



## **St Augustine's RC Primary School**

SPRING TERM Newsletter 2: 22nd January 2016

### **Statements to Live By**

Week Beg 25th Jan: I know we are happiest when we are united

Week Beg 1st Feb: I listen to what you say. I show that I am listening to you

**Holocaust Memorial Ceremony** Wednesday 27th January.

Year 6 have already learned about aspects of this topic in their work about World War 2. They will represent the school at the service held at the Dolphin Centre. It is very important for us to be a part of such a service, ensuring that our children are helped to remember those very sad and significant events in history.

### **Feast of the Presentation**

We are having a special Liturgy in School on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> February at 9.15 a.m. The Feast links to current RE topics for some year groups and we always hold a special celebration in School. Parents and carers are welcome to join us that morning.

### **Darlington Schools Eurovision Song Contest**

Our Year 4 and Year 5 choir members will represent the school at a Eurovision Song Competition which is being held on Tuesday evening at the Civic Theatre. All schools were assigned a country. Ours is Estonia and the children have worked really hard to learn the song (in Estonian of course!). Thank you to parents and carers who have supported the children in their preparations, to Mrs Stelling for her help with choreography and to Parents and carers who volunteered to make costumes. A special thank you to Mrs Hurley who has given up time beyond work to source patterns, fabric etc. A great team effort! The children are really looking forward to the event. They sound fantastic!

**Music For Youth** Our Y6 band members, led by Mr McGeeney, are travelling to the SAGE, Gateshead to represent our school at the Music for Youth Festival tomorrow. The whole school had a special performance from them today and they sounded amazing.

### **Career Opportunities**

#### **Teacher Training**

Carmel Teacher Training Partnership is holding the following information evenings for anyone who is interested in finding out more about the teaching profession.

Middlesbrough - 26th January 2016, 6-8pm, The Curial Office, 50 The Avenue, Linthorpe, TS5 6QT

Newcastle - 3rd February 2016, 6-8pm, St Cuthbert's House, Newcastle, NE15 7PY

#### **School Crossing Patrol**

With some of our local patrollers due to retire. The local authority is keen to find new recruits to do this most important job. If you would like further information please contact Denise Caley on 01325 406695

#### **Working as a Childminder**

If you are interested in becoming a registered childminder there is an initial briefing session at the Coleridge Centre, on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> March at 6.00 pm. More details available from Sheelagh Nevison Tel 01325 406011 email: [sheelagh.nevison@darlington.gov.uk](mailto:sheelagh.nevison@darlington.gov.uk)

### **Notices/ Reminders**

#### **Managing allergies in School**

Please read the letter being sent home tonight explaining how everyone can help with this matter.

#### **Text Messages**

Thank you to everyone who completed and returned the forms. You should have received an introductory message from our new text service. This should enable the office to reduce the number of paper messages and to contact parents more easily with reminders/changes to events.

**Severe Weather advice (Just in case!)** Whilst every effort is made to keep school open there are occasions when for health and safety reasons we must close.

If you are in any doubt about school being open you should seek information via:

- The school website: [www.staugustinesacademy.org.uk](http://www.staugustinesacademy.org.uk)
- The Local Authority website: [www.darlington.gov.uk/schoolclosures](http://www.darlington.gov.uk/schoolclosures)
- Local radio stations and their websites- Star Radio/Capital FM/BBC Tees
- Text message if you have signed up for the new service.

If staff are able to get to school, a message will be put onto the answer machine but please use other information sources first.

### **Punctuality**

Please ensure that:

- Children arrive in time for the start of the school day: **8.55 am**
- Children who arrive late are signed in with a valid reason given
- Children are collected from the playground at the end of the school day: **3.25pm**

I understand that occasionally exceptional circumstances lead to a child arriving late or being collected late but this should not be the norm.

### **Contact information**

It is vital that parents/carers inform us of any changes to contact details.

Any changes to your child's pick up and collection routines (e.g. if they are being collected by someone who is not listed on the contact form) should be reported via:

- Staff at the gates
- The office
- Your child's home book/reading record.

### **Parking**

I wish to remind parents/carers not to park in the Resident's Bays in Beechwood Avenue or on Southend Avenue. Vehicle registrations will be passed on to the wardens who will issue fines for illegally parked cars.

**Parking in the School Car Park is not permitted** unless you have a permit or have been given special permission from School. This applies at **any time** of day.

Please consider the 'Park and Stride' option - parking further from school and walking part of the way.

### **Uniform and PE Kits**

Please check that your child has the correct PE Kit and PE shoes in school. All kit needs to be the correct size and clearly labelled with your child's name.

Children should have a school reading folder and should not be bringing large satchels and back packs to school as we do not have storage space for them. We have a 'uniform' reading folder (available from Elizabeth's Embroidery) which fits into the limited space available for each class. Other bags have to be kept in the cloakroom which is already a crowded space. Some classes have to bring an extra bag e.g. for swimming kit, so other unsuitable bags are causing clutter and possible health and safety problems.

### **Some Key Dates:**

<b>Thu 28<sup>th</sup> Jan</b>		PFA AGM Please try to attend
<b>Tue 2<sup>nd</sup> Feb</b>	<b>9.15 am</b>	Feast of the Presentation Liturgy in School - All welcome
<b>Wed 10<sup>th</sup> Feb</b>	<b>10.00 am</b>	Mass in Church for Ash Wednesday (Years 4,, 5,6) Liturgy and Distribution of Ashes in School (YR, 1, 2,3)
<b>Fri 12<sup>th</sup> Feb</b>	<b>3.25pm</b>	School closes for half term
<b>Mon 22<sup>nd</sup> Feb</b>		School re-opens for pupils
<b>Fri 26<sup>th</sup> Feb</b>	<b>2.45pm</b>	CAFOD Lent Fast Day - Non-Uniform Day. Liturgy led by Y4- All welcome.

Best wishes

*Mrs McCollom*  
Head of School