



SUMMER Term 2016/17

Safeguarding/Child Protection Officer—Mrs R Tyler

JUNE 2017

Dear Parents / Carers,

I can't quite believe that it is the final half term of this school year - time certainly flies! As you know, we have so much to get through in the next few weeks and, as always, it is an extremely busy time for all of us as we look forward to trips, performances, sports and transition days. Y6 are now on their last lap at St Brigid's before they embark on a whole new adventure at secondary school. As you are aware, there is a great deal going on for all of our pupils between now and the end of term and so it is important that your child is in everyday so that they don't miss out.

**Parish News**—Father David has asked me to remind you that this coming Sunday is the feast of Corpus Christi and there will be a procession after Mass. Members of the Little Church always take part in this annual procession, however, Year 4 children are invited to attend this year and the children are welcome to wear their First Communion clothes. Please support your child in attending mass this weekend. Thank you.

Don't forget that the Parish Summer Fayre will be taking place on *Sunday 16th July*. If you have any unused items of clothing or books that you would be willing to donate or would like to support the work of the parish in any other way, Father would be most appreciative.

Also, a summer concert will be held at church on **Saturday 22 July at 7.00 pm**. An Italian singer and musician, **Roberto Tardito**, will be coming to St Albert's as part of a Europe-wide tour. He will be singing (to the sound of acoustic instruments) a range of medieval devotional songs. The manuscripts of these songs were discovered at the famous monastery of Montserrat (Spain) and the collection is known as **Libre Vermell**. Tickets cost £10 each, and can be obtained from St Albert's Presbytery on **0151 228 7126**, or by emailing your details to [stalberts@rcaolp.co.uk](mailto:stalberts@rcaolp.co.uk).

**Come & See**—It was with great pleasure that we welcomed a very special visitor (Jeremy) to school last week. Jeremy was working with the children and staff throughout the school during our planned 'Judaism' day. He was thrilled to see that the children know so much about the Jewish faith already and were able to share their knowledge and understanding so eloquently. Having the ability to celebrate our differences is what makes us special—we are all different but we treat each other with tolerance and respect, after all, the world would be a very dull place if we were all the same!

**Section 48 (Religious Education) Inspection**—As I mentioned in the last newsletter, we had a full RE Inspection before half term and I am pleased to let you know that I have now received the full report for checking. In its assessment of the provision of Catholic Education, the Archdiocese has judged St Brigid's as a good school with outstanding features. The report reads very well and there are so many positive points. This will be available to parents next week. If you would like a copy, please see Mrs Higham at the front desk, otherwise a copy will be posted on the school website.

**Phonics Test Week**—Well done and thank you to all of the Y1 pupils who have been working extremely hard this week to show off their fantastic phonic skills. Every pupil has given 100% and I am so proud of every single one of them. Thank you to Mrs Hunter and her team (Miss Kemp, Mrs Edwards & Mr Hughes) who have done a sterling job in making sure that our children are fully prepared and continue to be challenged and supported so that they are well ready for Y2.

**Nursery Provision at St Brigid's**—You will be aware that the building works for our new nursery provision is now underway and there is limited access to our SPACE for Sports & Arts building. As a result, we will be housing Breakfast Club in our school hall until further notice. After-school clubs which use the sports hall continue to run but parents/carers are asked to be aware and considerate of the fact that space is very limited while works are in operation.

**DROPPING OFF & COLLECTING PUPILS**—Over the next couple of weeks, it may be necessary to stagger the children's home time while the junior entrance and playground has restricted access. I will let you know via text when you are likely to be affected by this, however, once the access is restricted, the following plan will be in place:

**SCHOOL START TIME:** 8.55am—All children to come straight into the school hall (as they do when the weather is wet)

**SCHOOL END TIME:** Y1 / Y2 / Y3—**3.00pm** to be collected from school hall

Y4 / Y5 / Y6—**3.15pm** to be collected from school hall

Reception—**3.15pm** to be collected from their usual exit

**Attendance**—Last week I sent out every child's attendance score for the year so far. Thank you to all of you who are fully supportive of the work we are doing to ensure that our children are the best attendees. We have now launched our 'Be in



Everyday' competition and I am pleased to tell you that this week has seen a big rise in the number of children across school on 100% attendance. The competition will run until 14th July and all children with 100% attendance during that period will qualify for a session on the bouncy castle.

