



Autumn Term 2018/19



Safeguarding/Child Protection Officer—Mrs R Tyler

Dear Parents / Carers,

It's fast approaching the end of term and it is hard to believe we have nearly completed a third of the year already—time really flies when you're having fun (or working hard)! As always during this busy time of year, our children have been showing us the true meaning of the season and they are working hard to wow us with some wonderful performances over the next few weeks. At such a busy time, and with so much to do, it is nice to be able to take time out and enjoy the children's hard work so please make sure that you join us for a performance or two if you can.

Religious Education—Thank you to all those Y5 families who attended the Advent Assembly which was a great success. Margot D'Arcy (our Pathways to Success Adviser) joined us for the day and was thrilled to watch the performance—she was really impressed by the way in which the children conducted themselves. The children recited their words impeccably, sang beautifully and were a real credit to themselves, their families and our school. As usual, I was very impressed with all of their new learning and the way that they shared this new knowledge with the audience. Well done to all of our Y5 children and Mr Owen & Mrs Pickett for supporting them throughout their preparation.

SACRAMENTAL & Parish News—A very big thank you to Fr David and the Parish Catechists who gave up their valuable time to support our Y4 pupils and their families while they prepared to make their Sacrament of Reconciliation. Fr David has asked me to thank all of those parents who supported their children so well over the past number of weeks. We celebrated with the children and their families during a beautiful service on Sunday 2nd December as they made their First Confessions. Well done to you all.

Attendance Winners—The race is on...come on, everyone—let's make the last few weeks really count!

On Friday 21st December, Mr Fleming will be running the Attendance Shop for those pupils with excellent attendance for this term. Well done all those pupils! There is sometimes a tendency to keep children off school during the last few weeks—this is a real shame because they miss out on so much. Please make sure that your child is in EVERDAY until we break up for Christmas.

PARKING ISSUES—Thank you to all of those parents/carers who park responsibly over the road in the main car park. Unfortunately, there are **still** a handful of families who continue to park across the gates to the Nursery & SPACE building. Parking across an entrance is selfish and dangerous and puts your children and others at risk. Please consider the safety of all of our children and families when parking to collect your children. Any footage of illegal parking recorded on our CCTV system will be forwarded to the Knowsley Road Safety Team and our governing body for further action.

Family Learning Fun—Mrs Buckley is busy supporting the Family learning Team as they deliver family craft sessions for our children and their parents/carers. These are always very well attended and the children enjoy spending time with their loved ones during school hours. Mrs Buckley will send out additional information (via text) of any further activities that are planned over the few days or so, so keep a look out.

Indoor Athletics—Congratulations to the children in Y5 & 6 who qualified for the Knowsley Indoor Athletics Finals. They represented our school at Kirkby Sports Hall brilliantly and were a real credit to themselves, their families and our school. Well done to all of you!

Applications for Reception Class: September 2018—Children whose 4th birthday falls on or before 31st August 2018 will be due to start school in September. If you, a friend or neighbour has a child who requires a place at school, please don't forget that you need to complete a school expression of interest form **AND** the Knowsley or Liverpool Admission Form (depending on which authority you live in). This should be done as soon as possible to ensure that you don't miss out on a place. Don't forget, a place in our nursery **DOES NOT** guarantee a place in our Reception Class. Please contact school if you require any further information.

Jack & the Beanstalk—Well, what a wonderful time we all had at the Panto. The children thoroughly enjoyed the typical slapstick comedy that you only get from a festive pantomime. The staff really enjoyed it too—even the dubious acting skills of Coronation Street star, Steven Arnold, didn't dampen our spirits! Well done to all for making the occasion a truly memorable one.

Christmas Visits to the Old People's Home—The pupils from Y2 visited 'Red Holme' Nursing Home on Monday 10th December to perform extracts from their Nativity. The elderly residents thoroughly enjoyed this visit, as usual,





and, for some, it is the highlight of the season. The children, as always, represented us beautifully and had a great time sharing some of their Christmas cheer!

Carols at Liverpool John Lennon Airport—Well done to our Y5 pupils (and staff) for singing their socks off and bringing some Christmas cheer to all those who were off on their travels last week! The children really enjoyed their visit to the airport and the staff commented, as they always do, on how beautifully behaved our children are. Well done for raising more than £80 for school funds—we will be using this money to add some new books to our Story Shed.

Nursery Concert—It will be our youngest children who will be performing next week and I'm pretty sure there won't be a dry eye in the house. The children have been working hard to learn a number of new songs and the staff are working tirelessly to ensure that they are well organised and prepared for their performance. Texts have gone out to parents so you should be aware of when you are invited in. Please see Mrs Richards if you need any further information.

Junior Nativity—Following last years beautiful performance, the children from Y3 to 6 invite you to join them at St Albert's Church for their celebration This will take place on Monday 17th December at 2pm. We will not be providing tickets this year as there should be plenty of room in church for all parents/families. We will, however, have the usual photographs available to purchase for £1 each and we will also have a festive raffle or two (good luck)! On the day of the performance, the children can be taken home straight from church (if you are able to attend), otherwise, they will be escorted back to school for collection at 3.15pm.

Infant Nativity—The performances for the children from Reception to Y2 are as follows:

- * Reception Class Tuesday 18th December at 9.30am School Hall
- * Year One Tuesday 18th December at 2.00pm School Hall
- * Year Two Wednesday 19th December at 2.00pm School Hall

There will be no charge for the tickets but you will be able to purchase a festive photograph of your child for £1 on the day of their performance. We will also be holding the usual raffles so get your good luck charms out!

Joint Mass at St Albert's—The children from Y1—6 will be going to church on Wed 19th December for our annual Christmas Mass.

Christmas Dinner & Jumper Day—On Thursday 20th December, we will all be enjoying our Christmas Dinner. On the same day, the children can come to school in their Christmas Jumper or own clothes. As always, I am sure we will all have a fabulous time.

Internet Safety— I am certain that many children will receive gaming systems and other items with internet access this Christmas so it seems timely to remind you of the dangers that this can pose. Online bullying can and does occur so please make sure that you are aware of who your child is communicating with and what they are saying. Keep your child and yourself safe online by understanding the dangers of sites like Facebook & SNAPchat—ensure privacy settings are set appropriately, choose your 'friends' carefully, and be aware that once a picture is posted online it's out there! Please also keep in mind the age restrictions on games for gaming systems such as Xbox and Playstation as the content of these is often inappropriate for young children. For further information visit <http://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/>

Christmas Arrangements at St Albert's Church—Fr David has asked me to remind you of the Mass times for Christmas which are:

Christmas Eve	First Mass of Christmas	7.00pm
Christmas Eve	Midnight Mass	Midnight
Christmas Day	All welcome	10am

End of Term—School will close for the Christmas break on **Friday 21st December**. Pupils may be collected at 12.30pm from their usual exits. Dinners will be served at 12.00 pm for those who require them.

School will re-open on MONDAY 7th January at 8.55 am.

I hope you all have a perfectly peaceful Christmas and a fantastic New Year. With very best wishes.

Mrs R Tyler—Headteacher

