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Our Lady Queen of Peace RC Primary School Newsletter

June 2015



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Summer Visits

The fine weather has brought us lots of opportunities to get out and about. Year R children had a fabulous visit to the coast and enjoyed a fun session with Tiny Tweeties. Our Year 1 children visited Elba Park and have also spent time visiting Penshaw Monument. Year 3 had a fantastic time at Segadunum Roman Fort and Year 6 had an amazing day at Emmaus Village. Year 5 enjoyed their residential stay with the Youth Ministry Team when they took the opportunity to "Step Back" in order to find a place for God in their lives. We are very grateful to our many helpers who support our trips.

Sporting Success

Congratulations to our Year 6 children who took part in the deanery athletics festival at St Bede's Primary, returning as victors! Well done also to our Year 3 and Year 4 tennis teams who successfully progressed to the Sunderland schools finals. Eight of our pupils, who attend the Change4Life lunchtime club attended an end of term activity afternoon at Biddick School. Our Year 2 children are soon to visit St John Boste Primary for the Year 2 multiskills tournament; good luck children!

Singing Festival

Congratulations to Year 2 who took part in the Sunderland schools' singing festival at the Seaburn Centre. Miss Robson and Mrs Edwards reported that the children were in fine voice and put on a winning performance.

Mr Lane

As you are aware, Mr Lane has decided to retire this summer. He is recovering well from his recent illness and is looking forward to spending more time with his family. Earlier this week he was presented with an episcopal blessing from Bishop Seamus, which he was delighted to receive. We will give him a special OLQoP send off in early September when we will celebrate Mass, followed by refreshments. More details will follow in the new term.

Until we recruit a new Deputy Head Teacher Mrs Brown has kindly agreed to take on the role.

50th Anniversary

Grateful thanks go to the many families who joined the parish for the celebration of 50 years of Our Lady Queen of Peace Church. I have received many messages commending the children for their beautiful singing and valuable contributions to both masses. Thank you so much to families for your support.

Outstanding Pupils

Whilst we know all of our pupils are outstanding in different ways, it is always a privilege to celebrate the amazing achievements of individuals who have worked particularly hard to overcome difficulties or to excel beyond expectation. This terms' outstanding pupils are:

Poppy Furey (KS1 Reader)
Sam Wilkinson (KS1 Writer)
Lucy Bell (KS1 Mathematician)
Eva McMonigle (KS2 Reader)
MohammedDin (KS2 Writer)
Liam Doyle

(KS2 Mathematician)

Our New Building

We continue to make plans for our new building work to commence. Although the first brick has not yet been laid there has been substantial work taking place "behind the scenes" to address some significant issues. It has been a frustrating but necessary process but we are now nearing a start date. The work will consist of four extensions to the main building and will include a new entrance system. Large areas of the school will be affected and we have plans in place to make sure there is minimal disruption to learning. A second temporary classroom will be installed over the summer and we have now stripped the IT suite to convert it to a classroom. Major investment in portable IT equipment means that the children have access to computers across the week, not just for short timetabled lessons, which is a major improvement. When the work starts there will be disruption to access to the site and we are very grateful for your continued support during this time. Because of our increased numbers we obviously need to continue to restructure our classes. All Nursery and Reception children will be taught in our Foundation Stage Unit, with access to the temporary classroom. There will be three classes of Year 1 and Year 2 children, taught by Mrs Fraser, Miss Robson and our new teacher, Mrs Lamond. Key Stage 2 classes remain unchanged for this year.

Thank You

Mrs Fish returns to school on Monday 6th July after the birth of baby Jay. Our grateful thanks go to Mrs Cresswell who has taken great care of the Year 3 children and played a major role in their preparation for first reconciliation and Holy Communion. I am delighted to report that Mrs Cresswell will remain as part of our teaching team and will be working in Foundation Stage, sharing a teaching role with Mrs young.

Dates for Your Diary

Y2 multiskills @ St John Boste
Thursday 2nd July

Curriculum evening
Monday 6th July, 5pm

Y6 Bikeability
w/b 6th July

KS1 Sports Day
Monday 13th July, 1.30pm

End of Term Mass
Tuesday 14th July, 9.30am

KS2 Sports Day
Tuesday 14th July, 1.30pm

Thursday 16th July
KS1 Summer Concert followed by Race for Life followed by Picnic and KS2 Summer Concert
(See previous letter for more details)

Y6 Leavers Celebration
Friday 17th July 9am

Prayer for July

Come, O Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and enkindle in them the fire of your love. Send forth your Spirit, and they shall be created. And you shall renew the face of the earth

Pupil Questionnaires

We recently asked our children about school. Their responses were as follows:

	Strongly Agree/ Agree %	Don't Know %
I feel happy and valued in school.	94	0.5
My family are important to the school and feel welcome.	94	3
Adults in school listen to me.	90	4
I am well looked after in school.	98	2
I am safe in school	97	2
I enjoy my lessons	96	0.5
My teacher expects my work to be of a high standard.	96	1
I know how well I am doing in my lessons.	95	4
I know how to improve my work in lessons	94	3
I am making good progress	96	0.5
I am well-taught.	98	0.5
My homework helps me.	90	2
Behaviour in school is good.	91	5
Bullying is not accepted in school.	98	2
I am encouraged to develop my own ideas and opinions.	96	2
The school has strong links with the wider community	91	7
The school is well led.	96	4

What we like about our school:

Laptops
Everyone is nice
PE, Music, Maths, liturgies, Art
Star of the Week
Trees
Friends
Playtime
Teachers
Lunches
"It is Catholic."
Learning new things
Good teaching

"We are well treated."
Happy
Exciting
Different subjects
"Everything is explained perfectly."
Certificates and rewards
Homework
Tests
"A comfortable place to be."
"I never want to be absent."
"Safe, welcoming, happy."
Good behaviour

Share ideas
"Confident teachers"
Governors
Parent lunches
SATs preparation
Eco activities
Level 6 work
Bullies aren't tolerated
Gathering together
Head Teacher
Pupil responsibilities
Lunchtime support

Clean
Trips
Everything
Calm
Debates
Community
Safety events
"No idea is wrong"
"Every voice is heard"

We could improve school by:
Trampoline, swings zip wire
More trips out
Afternoon playtime
Elect teachers
Longer hours
Less days off
Breaktime clubs
KS1 on large playtime
More work on walls

Biology, chemistry, physics
More sport/equipment
Quieter lunchtimes
No uniform
More lessons
Choose subjects
More science experiments

More colour

Prayer club
A room to talk about worries
Going to church more
More male staff
No homework
More drinks on "golden table"
Bike shed
More visitors so we can show off
school

Nothing
More bins
Dinner ladies
Lollipop person
"I don't think it could improve."
Decoration

We are still gathering responses to the parent questionnaires and will report on this in the new term.