**Punctuality**—The overwhelming majority of our pupils are in the line at 5 to 9 and never let us down. Well done to you! There are some, however, who continue to come into school late. Mr Fleming will be keeping a check on pupils arriving late and letting parents and the Local Authority know who is affecting our punctuality data. Please be aware that your child is missing out if they are not in school on time and their attendance will be affected if lateness continues.

**New Starters—September 2017**— It is a really nerve wracking time when, as parents, you are choosing a place for your child to start school. Over the next few weeks we will be welcoming all of our new parents and children who have been allocated a place at St Brigid's and I am sure you will all do the same.

There will be an opportunity for parents/carers of pupils who are starting RECEPTION at St Brigid's in September to come into school on Wednesday 21st June at 9.15am for a parent/carer meeting. This is a great opportunity for parents/carers of new starters to ask questions about what will be expected of themselves and their child when starting in September. On Thursday 29th June at 1.45pm both parents and children are welcome to come into school for the afternoon to see the classroom and meet their teachers.

There is also an opportunity for the parents of children starting in our nursery to visit school for a short meeting with Mrs Richards and I on Thursday 22nd June. All parents/carers should now have received a letter confirming places - if you are waiting for confirmation and have not yet received this (or you know someone in this position), please get in touch with school and speak to Mrs Higham who will be happy to help.

**St Brigid's Transition Day: Wednesday 5th July**—Planning for transition is an important part of the work we do in helping our pupils prepare for change. In a couple of weeks, the children will be moving around the school and getting to know their new teachers and classroom environments as they begin to think about their move to the next year group come September. I have made a couple of changes to the staffing arrangements for next year to ensure that we utilise our strengths to the maximum—the teaching arrangements are as follows:

EARLY YEARS		KEY STAGE 1	
NURSERY	Reception	Y1	Y2
Mrs Richards	Miss Dailey	Mrs Hunter	Mrs Burns
KEY STAGE 2			
Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6
Miss Barker	Mrs Edwards	Mr Owen	Mr Riley

As Acting Deputy, Mrs Richards is responsible for ensuring whole school targets are met, however, she will continue to lead on all aspects of Early Years (Nursery & Reception Class) and will liaise with parents/carers as and when necessary.

**Athletics**—Sadly, for the first time in the 21 years I have taught at St Brigid's, the annual athletics competition at Wavertree will not be taking place. I have been informed that, due to the over-running of building works and renovation at the track, Wavertree have cancelled all athletics fixtures for the remainder of the academic year. This is a real blow to us as we always enjoy our annual trip to Wavertree and have been working hard in preparation for the competition, however, we will make sure our skills and talents are well utilised during our forthcoming sports days. Please pray for clement weather so that these can go ahead as scheduled.

**Children's University**—The celebration event at Liverpool Hope University will be taking place this Monday morning (19th June) and, while Mrs McKay is on maternity leave, Mrs Burns has been busy organising the event. We will be joined again by Keith McDowell (school governor and Knowsley's Lead for Family Learning) who will talk to the children about the real difference that they are making to their education by participating in 'out of school hours' learning. I am so proud of the children who will be receiving their awards and having their efforts formally recognised during such a prestigious event. I am sure that our pupils will be a credit to themselves, their families and our school on their graduation day and I look forward to seeing many of you there to celebrate with your child.

**SAFETY FIRST**—As you know, we do not allow parents/carers to park on our staff car park as we do not have the space to accommodate this and now that the building works have begun on the SPACE building, that car park is out of use before school. Please continue to park over the road from school and do not put your child or others in danger by parking dangerously on the main road or across entrances. Please also make sure that your child understands how to cross the road before and after school—we have had a number of reports of children crossing dangerously while in the care of their parents/carers. Thank you for your continued support.

Mrs R Tyler (Headteacher)