



Newsletter February 2022

Laudato Si

We have recently looked at the Pope's encyclical Laudato Si. The Pope's call to all of us to care for our common home. We have worked with Joe Hammill to write our own song to dedicate our work to this important calling. It was a pleasure to unite with other schools from across the NPCAT family to perform the song together:

<https://vimeo.com/662273490/2be9274a7d>

This song is now being used in school so the children can reflect and take action to care for our common home.

Love and care for creation are an essential part of our faith. We will reflect and respond to the environmental challenges our world is facing today and try to give our children a voice.

Parish Links

A reminder now that Christ the King Church is now fully open for "business"! We realise that over the last couple of years it has been difficult for families to be and feel part of our parish community due to the pandemic.

We encourage all families now to begin to attend Mass and be part of a wonderful faith community that we have in Thornaby. Baptisms can now also be booked and enquiries can be made directly to Fr. Pat or through school. News to follow soon regarding First Holy Communions. Mass on Sunday is at 9.30am. Class Masses will begin at the start of Lent in March. We will send an invite to you when it is your child's class.

We will soon be heading toward Lent, believe it or not, in solemn preparation for Easter. This is an important time in the Church's year as it is a time for preparation and reflection.

Mrs Dixon

We received the sad news last week that Mrs Dixon, a great friend of Christ the King, had passed away. Mrs Dixon was a very loyal Foundation Governor and a regular visitor to our school. She spent many an afternoon supporting children with their reading and was always

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very generous with her time. Mrs Dixon will be greatly missed by us all at Christ the King and we ask you to keep her family in your prayers.

Sports

A huge thank you to all of the staff in supporting the children so they can attend a wide variety of sports tournaments. Every week our children are off to compete against other schools and they are loving the experience. A special thanks to Mr Wake, our PE Lead, for all of his organisation skills and leadership.

After school sports are proving to be very popular. We have a great range of after school sports activities that the children are invited to attend. It is fantastic to see so many children taking part in after school activities.

Mental Health Week

Next week is children's mental health week and the theme is 'Growing Together'. This is an important week for the school, where at an age appropriate level we will be talking about mental wellbeing. We will be encouraging children (and adults) to consider how they have grown, and how they can help others to grow.

School Meals

The revamped menu is proving very popular with the children and the children are enjoying their lunches. We have a fantastic team working in our school kitchen - we are very lucky to have such a dedicated team. Please can you try to encourage the children to try the hot meals as they are very nice.

Mid-Year Reports

After half term we will be sending a home a mid- year report so you can see how your child is working at school.

Fire Brigade

It was very upsetting to read that over the weekend some youths attacked Firefighters at Thornaby Fire Station with rocks. Appalling behaviour. Thankfully, our school community values the work and dedication of our Firefighters so we decided to visit them to give them some cards and some chocolates to show our appreciation.

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Lastly - Covid!

We have had lots of staffing issues this term, as most places have. This has meant a lot of shuffling about and finding and moving staff at short notice. Our teachers and support staff have been amazing in covering for other classes, changing working days, helping at breakfast club and after school club to keep the school going seamlessly to help parents and children.

Thank you, parents, for all of your support and understanding. Hopefully we are moving toward more stable and less stressful times! We of course hope that you and your families are unaffected at this time.

Best wishes,

Mr Ryan and Miss Lickess

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