

Headteacher's Weekly Briefing: 25/09/2023

'Kindness is my only guiding star. In its light, I sail a straight route.' St Thérèse of Lisieux

Good Morning everyone

Congratulations to St David's class (Miss Owen) class for getting 100% attendance last week. Keep up the great work! Enjoy having John Bear this week!

A great big thank you also to everyone for supporting the Book Fair last week, we will get commission to spend on new books for our class library collections. Thank you for your generosity.

Congratulations to our new school council members in Year 1 and Year 2 who had their first meeting of the year last week: St Nicholas - Thea & Herbie; St David - Christopher & Evelyn; St Bernadette - Bella & George; St Andrew - Charlie & Olivia – We look forward to hearing all their ideas throughout the year ahead!

This week we are celebrating Mission Together's "Little Way Week" when we will be focusing on the life of a very special saint called St Thérèse of Lisieux who spent her life as a missionary spreading love and kindness. As Christians, we all have a mission: to share God's love with the whole world. No one is too young or too small to take part. Through Mission Together, children everywhere pray for, and share with one another, in a unique exchange of love and friendship. When we pray for one another and share what we have, we are reminded that we belong to God's worldwide family.

Our assembly today focuses on a young woman whose lifelong love of mission led her to be canonised St Thérèse of Lisieux, patron of missionaries. We hope that during this week, she inspires us, as she has millions of Catholics for almost 200 years. St Thérèse's 'Little Way' taught her to be patient and humble, and how Jesus helped her to see how love and kindness can change the world! I have attached a Little Way Week planner for you to share at home which has a quotation from St Thérèse for each day of the week. Let's use her words to inspire our actions this week!! **Saint Thérèse showed how we can change the world with kindness.**

Our School Value this week is **Gentleness** ~ being kind and loving in your heart and actions.

Pope Francis tells us: "May we learn to be generous, always ready to share with each other."

Our special "**Mission Days**" **also start** again this week and these take place across each term. On these days, we provide opportunities for the children to look at, explore and reflect on their Catholic Faith as well as on our school mission and values. Tomorrow, will be our first Mission Day of the year and we will be looking at our **School Values**. Our school values are the "fruits of the Holy Spirit". These values show us how we should live if we really want to follow Jesus and let His love grow in our lives.

*"Love your friends and let the Holy Spirit live in your heart. The fruits of the Holy Spirit inside your heart are **love, peace, joy, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.** Let us live by these very special acts." (Galatians 5, 14-23)*

They help us to live out our Mission Statement of "**Loving, Learning and Laughter together with God**" and underpin everything that we do here at St John's Infants. We hope that you will embrace these values within your families as well. Here is a copy of the poster of our values for you to share together and keep at home: [School Values Poster](#)

Diary Dates for this week:

Tuesday 26th September: Wirral Mental Health Support Team (MHST) Coffee Morning for Parents- at 9am in the school hall - come along and meet our Well Being Practitioner, Lyndsey Crawford and find out more about what services she has to offer.

Wednesday 27th September: Mission Day "Our School Values"

Wednesday 27th September: Year 1 Trip – Local Area Walk

Friday 29th September - Own Clothes Day: Collection for Harvest Assembly – We will be collecting for our local charity “Response” that we collect for every year at this time – this is a support service for Wirral young people aged 13 to 25 years. They work with these young people who often, through no fault of their own, find themselves homeless, hungry and in crisis. Sometimes a bag of food, a hot bowl of soup or a chance to get clean, can make an enormous difference. If food and other items are available on the premises, then it can help the young person’s crisis. As a guideline, we have found it helpful in previous years if different classes collect particular items and would like your help to collect the following:

F2 and Pre School: Hot Chocolate/ Biscuits/ Pot Noodles (Chicken & mushroom or curry are favourites)

Year 1: Tinned sausage & beans/ curry/ meatballs/ spaghetti bolognese/soup

Year 2: Toiletries eg Soap/ shower gel/ shampoo/ toothpaste & toothbrushes/ shaving foam/ deodorant

Dates for the following two weeks:

Wednesday 4th October – St Francis Feast Day

Wednesday 4th October: Miss Owen’s (St David) Class assembly (Harvest Celebration) at 9.00am – parents/carers are welcome to attend (2 per family only please)

Parents' Evenings for F2, Year 1 and Year 2, will be taking place on Tuesday 10th October and Wednesday 11th October from 3.30-5.50pm. Please do your best to attend to find out how your child has settled in and ways to support them throughout this year and ensure they achieve the best they can. Appointments will be for 10 minutes. Sign-up sheets for appointment times will be available outside the classrooms from next week.

Wednesday 11th October: Mission Day for our school mission: *“Loving, Learning and Laughter together with God”*. On this day, we will be taking time to celebrate our school mission phrase *“Learning, Loving & Laughter together with God”*.

Thursday 12th October: F2 Curriculum Meetings for Parents and Stay & Play sessions – Two sessions will be available (9am -10am OR 2.00pm – 3.00pm) Please do your best to attend, as you will be provided with lots of information about your child's curriculum, and have an opportunity to spend some time with your child in their classroom to see what they have been doing in their first few weeks – sign-up sheets will be available from next week.

Have a great week!

Mrs Bulmer