



Parents & Carers

February 2018



Father, help me to see this holy season of Lent as a time for spiritual renewal, rather than a time for deprivation. Nourish me with your Word of Life and make me one with you in love and prayer.

Our Faith



Lent is a time for prayer and reflection, and preparation for the passion and death of our Lord Jesus Christ. As a school, we are reaching out to support those in need. Again this year we are supporting Father Hudson's Society, a charity associated with our Archdiocese of Birmingham. Father Hudson's supports vulnerable people of all ages within our Diocese and this year have a particular focus on supporting the homeless. The children have all brought home money boxes to fill as part of 'The Good Shepherd Appeal.' Please give generously so we can support this wonderful charity. We will collect all money boxes back in after the Easter holidays.

"If you would be perfect, go, sell what you possess and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow me."

Matthew 19:21

Virtues for this term:

Intentional and Prophetic

Intentional: planning our actions and choosing to live how God wants us to. We use the earth's resources wisely, think about the choices we make, and care for God's creation.

Prophetic: spreading the word of God through how we live our lives. We set a good example through our words and deeds and inspire other people to act in a positive and wise way.



Simply Perfect will be in school on Saturday 3rd March 2018 11-3pm with their full range of First Holy Communion dresses, sashes, ties and other accessories for you to buy in preparation for your child's First Holy Communion.

Salesian Celebration Day

What a wonderful day this was! It certainly started off on a high note with Miss Davies setting off the fire alarm cooking breakfast for the staff volunteers!! After assembling in the hall, the children chose from a variety of activities that included art, craft, ICT, Lego, sports or games; the rain certainly didn't dampen the enjoyment of the day. After the second round of activities we gathered in the hall for a time of prayer and reflection. We prayed to St John Bosco to thank him for his guidance; the day then finished with a disco. A couple of comments from the children: 'That was such a cool day, I loved coming to school on a Saturday' and 'brilliant day, I loved the art and the disco!' Thank you to all the staff volunteers who gave up their Saturday for the children. St John Bosco devoted his life for young people by putting them at the centre of his work; it is very clear to see the Salesian ethos very much alive and active in our school.

Prayer Garden Appeal

Last year our Faith Leaders requested a prayer garden in our school. Near the front entrance we have an area of grass that would be perfect for our prayer garden, this

will also give our families the opportunity to offer prayer intentions together. We are hoping to build a grotto to Our Lady, patron of our school (please see the photographs of the idea on page 3). We are also giving parents, members of the parish, past pupils and friends of our school the opportunity to sponsor a brick for £5. The name of every sponsor will be kept in a special book and their prayer intentions will be offered every time we pray to Our Lady at the grotto. If you would like to sponsor a brick (or several) please place your donation in the envelope provided and return it to school.

LEGO



Do you have any unwanted Lego at home? We are appealing for donations of Lego to help teaching and learning in our school. It is amazing the amount of learning that can be achieved through this wonderful creation! Please give all donations to the class teachers or via the main office.

Ground Force Day



Can you lend a hand to help improve the outside area of our school? In preparation for the summer, we are asking for any parents/skilled workers to help us with painting, power-washing, gardening and other jobs to help brighten our school. The school will be open on Thursday 12th April (during the Easter holidays) please do come along, refreshments will be provided!

Swimming

Swimming is part of the National Curriculum and children must participate. If your child is well enough to be in school they must go swimming, please make every effort to remind your child to bring in their swimming kit.

E-Safety

It has been brought to our attention that some of our children are using apps inappropriately. Please check the privacy settings on these apps and the appropriateness of children of primary school age using them.

World Book Day

The children are invited to come to school on Thursday 1st March dressed as their favourite book character. We are starting the celebrations on Monday and an author visiting on Tuesday to give an example. It promises to be a great week!

PSA Events

Thank you to the PSA for organising the disco and for the members of staff who entertained the children in the hall; we raised approximately £700, fantastic result!

On Friday 16th March the PSA are hosting a 'Ceili' night (pronounced kay-lee) from 7pm-10pm in the school hall to celebrate St Patrick's Day. This is open to both parents and children. A live band will be performing and there will be a fully licensed bar. Dust off those dancing shoes and come and join us for a night of enjoyment.

With best wishes

Miss Davies and all the staff

Event	Date & Time
Thursday 1st March	World Book Day: dress up as your favourite book character!
Thursday 1st March	Ruby class music concert at the Jacqueline de Pre Building
Friday 2nd March	Years 5 and 6 phase mass @ 9am in the school hall
Friday 2nd March	Year 3 and 4 trip to Cirencester
Saturday 3rd March	First Holy Communion Fair @11-3pm in the school hall
Friday 9th March	Years 3 and 4 phase mass @9am in the school hall
Tuesday 13th March	Parents Evening 3.30-6pm
Thursday 15th March	Parents Evening 3.30-6pm
Friday 16th March	Years 1 and 2 phase mass @9am in the school hall
Friday 16th March	PSA St Patrick's night ceili (barn dance) 7-10pm
Tuesday 20th March	Reconciliation for years 4-6 in the school hall

Prayer Garden/Grotto Design



We hope to build a grotto a little bit like this. Last year the children entered a competition to design the layout; they came up with fantastic designs that will be included in the finished area. This will make the space at the front of our school the best it can be.



Thank you to Sacred Heart Church Blackbird Leys
for the design and ideas.