

AUTUMN Term 2017/18

Safeguarding/Child Protection Officer—Mrs R Tyler



DECEMBER 2017

Dear Parents / Carers,

It's the last few weeks of term and it is hard to believe we have nearly completed a full term in school 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. The children recited their words, 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 26th November as they made their First Confessions. Well done to you all.

Attendance Winners—The race is on for the class who will be having a well deserved trip to SPACEworld on THURSDAY 21st December. Come on, everyone—let's make the last few weeks really count!

On Friday 22nd 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.

In addition to this, last week I received a complaint from local residents. The family had called an ambulance for a very sick relative. Unfortunately, the ambulance was unable to gain access to the property because the driveway was blocked by a car belonging to one of our parents/carers. Please **park over the road from school**.

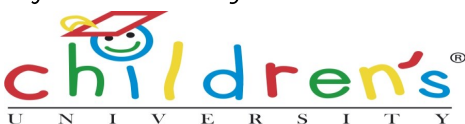
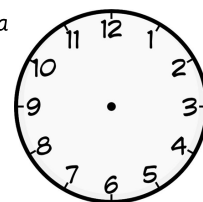
Family Learning Fun—Mrs Buckley is busy supporting the Family learning Team as they deliver family craft sessions for our children and their parents/carers. These are always very well attended and the children enjoy spending time with their loved ones during school hours. Mrs Buckley will send out additional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

Keeping Healthy—Earlier this week, I sent out a letter regarding the measles outbreak in Liverpool which is affecting unvaccinated children. Measles is highly infectious. It can cause serious illness and can sometimes be fatal. Vaccination with 2 doses of MMR is the only way to protect children and young people. Please follow the advice provided on the letter and let us know if your child is diagnosed with measles.

Liverpool Counts—Our Maths Ambassadors have now been appointed and are working hard with Mrs Hunter and Mr Owen to plan lots of maths activities for our children. They have some fabulous ideas and have been talking to the children about a few of these, including: Joke of the Week, Parents Maths Challenge and Lunch Club. The Parents Maths Challenge (below) will be going out this week so get your thinking caps on to solve the problem and return it to school for the chance to win a prize.

* Use two straight lines to split the clock face into three parts so that the sum of the numbers in each of the parts is equal.

* MATHS JOKE of the Week: Why did the maths book look so sad? It had so many problems!!!





Indoor Athletics—Congratulations to the children in Y5 & 6 who qualified for the Knowsley Indoor Athletics Finals. They will be representing our school tomorrow night at Kirkby Sports Hall. Good luck 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.

Beauty & the Beast—Well, what a wonderful time we all had at the Panto yesterday. 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 Alex Reid 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 will be visiting 'Red Holme' Nursing Home next Thursday (14th December) to perform extracts from their Nativity. The elderly residents really look forward to this occasion and, for some, it is the highlight of the season. The children always represent us beautifully and have a great time sharing some of their Christmas cheer!

Carols at Liverpool John Lennon Airport & Deysbrook TESCO—St Brigid's pupils have been invited to sing Carols at John Lennon Airport and TESCO this year. On Friday 15th, Mr Riley & Mrs North will be taking a choir of children to the airport to sing their socks off and bring some Christmas cheer to all those who are off on their travels! On Tuesday 19th, Mr Owen, Mrs Pickett & Mrs North will be taking Y5 to sing at our local TESCO—I am sure that their dulcet tones will bring a smile to the faces of many a weary shopper!



Nursery Concert—I cannot wait to see our youngest children performing next week—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—This year, the children from Y3 to 6 invite you to join them at St Albert's Church for their performance. This will take place on Monday 18th 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 19th December at 9.30am	School Hall
* Year One	Tuesday 19th December at 2.00pm	School Hall
* Year Two	Wednesday 20th December at 2.00pm	School Hall



Due to space restrictions in the hall, children will be allocated with 2 tickets each. These will go out from class at the beginning of next week. If you require any additional tickets, please see your child's class teacher who will be happy to help if they are able. There will be no charge for the tickets this year 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 20th December for our annual Christmas Mass.

Christmas Dinner & Jumper Day—On Thursday 21st 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 22nd 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 8th 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

