

28th May 2021

Dear Parents/Guardians

I wanted to write to you to say 'thank you' for the masses of support and commitment to the school you have all shown this half term. Together we have achieved many great things and provided some enriching experiences for your children. Below I have listed just a few:

- Your children are coming to school dressed smartly in full school uniform. Thank you
- The sponsored bicycle challenge in support of the Marie Curie charity reached its stunning conclusion and an INCREDIBLE £1531 was raised! Thank you.
- Whole school attendance is currently 95.4% which is an improvement on the year to date (94.68%). Thank you.
- Your children are coming to school wearing school PE kit, ready to take part in some vitally important physical education. If lockdown and COVID have taught us anything it is the importance of maintaining our health and fitness both mentally and physically. Thank you.
- Staggered starts and ends to the school day are running smoothly and the vast majority of parents are on time and socially distanced. Thank you.
- Your children have completed some fantastic homework activities, which are of a high standard. Thank you.

Each day, as I visit the classrooms and see the children engaged in purposeful learning activities, I am reminded of how fortunate I am to be the Head of this wonderful school. Your children and the staff have worked incredibly hard this term and I am proud of each and everyone of them and all that they have achieved and I am excited to see what they will achieve over the coming half term: *don't tell me the sky is the limit, when there are footprints on the moon.*

Wishing all our families a lovely half term and hoping we finally get some decent weather.

Best wishes, as always

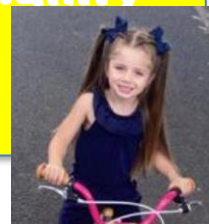
N Bennett

Mr Bennett

On the 14th May 2021, we celebrated the BookTrust's Pyjamarama Day. The whole school spent the day in their pyjamas with the aim of getting the children even more excited about reading. It was a great day spent reading, enjoying and sharing stories.



May saw the end of our month long 'Family Cycling Challenge' in aid of Marie Curie. Not only were we raising money for a fantastic charity but we were also getting ourselves out-and-about and active after a year in lockdown. Chris Kamara, one of our ex-pupils and patron for Marie Curie, helped us deliver an assembly about our Cycling Challenge and staff created a video to motivate the pupils. We raised an INCREDIBLE £1531. Thank you to everyone in our community who sponsored our youngsters!



Safeguarding Quote: **"Education is not the filling of a pail, but the lighting of a fire."** ~ William Butler Yeats

Safeguarding is our absolute priority. Please act on concerns that you have about any children that you know. If you have a concern about the safety of a child or young person and you want someone to find out what is going on, contact the Middlesbrough Mach on 01642 726004. Anyone can make a referral.

At St Pius X Catholic Primary School, our Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) is Mr Bennett and our Deputy DSL is Miss Boyce.

Please remember that safeguarding is everyone's concern.



Currently your children are learning in R.E. about the Feast of Pentecost, when the Holy Spirit came upon the disciples, after Jesus had ascended into Heaven and the mission Jesus gave to his disciples.



Mathmagicians!

An enormous congratulations to our Year 5 children who ranked an impressive 13th out of 49 schools in a recent TTRockstars competition. A special mention for one of our Year 5 pupils who made it onto the leader board for individual children. — we are all so proud of you!



LES FRANÇAIS MAGNIFIQUE!

MISS HAYCOCK LED THE WHOLE OF KEY STAGE 2 IN A VERY SUCCESSFUL 'FRENCH MORNING.' THE CHILDREN ATE CROISSANTS; PLAYED TRADITIONAL FRENCH PLAYGROUND GAMES; PAINTED IN THE STYLE OF FRENCH ARTISTS; AND EVEN ATTEMPTED TO BUILD THEIR OWN "LA DAME DE FER."



A message from Miss Dixon (English Leader)

Regular reading at home has a huge impact on reading progression. You can help your child in a number of ways:

- Share books: this is an important way to support your child before they become an 'independent reader'. This could mean reading a text together, reading to your child, or taking it in turns to read a longer or more challenging text.
- Listen to your child read their reading book: it will offer a similar challenge to the books that they are reading in school.
- Encourage and support your child to read other material in the environment, e.g. timetables, instructions, rules for games etc.

Questions about Fiction Books

Before Reading:

- Do you like the front cover?
- What do you think the story might be about?
- Have you read any other books like this one?
- Have you read any books by the same author or illustrator?

During and After Reading

- Read the beginning of the story...what do you think will happen next?
- Which part do you like best? Why?
- Did you find anything funny or sad in the story?
- Who did you like best in the story? Why?
- Was there anyone you did not like? Why?
- Did anything surprise you?
- Were there any unusual or interesting words?
- Did you like the illustrations?
- Did the pictures tell you something different from the words?
- Did you like the ending?
- Was the ending what you expected?

Questions about Non-Fiction Books

- Does the information book have an index/contents page?
- What would you like to find out?
- How can we use this book to find the answers?
- What did you find out that you did not know before you read this book?

"IF YOU DON'T LIKE TO READ, YOU HAVEN'T FOUND THE RIGHT BOOK." - J.K. Rowling