



# St Joseph's Catholic Primary School Head Teacher's Newsletter 11<sup>th</sup> March 2015

[www.stjosephswetherby.com](http://www.stjosephswetherby.com)



## Statement of the week

"I try to use words that make the world a better place (Please, sorry, thank you)."

## Parent Evenings

Access to the on line booking system for appointments for either Tuesday or Wednesday is now open. A letter was sent out recently with instructions and a code. If you have any difficulties or do not have access to the internet please contact the school office.

As you may be aware, the New National Curriculum is now being taught in school. To reflect these changes and in line with statutory requirements, your child's attainment and progress will now be reported through descriptive profiles rather than through numerical statistics.

For this academic year only, pupils in years 2 and 6 will continue to be taught the pre-2014 programmes of study in English, Mathematics and Science in preparation for the end of key stage statutory assessments which are still based on the old curriculum. New tests to reflect the new curriculum will be introduced from 2016.

If you have any queries regarding the above, please do not hesitate to ask.

## Gardening Club

Gardening club has started again on Wednesday lunch times (12-1pm). If there is anyone interested in helping out this term please let Alison Kusinska know. Also there is approx. 0.5 tons of topsoil in a bag at the top of the school car park. If anyone has a truck and could easily move it over into the school garden so we can top up the raised beds please let us know!

## The Good Shepherd Appeal 2015- an extract of a letter from Bishop Marcus to the children of Leeds

I write to you today on behalf of Catholic Care to encourage you all to make a big effort in raising funds for this year's Good Shepherd Appeal. The funds raised in schools and colleges across our Diocese this Lent will greatly assist the Charity in their work of reaching out to disadvantaged and vulnerable people in our own communities who are in desperate need of help and support. When I was ordained as Bishop of Leeds last November, Pope Francis asked me to direct my efforts as a Bishop "in promoting the pastoral care of the family, which is the first way of the Church". I am pleased to say that Catholic Care has the family at the heart of their work, providing care and support to children and adults. During this time of Lent, I ask you all to pray for families that we may be strengthened in our love for each other by the gift of God's Spirit.

I thank the staff and volunteer workers of Catholic Care for the work they do among us. I know you will be generous in your giving and thank you most sincerely on behalf of Catholic Care for your continued support.

## Reconciliation

There have been a few changes to the date for this Sacrament but I know that you appreciate that these were circumstances beyond our control. Can I reassure you that preparation for the Sacrament are taking place in the school and parish and that your children will be thoroughly prepared for April 25<sup>th</sup>

This year we will be having a small

service prepared by the children before they receive the Sacrament. After the children receive the Sacrament they will return to their families and you are free to leave and not have to wait until the end of the service.

## Mini Vinnies

On Friday we are having an assembly presented by a member of the St Vincent de Paul's. They are going to talk about "Mini Vinnies"

"Mini Vinnies" is a St Vincent de Paul Group in a Primary School. It is a group of young people in a Primary School who get together, organise and talk about helping others in need within their own community and beyond. What makes Mini Vinnies such a valuable experience for children, who are part of it, is the change it makes in school communities. Mini Vinnies' groups usually meet once a week or fortnight during lunchtime or after school and are run by school staff members, a member of the parish or a governor. Mrs Hodkinson has volunteered to organise this group. Hopefully after the assembly children in Years 4, 5 & 6 can write a letter asking to be part of a Mini Vinnie group.

## After School Clubs Next Week

Please note due to Parents Evenings next Tuesday and Wednesday the following clubs are cancelled:

**Tuesday Dance / Netball / Maths or English**

**Wednesday Football / Maths or English**

