



Good Shepherd Newsletter

Friday 17th January 2020

Visitors to school

Mr Mooney and Mr Skehan from Margaret Roper and St Aidan's schools visited Good Shepherd last Friday for a Teaching and Learning review as part of the collaborative work we undertake with all the schools in the Croydon Catholic Umbrella Trust. They reported:
"Good Shepherd is a very positive environment for learning. Pupils are very happy, enjoy coming to school and feel valued. Pupils commented that at Good Shepherd 'Everybody gets a chance' and 'You get to express your feelings', which speaks volumes for the nurturing ethos of the school."

They also commented on behaviour and attitudes:

"Pupil behaviour witnessed was of a very high standard. Pupils are courteous and polite and understand their role in being active participants in their learning. In lessons witnessed, pupils participated readily and were keen to contribute."

Times Tables Rock Stars

Before Christmas, we awarded certificates to the five fastest pupils at answering time tables questions.

Every child from Year 2-Year 6 has a username and password for Times Tables Rock Stars. Please make sure your child logs in at home to practise their tables.

Research has shown that if children practise their time tables regularly, it really helps them to remember them, as it goes into their long term memory.

Please speak to your child's teacher if you do not remember your child's username and password. I will be awarding more certificates before half term!

Remember: after your child logs in, they need to click on 'Studio' in order to be included on the leader board. They can practice on any of the games but it is only the results from the Studio game that push them up the leader board and lead to them being presented with a certificate.



Clubs

Thank you to everyone who has signed up for clubs so far, the system has worked very smoothly this term. The last chance to book on to clubs is midnight on Saturday 18th. There are still some spaces in all of the clubs and children may do as many clubs as they would like.

Please speak to Mrs Reichelt in the office if you need any help with the app.

It is likely that some clubs will be cancelled if insufficient children sign up for them.

Spring term dates

Thursday 13th February 3:15pm—school closes for half term

Friday 14th February—inset day, school closed to pupils

Tuesday 10th and Thursday 12th March—Parents' evening for Nursery to Year 6 (no clubs)

Thursday 12th March 9:15am—poetry competition for Y2 & 4 (please note change of year groups)

Thursday 2nd April 10:30am—Stations of the Cross led by Y3

Friday 3rd April 1:15pm school closes for Easter

Respect

Responsibility

Determination

Positivity

Teamwork

Fr Con's Reflection

In the church's calendar, we are back now in "ORDINARY TIME".

Someone once famously said: "THERE IS NOTHING ORDINARY ABOUT ORDINARY TIME".

"Ordinary Time is either 33 or 34 weeks out of the 52 weeks that comprise the calendar each year. (The other 18 or 19 weeks of the year are "Extraordinary Time", and they are obviously the Christmas season preceded by Advent; the Easter Season preceded by Lent etc.)

Perhaps this can illustrate for us that we should not merely be focussed on the "extraordinary" in our lives.

God is always present for us, with His love, at all times and in the so-called "ordinary".



General knowledge quiz

Well done to Zac, Nana, Nathan and Amelia who represented the school this week at a general knowledge quiz between all the Catholic schools. There were some exceedingly hard questions but they came a very respectable 5th out of 12 teams.

This is one of the questions, do you know the answer?

In which city are the Petronas Towers?

a) Dubai b) Kuala Lumpur c) Doha d) Riyadh

Uniform

Please ensure your child wears their tie to school every day and shoes not boots when inside.

WaterAid assembly

We had a speaker from the WaterAid charity come to talk in assembly on Monday. The children were very interested in listening to her and several pupils came to me later in the day with some fundraising ideas. I also received a lovely email: "Thank you so much for inviting WaterAid to talk to your pupils today and for making me feel so welcome at Good Shepherd. The pupils were very willing to engage in the presentation and I hope that they are now clear about how fortunate we are in the UK and how WaterAid is working to realise our aim of getting clean water, decent sanitation/toilets and good hygiene to everyone, everywhere by 2030."

You may wish to find out more about the charity with your children by visiting their website: wateraid.org

Headteacher Awards

Well done to the following children who have worked so hard this week and had great behaviour:



Reception: Joy, Aniyah and Eric-George

Year 1: Daniel and Saviour

Year 2: Jevon and Dasia

Year 3: Maryjoy and Yasmin

Year 4: David and Edwin

Year 5: Nathan and Ethan

Year 6: All of the class

Attendance and Punctuality

Overall whole school attendance since September: 97%



Best attendance last week: Y1 & Y4 (99.2%)

Best punctuality last week: Y4 & Y6 (100%)

Well done and keep it up!

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Have a lovely weekend, Mrs Day