



**GOOD SHEPHERD CATHOLIC  
PRIMARY & NURSERY SCHOOL**

**NEWSLETTER**

27th November 2017

**IN THIS SCHOOL WE:**

TRUST IN GOD  
THINK GOOD THOUGHTS

TRY TO DO BETTER  
SAY I'M SORRY

BELIEVE IN GRACE  
LOVE ONE ANOTHER

SHOW RESPECT  
NEVER GIVE UP

PRAY ALWAYS  
HELP EACH OTHER

Dear Parents/Carers

Thank you to all the parents who attended the Year 6 Class Mass last Tuesday. It was a beautiful Mass and the children led the reading and prayers with great respect and reverence. My thanks to all the Year 6 guitarists for playing at the Mass, Mrs Saunders would have been very proud of you all. We will have more class Masses next term and hope that more of you will join us.

**POETRY COMPETITION - YEARS 4 & 6, FIRDAY, 24TH NOVEMBER AT 9.15 A.M.**

Congratulations to all the finalists who performed at the above competition which was well attended by parents and friends. The children were enthusiastic and presented their poems with confidence. Unfortunately there can only be one winner and they were: Adrian, Daniel O, Sidney, Raymond, Aaliyah and Emmanuel in Year 4 and Toni in Year 6. Do enjoy looking at the photographs.

**BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS**

Children celebrating birthdays are invited to come up and receive a birthday sticker at Celebration Assembly and we have asked that should you wish to treat your child's class to a birthday treat then please send in some fruit or donate a book or books to the class. Please **DO NOT** send in party bags or sweets for the class as we have a number of pupils with allergies. I ask you to kindly keep to this agreement in the best interests of all pupils.

**COLD WEATHER**

Please ensure that your child has a warm waterproof coat in school as temperatures are dropping. If there is a medical condition why your child is unable to go outside please speak to your child's teacher so that we are fully informed of any needs and issues. Communication between home and school is important. Please remember to send your child in with black school shoes if they are wearing boots to travel to and from school.

**STAFF UPDATE**

I am pleased to announce that Mrs Reichelt will be staying at Good Shepherd as Receptionist and we are delighted that she will continue to be a valued member of the Good Shepherd team.



School life is always busy and thank you for your continual support. We have a very hardworking and dedicated team of staff and Governors and together we strive for excellence and ensure that our children have the chance to enjoy and participate in high quality learning both in and outside of school. Talking to children about their learning is essential so that they become confident and articulate young people. Do take time to speak to them about their day and avoid being on your mobile phone when you pick them up.

We are fast approaching the month of December and next Sunday sees the First Sunday of Advent. Do take time to talk to your child about the importance of Advent and the true meaning of Christmas. Time spent with your child is priceless and whilst it is key to support them with their reading, writing and maths, talking to them about the wider world and nurturing them to be kind, compassionate and tolerant people is just as important.

Finally please do add this term's key dates to your diary. Many thanks

Mrs Fernandes - Headteacher



# STRIVING FOR EXCELLENCE TOGETHER AS ONE

## SCHOOL DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2017-2018

*Our school development plan is an ongoing document which is reviewed regularly and objectives set are based on progress and attainment across the school. Our children continue to make strong progress each year and results at the end of each key stage (EYFS, KS1 & KS2) are at least in line with national averages and in some areas above. Our maths results were disappointing at the end of Year 6 in the summer 2017 and strategies put into place this year have already seen positive results. Staff meet with senior leaders to look at progress in each class and identify pupils who would benefit from support to enable them to meet required standards or to exceed.*

*We are very fortunate to have a highly committed staff who know their children well and this supports the school's high expectations for all pupils. Thank you for supporting your child as this makes all the difference to outcomes.*

*The main areas of development for the school are:*

- 1. To further develop mathematical reasoning skills so that pupils confidently apply their knowledge to solving problems (to include word problems) and can explain their reasoning.*

### *How can you help?*

- \* Help your child to learn their number bonds, tables and other number rules/facts*
- \* Support their learning by using practical equipment if necessary*
- \* Use word problems to enable them to apply their skills (e.g. working with money, time etc)*
- \* Encourage them to explain their ideas - this will help them to think through steps and identify errors*

- 2. To extend the range of texts children read to develop use of rich vocabulary - this will also benefit their writing and further develop general knowledge*

