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Our Lady Queen of Peace RC Primary School Newsletter

April 2016



Olqop Primary



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Well Done!

It was lovely to welcome so many visitors into school for our Lenten Lunches. The total amount raised was £710 which was presented to St Cuthbert's Care during the annual Good Shepherd Mass. This year the Mass was held in St Mary's Cathedral and presided by Bishop Seamus. Well done to Jerome Bramley, Mrs Duncan and Ella Routledge for representing our school, but a special thanks to Grace Reid who read during Mass.

To find out more about the charity please visit their website at www.stcuthbertscare.org.uk

Congratulations!

Congratulations to our Year 3 children who will receive the sacrament of Holy Communion for the first time shortly. Thank you to parents for your continued support in guiding the children and to our parish catechists who give so willingly of their time. Well done to Jakob Routledge, Rowan Jardine, Jack Swift, Benjamin Perry, Libby Philips, Christian Morpeth, Eva Harris, Grace Woods, Lyla Alsop, Grace Rushworth, Saffron Aitchison, Annabel Lincoln, Emilia King, Lauren Gibson, Lucy Bell, Isla Haley, Alexandra Thompson, Eve Murphy, Abigail Killen, Faye Younger, George Dickman, Simon Imiolek, Sam Wilkinson, Owen Hill, Jack Reid, Violet Stokoe, Poppy Williams, Finn Montgomery, Jonathan Luke and Joshua Hill.

It hasn't gone unnoticed that there were significant changes to the inside of school during the Easter holidays. Many members of staff gave up some of their holiday to prepare classrooms when we unexpectedly had to vacate parts of the building due to our construction work. Mondrian were relocated to a new classroom created from the back of the school office, the library and a meeting room and they now have a lovely learning space with direct access to our allotment and storytelling area. EYFS have moved into the rooms used by Mondrian and Constable classes and Mrs Fraser, along with Mrs Kennedy, have moved with their children to one of the temporary classrooms on the playground. The children all seem to like their new environments and have settled well.

The building work is continuing and three new classrooms, a new entrance and office area and the extension to EYFS are all expected to be completed in time for the new school year. A further classroom will be completed in the autumn. Unfortunately, extensive drainage work to the school field along with heavy rainfall has meant that this area is not in full use. It is unlikely that the grass will be reinstated for a number of weeks and this may impact on our ability to hold our usual sports day. We remain hopeful, however, that we will be able to host another family event.

Family Day Out

Arrangements for our family day out are almost complete. A bus will leave for Lindisfarne at 8am on Saturday 18 June. The day is meant to be a relaxing opportunity to spend some time away from the hustle and bustle and you are invited to spend the day as you wish on the island. If you would like to join us, Fr Mark will say Mass in the open air and then we will have a picnic. After an afternoon of sightseeing you may like to walk the causeway before the return journey home. Arrangements are as flexible as possible to accommodate all tastes! Some families may prefer to make their own travel arrangements but if you would like to book seats on the bus please contact Mrs Ludford in the school office. The parish are kindly subsidising the bus so the fare is £10 per adult and children travel free! Please note, all children must be supervised throughout the day. Further details about the causeway crossing times can be found at <http://orawww.northumberland.gov.uk/www2/holyisland/holyisland.asp?dt=0616>

Safeguarding News

The Designated Safeguarding Leads in school are Mrs Reilly-O'Donnell, Mrs Maher and Mrs Lamond. The governor with responsibility for Safeguarding is John Hindmarch. If you have any concerns about any of the children in our care, or have important information to share with us, please contact one of these members of staff.

All disclosures will be dealt with sensitively and appropriate advice and support will be sought from partner professionals as necessary.

As part of our ongoing safety programme in school we encourage our children to make wise and informed choices. Previously we have shared website addresses which give good advice for parents. In addition to these we would also like to draw your attention to www.educateagainsthate.com which advises how parents can talk to their children about extremist views. We are also hosting an e-safety workshop for parents of Year 5 and Year 6 children on 19 May.

SATs

Year 6 will sit their national tests during the week beginning 9 May. Year 2 children will also be completing national assessments and our Year 1 children will be completing the national phonics test shortly. Please keep all of our children in your prayers.

Breakfast Club

Please note, Breakfast Club is open from 8am. Children must not be left before this time as staff are not available to care for them. The latest time to drop off is 8.30am.

Visits

Bridget Phillipson MP joined Year 5 in school as a follow-up to their visit to parliament. The children asked Brigid a number of challenging questions and shared their



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own views on a variety of topics including extremism, academisation of schools, the EU referendum and health. Well done children, and always remember, your voices must be heard.

School App

Important school information is now shared through our App. This can be downloaded from *Ourschoolsapp*. To register please use the school postcode, DH4 7JZ. If you do not have access to a smartphone or tablet, please let Mrs Ludford know and she will make alternative arrangements for keeping you informed. Don't forget also to follow us on our Facebook and Twitter accounts.

Parish Peru Day

A group of parishioners will be visiting the Diocesan mission in Iquitos, Peru during the summer. While there they will be helping to build essential facilities for the people of the Parish of Santa Maria. To help fund building materials all the primary schools in the Parish of St John XXIII will be holding a non-uniform, Peru themed day on Thursday 16 June. We will also enjoy a South American flavour to our menu that day!

Forward Together in Hope

The Diocesan team are continuing the journey of renewal. The latest update can be found here: <http://www.hope.rcdhn.org.uk/resources/updatesmonthly/apr16/ftih%20update%20apr%20-%20may16.pdf> Please

continue to pray for *Forward Together in Hope*.

And Finally....

Well done to our choir who competed at the Sunderland Singing Festival. As reported last time, 49 children took part. We have now received the official feedback and the children were awarded **GOLD** for their performance. Fantastic!

Dates for Your Diary

Year 6 SATs week 9 May

Half Term Holiday

Monday 30 May to Tuesday 7 June

Friday morning liturgies:

6 May	Goldsworthy
13 May (2pm)	May procession
20 May	Picasso
27 May	Kandinsky
10 June	Eco Council
17 June	Whole School
24 June	Mondrian
1 July	Rousseau
8 July	Constable

19 May, 9.15am FHC Mass

19 July, 9.30am Leaver's Mass

20 July, 9.15am Potter liturgy

Recommended Reading

EYFS: Goodnight Spacemen!

Michelle Robinson

KS1: The Jungle Book

KS2: The Wild Robot

Peter Brown

Adults: The Merchant of Venice

William Shakespeare

Weekend Mass Times

Our Lady Queen of Peace Church

Sunday: 10am

Our Blessed Lady Immaculate Church

Sunday: 11am

6pm

St Bede's Church

Saturday: 5pm

Sunday: 8.30am

St John Boste Church

Sunday: 9.30am

Prayer for April during the Year of Mercy:

We pray for all those who are poor.

Lord Jesus,

You came to bring good news to the poor.

Help us to bring the good news of your love and mercy to those who struggle each day with poverty.

We pray for those who have very little to live on each day, those who are not paid a fair wage,

children who have to work rather than go to school

and those who cannot find work to support their families.

Show us how to work for justice to make the world a fairer place.

Teach us how to appreciate what we have and not to be greedy for more.

Help us to be generous, supporting those in need through our prayers and our commitment to charity.

We ask this in your name, Lord. Amen