

18th February 2022

Dear Parents/Guardians

As we end this half term, I wanted to write to you all and update you on all of the fantastic things that have been taking place in St Pius since we returned to school in January. I also wanted to thank you for your ongoing support and commitment to your children's learning and our school – it is truly appreciated.

As I walk around the classrooms and playground each day, I feel proud to be the Head of a school which so clearly lives out its mission statement. Your children really do show that 'with Christ as our Light, they live, learn and love' in all that they do, from co-operating and supporting each other during learning and play; to taking care of our fantastic school and its wonderful grounds.

Upcoming diary dates:

- 1st March: Shrove Tuesday
- 2nd March: Ash Wednesday
- 3rd March: 'World Book Day.' Children can come to school dressed as their favourite book character. Suggested donation of £1, which will go towards 'school funds.'
- 14th – 18th March: 'Science Week.' Mr Connelly will be myth busting as he explains the role of a scientist to the children
- 18th March: 'Red Nose Day' more details to follow
- 25th March: 'Mother's Day' children will be bringing home cards for their mothers or a special lady in their lives.
- 27th March: Daylight Saving Time begins – the clocks go forward.
- 4th – 8th March: Key Stage 2 classes will lead in Liturgies, focusing on the events of Holy Week.
- 8th April: Easter bonnet/hat/cap/hairband competition – please see our social media stream for details
- 8th April: Children break up for the Easter at 3pm

Please note: Before Easter you will receive a written report to update you on your child's progress this term. There will be an opportunity to have a telephone discussion about the report with your child's class teacher.

Have a relaxing half term holiday

Best wishes

N Bennett

Mr Bennett



Brilliant Behaviour!

A very impressive **96%** of your children have remained on green this half term and many of these children have reached the 'super star!'. I hope you feel as proud as I do of this achievement! Our positive, consistent approach to behaviour management means that all of the children are clear about the rules and their role to play so that they are rewarded for their efforts in school.



Aspiration Week



As a school family we have celebrated 'Aspirations Week.' During the week, we had a variety of different people into school, to inspire the children of St Pius to challenge themselves and have big aspirations for the future. We want all the children in our school to know that we all have different talents and God-given gifts, which can be used for God's Kingdom



"Sport has the power to change the world."



Nelson Mandela



Mr Cara is incredibly proud of your children's sporting achievements this half term. A number of different children have represented our school in various sporting events and tournaments from Athletics to Netball. Your school family is proud of each and everyone of you! Go team Pius!



"Children are the living messages we send to a time we will not see." – John F. Kennedy

Safeguarding is our absolute priority.

At St Pius, Mr Bennett is our Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL), while Mrs Boyce is the Deputy DSL.

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.

Please remember anyone can make a referral and safeguarding is everyone's concern!

School Attendance Matters at St Pius!

Our whole school attendance is currently 94%. Congratulations to any of our classes who have won an attendance award this half term. Each week we aim for at least 97% attendance in each class. Please support us in this by making sure your child attends school every day, unless they are not unwell.

Year Group	Attendance
Reception	94.5%
Year 1	93.8%
Year 2	94.5%
Year 3	94.8%
Year 4	91.5%
Year 5	95.4%
Year 6	94%



Music is a moral law. It gives soul to the universe, wings to the mind, and life to everything... Without music, life would be an error.

- Plato

This half term our pupils have had the opportunity to learn a musical instrument; to make music with others; and to learn to sing. Music has helped to bind your children into the wider life of the school and we are all proud of their musical achievements so far.



National Number Day

At St Pius we celebrated National Number Day by dressing up as something mathematical. We are passionate about Mathematics because it introduces children to concepts, skills and thinking strategies that are essential in everyday life; helps children make sense of the numbers, patterns and shapes they see in the world around them; and makes a crucial contribution to their development as successful learners.



Homework

We are so grateful for your support with home learning this half term and it has been wonderful to see the children's models, writing and creative artwork. We are all really looking forward to seeing the rest of this half term's home learning as it comes into school. Mrs Connelly is especially pleased with how many children are reading regularly at home—once again, thank you for your support with this.

UNIFORM

WE EXPECT THE CHILDREN TO ALL BE LOOKING SUPER SMART IN THEIR SCHOOL UNIFORM AND WEARING BLACK SHOES. PLEASE SEE OUR WEBSITE FOR DETAILED SCHOOL UNIFORM INFORMATION:

[HTTPS://STPIUSX.NPCAT.ORG.UK/SCHOOL-UNIFORM/](https://stpiusx.npcat.org.uk/school-uniform/)

SIMILAR TO SCHOOL UNIFORM. IT IS THE EXPECTATION THAT CHILDREN COME INTO SCHOOL WEARING THEIR PE UNIFORM ON THE DAYS WHEN THEY HAVE PE LESSONS. AS THE WEATHER IS VERY CHANGEABLE WE ARE ALLOWING THE CHILDREN TO WEAR BLACK JOGGERS/LEGGINGS AND A PLAIN BLUE HOODIE OR SWEATSHIRT.

STAFF WILL CONTACT HOME SHOULD CHILDREN NOT BE IN CORRECT UNIFORM OR PE KIT. WE ARE VERY PROUD OF THE CHILDREN AT ST PIUS AND BELIEVE THAT THEIR OVERALL APPEARANCE SHOULD REFLECT OUR HIGH STANDARDS OF BEHAVIOUR AND CONDUCT. THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT WITH THIS.

WRAPAROUND CARE

Our 'Wrap Around Care' has proved hugely popular this term and we thank all for their co-operation with the booking system. For safeguarding reasons all children arriving at 'Breakfast Club' must be accompanied by an adult to the back gate; children must be collected from 'Teatime Club' at the front entrance by an adult and we ask that you please use the mobile telephone number provided, to let staff know that you are there. Please note: If you would like your child to join either of these clubs we ask that you contact the school office to check for availability and then use the online booking system to book a place for your child – we are unable to take 'walk ins' and we would ask that all bookings for 'Teatime Club' are paid for at the point of making the booking.