



Newsletter

March - 2016

Staffing

Unfortunately, Mr Kendal remains ill and is unable to return to work at this time. He will not return to work until at least the middle of June. If Mr Kendal returns before then to re-join his class, Mrs Mclean will still remain in class with him so the children have continuity. Our plan is to continue with Mrs Mclean in Class 10 until the end of the Summer Term.

We are very fortunate to be able to find someone with her experience and calibre to take over the class at short notice.

Myself, and governors, know that this has been an anxious time for some parents and that is perfectly reasonable. I would have to say a big thank you to parents for their understanding at what is a difficult situation.

I do appreciate though that many parents may be anxious as they haven't had the opportunity to meet Mrs McLean to get to know her.

We will be arranging a parents evening for all children shortly after half term.

New Teacher!

I am very pleased to tell you that we have appointed a new teacher to our staff for September. I know it's a bit early but we obviously plan ahead so we can get the best possible staff. **Miss Dowson** will be joining us in September and she is delighted to have secured a position at the school. Some parents may remember the name from a few years ago, but this is someone completely new!

Miss Dowson will be joining our team in Key Stage 2.

Miss Dowson will be working in school with Mr Sherrington until the summer so if you see a new teacher in school please say hello.

Farewell

We say goodbye to Mrs Cramer who will be leaving us this half term and wish her well in her new position.

Mobile Phones

Just a reminder: children should not have mobile phones in school. Please can I ask for support from parents in ensuring they do not bring them in. They are a distraction that we and they do not need.

Chickens!

The children's desire to have chickens in the school will come true soon. Our 25 feathered friends will be finally introduced to school over the Easter Holidays. As Mr Barber said: "It is like having another class!" You will be able to see them when we return after the holiday. The children will be learning to care and look after them. When they lay their eggs the children will bring them home if they do 'eggcellent work'!

Sports

A huge well done to the many teams who compete for the school and who are showing considerable talent. The boys' football team recently won the regional tournament held at MFC training ground beating all the other regional finalists. This is a considerable achievement and they deserve much praise, especially as many of the players are still in Year 5.

A huge thank you to Mrs Holtby for continuing to develop sports in the school.



Skiing

I would have to say that this was one of the best school visits I have ever experienced – and I have experienced quite a lot in my 20 years at the school! The 34 children in Year 5 who went really did have a wonderful time and it was amazing to see how good at skiing many of them became. A very talented group of children. Their behaviour was exemplary and they were a real pleasure to be with. A huge credit to you, the parents.

The highlight of the trip was watching the very adventurous Mr Sherrington, attempting one of the more challenging slopes and realising it was probably a brave, but foolish decision. We did enjoy watching a skier tumble down the mountain head over heels with their skis being left behind in all of the chaos and mayhem. We enjoyed it even more when we realised it was Mr Sherrington!

Thank you to Mrs Holtby and to the teachers (Mr Sherrington, Mr Barber and Miss Hobson) for giving up their holiday to give the children this experience.

Rome

Six children in Year 6 have been chosen to represent the school and the parish on a pilgrimage to Rome. They will be celebrating the Year of Mercy by visiting the basilica at St Peters and passing through the doors of mercy there. This will be a truly memorable experience for the children and I am sure they will treasure the memories forever.

My Mission

We welcomed the Diocesan My Mission Team in to school recently to help explore the schools mission statement and motto: Seek Ye First the Kingdom of God. The children looked at what this really meant and how we could build the kingdom. The children discovered that Gods kingdom is in each and every one of us and that we should use our talents and gifts to make sure the kingdom is at home, school and in our world.

A fantastic week. Since then we have reviewed the school mission statement with staff, governors and children.

First Holy Communion

A big thank you to the many children and parents who are preparing for this special sacrament. It is a joy to see how well supported they are by their parents in their preparations.

Our Parish Family

Over Easter children and adults will be welcomed in to the church. In St. Patrick's Parish we especially welcome Charlotte Winchester and her mum into the parish family. Congratulations to both of you.

Easter Cross

We will be celebrating Easter, when we return to school, by placing fresh flowers on the cross at our Resurrection Service in school. Could I ask if you could please provide your children with a few fresh flowers, so the children can decorate our crucifix together to show the joy of Easter. This will take place on Thursday 14th April.

Finally: Happy Easter! Have a peaceful and enjoyable holiday with your families as we enter this special time of the year.

Mark Ryan
Head teacher