### *How can you help?*

- \* Read with your child regularly (daily would be ideal) and talk about the text*
- \* Develop their comprehension skills through questioning (e.g. Why does the author use certain words?)*
- \* Encourage them to use a dictionary/thesaurus to look up definition of unfamiliar words and synonyms*
- \* Share different texts with them (e.g. fiction, non-fiction, newspaper articles etc)*
- To extend the range of challenging texts and read regularly at home - with a focus on*

*We will be sending out further detailed information over this term and suggestions on how to support your child.*

# STRIVING FOR EXCELLENCE TOGETHER AS ONE

## YEAR 6 CLASS MASS

*Thank you to Miss Milmo for organising the Year 6 Class Mass and to Fr. Con for celebrating Mass with us. Thank you to the parents and friends who joined us. The children were wonderful and it was a lovely way to bless the children and their classroom.*



## GYMNASTICS COMPETITION

*Thank you to Mrs Jenkins for accompanying our Gymnastics team to a completion on Thursday, 23rd November 2017 and to Coach Kerstie for training them.*



# STRIVING FOR EXCELLENCE TOGETHER AS ONE

## YEAR 4 & YEAR 6 POETRY COMPETITION

*The winners of the Year 4 Poetry Competition were Adrian, Daniel O, Sidney, Raymond, Aaliyah and Emmanuel.*

*The winner of the Year 6 Competition was Toni.*

*It was a very difficult decision for the judges, Mrs Reichelt and Mr Bashford and they both said that all the children performed fantastically and deserved a mention for their hard work.*

*The other children who took part are as follows:*

*Year 4*

*Chidera, Elaine and Abigail*

*Jayheim, Abel, Aaron, Bea, Amariah, Victor, Kaia and Josie*

*Olivia, Christiana, Zuriel, Daniel Q and Joseph*

*Year 6*

*Valerie, Becky, NJ, Induya, Kayla, Chinwe and Blessing*

*Reah and Lidiya*

*Nathan, Jerome, Chidalu, Savio and Ola*

*Tia and Reuben compered the competition with confidence and maturity.*



## **Head Teacher Award**

**NURSERY: Sharai & Tianna**

**RECEPTION: Alimatu & Adonai**

**YEAR 1: Jaydin & Zachariah**

**YEAR 2: Daniel & Kaitlyn**

**YEAR 3: Louisa & Kosi**

**YEAR 4: Aaliyah & Dylan**

**YEAR 5: Augusta & Joy**

**YEAR 6: Zephaniah & Chinwe**

### **ATTENDANCE & PUNCTUALITY**

***We are striving for 100% attendance and punctuality.  
Remember classroom doors are open at 8.40 a.m***

***WEEK ENDING: 24TH NOVEMBER 2017:  
WINNING CLASS FOR ATTENDANCE—YEAR 2***

***OVERALL ATTENDANCE: 97.7%***

### **Father Con's reflection**

*On Saturday first gone our school hall hosted our parish's annual Christmas Bazaar. Hopefully all who attended had an enjoyable time.*

*This event illustrates the very close links between our parish and our parish school. 2017 is the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our parish. Our school was here five years before the church was actually built.*

*On a deeper level, it helps to illustrate the very close connection between church, school and home.*

*Our parish expresses its sincere thanks to Mrs Fernandes, and our school's Board of Governors, for sanctioning use of the school hall for this annual event. (The parish is also very grateful to our school's site manager Colm, who is always so helpful on and before bazaar day).*

### **Diary Dates**

#### **2nd Half of Autumn Term**

27th November	Inset Day
5th December	Nasal Flu Immunisation R to Yr 4
8th December	Choir Singing at Whitgift 1-2pm
12th December	Nursery Nativity 9.15am
14th December	Reception and KS1 Nativity 9.15am
15th December	Reception to Bromley Theatre KS2 Advent Service 1.45 pm
20th December	Christmas Lunch and Panto
21st December	School Closes at 1.15pm for the Christmas Holiday

*Parents and Carers of pupils in the Early Years and Years 1 and 2 are encouraged to come into class daily to work with your child from 8.45 to 9.00 a.m.*

*Please do support your child but I ask that you leave the classroom by 8.55 am, at the latest before the school gate is closed.*

