



Newsletter April 2022

Summer is officially here and we have sleet, frost and ice - let's hope it gets warmer soon!

Thank you for all your support over recent months and for all of your generosity supporting so many worthwhile causes. During Lent we focus on Prayer, Fasting and Almsgiving. Alms is a difficult word for the children to understand and its root is from the Greek language meaning showing compassion and pity. Thank you, parents, for the compassion you have shown through this Lent and for the support you have given to those in need. It has been wonderful to welcome parents and carers back to school for our Stay and Pray liturgies. It is important to us that our children experience praying together as a school family and this includes you as parents and carers. We are delighted that we have been able to share in prayer with our parish family during the season of Lent. Father Pat and our parishioners have welcomed the children back to celebrate morning Mass on a Thursday and groups of children have attended the Lenten hunger lunches at church on a Friday. We are very thankful for the time our staff have taken in preparing such special moments to support our children in their faith journey, and to Mrs Burns who leads us so well in the Catholic life of our school. Over the coming months we want to return to sharing special times with our parish community and once again welcome our parishioners into school.

Sacramental Programme

A group of our Year 4 children have started their journey towards First Holy Communion and will receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation this week at church. Please keep these children and their families in your prayers as they continue on their faith journey.

Sports

The children have loved representing the school at many sporting events over the past term, competing with enjoyment at our Trust sport festivals. Mr Wake has been tremendous as our PE lead and we are extremely grateful to him for his leadership.

Skiing 2023

We have provisionally booked a ski trip to Italy for our current Year 4 children for March 2023. If we have enough interested children this will be able to go ahead. I know this is a huge step for many children and parents, but it really is a wonderful opportunity for those who wish to go. I know from experience of taking children to this resort that it is something incredibly special. Details and information should have been shared with parents.

Christ Be Our Light and Our Guide

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Educational Visits

We realise that for many children that food that couple of years they have not experienced school trips and had the joy of educational visits. As summer is approaching, hopefully no more sleet, staff are busy planning visits and experiences for the children. We will keep you posted when we have more details.

Picture News/Personal Social and Health Education (PSHE)

A lot of parents hadn't realised that we discuss important issues with the children as part of our PSHE lessons. Apologies for not communicating this better.

We work hard in our PSHE curriculum, so we develop the children into the young people we want them to be with good moral values, so they can make sensible decisions and know how to keep themselves safe.

To do this we sometimes discuss topical issues and we plan to give them experiences such as World Down Syndrome Day, Autism week etc, so they gain a caring understanding towards the world and society. We also take topical news issues and discuss them at an age appropriate level in class. We realise we don't always share these enough with parents so you can talk about them at home with your children. We will try to share with you better on social media so you get those opportunities.

Holy Week in Thornaby

You are warmly invited to join our parish family as we journey through Holy week.

Holy Week begins on Sunday - Palm Sunday - where we hear the account of Jesus riding into Jerusalem on a donkey to the crowds greeting him with calls of Hosanna.

Palm Sunday 9.30am Christ the King Church
11.00am St Patrick's Church

Holy Thursday - The Lord's Supper 6pm Christ the King Church

Good Friday 12pm Christ the King Church
3pm St Patrick's Church

Holy Saturday - The Easter Vigil 6pm St Patrick's Church

Easter Sunday 9.30am Christ the King
11.00am St Patrick's

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On behalf of all the staff at Christ the King, we wish you and your family many Easter blessings.
Enjoy this special time with your families.

Mr Ryan and Miss Lickess

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