colour at assembly. The money raised was donated to Roald Dahl's Children Charity.