



Newsletter

Another year flies by! Where does the time go? A very successful year for the school and one the pupils, parents, teachers can look back upon with pride. The school, I believe, continues to develop and grow thanks to the help of dedicated staff, supportive governors, parents and wonderful children.

Exciting times are ahead for the school with new teachers starting in September, who I know will bring many talents to the school. We have our Safeguarding Manager, Mrs Cramer working in the school now and our recently appointed School Business Manager, Mrs Crooks, already working in our busy office.

Results

I don't like to talk too much about results as I think the school offers much more than just academic success, but we are a school and our main purpose is to teach children and to help them learn. Our results are simply amazing and the staff and pupils should be very proud of their achievements across the school. I think the results are the best we have had for many years. A huge thank you:

- To the children for showing such commitment to their learning, for persevering and for realising that to achieve you need to work hard;
- To the staff for their unwavering commitment and dedication to their chosen profession and to the children and the families;
- To the families for always supporting us and for working together with the school to help benefit their children;
- To the Governors for their continued commitment and service to the school;
- To the Parish for always being a supportive partner to the school.

The results are very impressive across the school from Foundation Stage, through Key Stage 1 and through all of Key Stage 2.

Our final results for our Year 6 children are as follows:

Level 4

Reading 98% Writing 97% Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar 90%, Maths 98%

Level 5

Reading 58% Writing 50% Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar 63%, Maths 56%

We are also delighted to say that several children were awarded a Level 6. This would be equivalent to what a secondary pupil should be working at Year 8 and Year 9.

In Spelling Punctuation and Grammar 5 children were awarded Level 6

In Maths 7 children were awarded Level 6.

Amazing! Well done everyone. This is recognition of the work of the whole school and we should all be very proud of this achievement. Well done

Staffing

Please make our new teachers feel welcome in September. They are all excited at the prospect of joining this school community.

Mr Ford will be leaving us in September. I am sure parents will miss his welcome on the gate on a morning. We all wish him well for the future and would like to thank him for all of his work during his time at St. Patrick's.

Marvellous Me – Communicating With Parents

Working together with you is fundamental to our aim. The stronger we work together, the more it benefits the children. I know many parents have said how they enjoy going on to EPrise with their child.

We want to continue with EPrise. We are also going to introduce a new system so we can share all of the marvellous things that happen in class with your children. In September we will be launching 'MarvellousMe'. This means you will get instant notifications on your phones, ipads etc to show you what your child has done. This will be up and running next year thanks to Mr Scott.

We will keep you posted in the new academic year. You can view the app on iphones, android devices etc in the meantime so you can get a feel of how it works.

Academy

It gives me great pleasure to write and give you an update on the academy conversion that is currently on-going.

Many of you will be aware that the Governing Bodies of St. Patrick's Catholic College, St. Patrick's RC Primary School, Christ the King Primary School and St. Therese of Lisieux RC Primary School came together to discuss the idea of becoming a Catholic Multi Academy Trust bringing together the Catholic schools in Thornaby and Ingleby Barwick.

Since September 2014, there has been a long process of consultation with staff, parents and other local education providers which culminated in a formal decision by the four Governing Bodies to move ahead with plans for the Trust.

The name of the Trust will be '***Our Lady of Light Catholic Academy Trust***' and it is scheduled for the Trust to officially begin on 1st September 2015. Nothing will change with regard to the school your child goes to or is due to join; all that will change is that the school will officially be part of the Our Lady of Light Catholic Academy Trust.

Much work has already begun between the four schools to bring us all closer together. The intention of the Trust is to have a Philosophy of Curriculum from age 3 – 16 years and work in this area is already underway.

The four individual Head Teachers will remain in charge of their own schools and they will all be Directors on the Board of the Academy Trust ensuring that there is a strong educational focus on the new Academy Board. Other Directors on the Board will be made up of Governors from each school.

This is a very exciting time in the life of our schools and the development of the Academy Trust will be just another way in which the outcomes for the young people who study there will keep on improving.

Should you require any further information regarding the Academy conversion, please do speak to any of the Head Teachers at any of the schools and they will be more than happy to answer your questions.

Uniform Changes

Please don't forget that the school uniform changes slightly in September. All children will be expected to wear a tie. For details of the uniform please check the school website in the newsletters section.

As a reminder for September:

Children are not allowed to wear earrings. If you intend getting your children's ears pierced then do so at the beginning of the holiday.

Extreme hairstyles are not permitted. Thank you with your support with this.

On a personal note could I just say a big thank you to all of you in helping to take the school forward. It has been a big year for the school. We put in place a new Senior Leadership Team in September of: Mr Conwell (Deputy Head), Mr O'Donnell and Miss Hobson (Assistant Head Teachers). They have made a huge difference to the school and I think it is hard to believe it is only their first year as a team. A huge well done to them for their hard work and for helping to take the school forward. We are also very lucky to have the Governors that we do who give so much of their time and they have been instrumental in planning for the future success of the school.

It's hard to believe we started the year with the builders still on the playground finishing off Classes 5 and 6. I remember being here in the last summer holiday looking at the building works wishing we had never started. I don't feel like that now! What a difference it all makes to the school. Thank you for your patience.

Next year we are planning a new office area. We will probably be starting this in October with a planned finish for Christmas. This will obviously be very disruptive for the office staff, but in the long term it will really help the school. Mrs Williams will probably not be happy with me until after Christmas though!

Have a wonderful holiday with your families – they are precious times. Enjoy them. School re-opens on **Wednesday, 2nd September 2015.**

God Bless,

Mr M Ryan
Head Teacher

16th July 2015