



St Chad's Newsletter

January 8th 2016

"At St. Chad's, we grow in the light of Christ, to share his love and reflect the gospel values."

Welcome back and a very happy new year to you all. Speaking to the children, it seems as though everyone enjoyed themselves and Father Christmas managed to find your houses!! On Monday, during our whole school assembly, we introduced the children to 'Virtues of the half term' - compassionate and loving. During the assembly we discussed how we can show these values in school and examples of people who showed them over Christmas. The Birmingham Central Mosque, for example, were offering hot meals for homeless people and our very own St Chad's Sanctuary on Shadwell Street continue to support asylum seekers with food parcels and clothing. There are lots of ways in which we can live these virtues without too much effort and our school council will be organising some events for later in the term.

Thank to our Y3 children who led our weekly Mass this morning. The Gospel reading was Jesus healing a leper who had been sent away by his family. Fr Gerry reminded us of two messages from the scripture: firstly the compassion that Jesus showed the man in his suffering when others had turned their back; secondly the importance of being a part of a loving family. It was lovely to hear all of the things that our children cherish about their families when they were answering his questions - you're obviously all doing a great job!!

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Wednesday was 'Science Day' and the theme was space. We began with an assembly organised by Mrs Ashford and her Science Club members where we learned about the International Space Station. I didn't know but the astronauts have taken some seeds up with them and they are being dropped down to earth in March where they will see if being in Space has had any effect on them. We will be getting some here in school so it's very exciting!! The day ended with the classes getting back together to explain what they'd done - Reception had an actual alien to tell everyone that they'd been making slime!! Well done to everyone involved in the organisation, it was a brilliant day and I learned lots of new facts!

There will be a meeting for Y6 parents who wish their child to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation on Monday 18th January at 5pm. The meeting is here in school and there will be refreshments available for you on your arrival. As this is when you'd be picking up your child from 'Booster Classes' we thought this to be most convenient for everyone.

On the back of this letter there is a very important message about attendance and lateness. Please take the time to read it.

Advanced notice: Monday 8th February will be a Teacher Training day and school will be closed for pupils. We will reopen as usual on the 9th February.

For the first time since 1987, Villa will be relegated this year. We are now the laughing stock of the league and a sorry excuse for a football club, it's truly embarrassing. We have now put together a run of 19 games without a win - a new record!!

Masses at the Cathedral are -
Saturday at 4.30pm (First Mass for Sunday)
Sunday at 9am and 11am - The Baptism of the Lord Luke 3:15-16, 21-22
"This is my Son, the Beloved; my favour rests on him."

IMPORTANT: I was a little taken aback this week to hear children discussing playing a computer game that has a rating of 18. Parents who allow their child to watch films or play games that are clearly inappropriate for their age are breaking the law. As part of our safeguarding duty here in school, we have to report such incidents to the Local Authority. As a parent, I know how difficult it can be to monitor what your child is doing online and the games they are playing on their consoles, but it's vital that we do and keep our children safe! If you do need help and advice, please come in and speak to Mrs Azadeh.

 Star of the week this week is Cerys (Y6) well done on a great start to 2016!!
Virtues certificate winners are - Djovani, Amika, Blessing, Ashleigh-Ann, Daeshaun, Nael and Merveille.
The winning house for last term was Blessed John Henry Newman (Yellow). They get to wear their own clothes next week.