# St. George's Catholic Primary School and Nursery

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#### **Dear Parents**

Our Collective Worship this week was based on Peace; what peace means to the children and how we can work towards peace in our world. Next week, we'll be thinking about Joy; what brings us joy and how to share joy with others. The children are always so reflective in Collective Worship and Friday's assembles are such a lovely way to end the week.

#### YEAR 4 RECONCILIATION

Congratulations to all the Year 4 children who celebrated their reconciliation last week. The children were beautifully behaved and both Father Chris and Deacon Keith made the event very special.

## **Education Industrial Action**

You will all be ware that there has been so much in the news over the past months about strike action across the county. Nurses have voted to strike for the first time ever and other public services are in similar positions. Three of the main teacher unions (NASUWT, NEU, NAHT) have all balloted members; two unions are considering re-balloting following disruption with votes over the Christmas period.

NEU members have voted to take strike action and this may affect some classes in our school. There are 4 dates that affect teachers in this region:

Wednesday 1 February 2023 Tuesday 28 February 2023 Wednesday 15 March 2023 Thursday 16 March 2023

As a school, we are still collating information on which teachers are affected and then we will need to risk assess the situation. We will provide information to you as soon as possible as some classes may need to make alternative provision on those days.

Today, you will also be sent a letter from the Sefton Association of Primary Headteachers (SAPH) to provide you with further information on the severity of the funding crisis in all schools nationwide. ANY strike action taken is not just for teacher's pay but for school funding – asking for appropriate funding for all educational settings to be able to meet our pupils' needs. The majority of Sefton primary schools are facing deficit budgets in the coming years due to the poor levels of funding's and this has been building for many years.

Please take the time to read the letter; we are facing a funding crisis where schools can no longer make the sums add up. Thank you.

#### YEAR 5 CHET RESIDENTIAL

Year 5 parents may have already noted that the Year 5 CHEST residential coincides with the planned strike action mentioned above. I can confirm that this residential will go ahead for the children and plans are already in place.

#### YEAR 6 COMPUTER STARS

Huge well done to all our Year 6 pupils for such fantastic work at Maricourt last week. Our children spent the day at the school working alongside their computer experts and learning new skills. It was a great introduction to life in secondary school and a huge support to their curriculum development. Many thanks to Maricourt for all their support and providing such a great opportunity.

#### **VIOLIN ASSEMBLY FOR YEAR 5**

Following the disruption in the lead up o Christmas, our Year 5 violin assembly was postponed. We are delighted to rearrange it for 7<sup>th</sup> February @ 3.00pm so our Year 5 children can showcase their talent and all they have learnt since Year 4. Make a note of the date in your diaries!

### **RECEPTION & KS1 DECODABLE PHONICS BOOKS**

Mrs Daly recently applied for some phonics funding for St George's and we are delighted to say that she was successful. Therefore, we have been able to purchase a duplicate set of decodable phonics books which means we will soon be able to provide a hard copy book to all children.

In order to make room and streamline our scheme, we have removed books from our shelves that weren't being used or have never been used. These are exceptional quality and match our phonics school perfectly. If you would like a bundle of 15 books, chosen to meet your child's needs, please send in £5.00 in a clearly marked envelope to your child's class teacher. Staff will ensure these are selected and placed in book bags. A great opportunity, not to be missed!

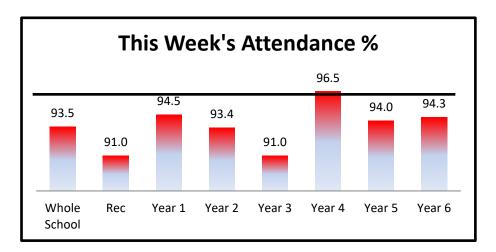
#### TRAINING OPPORTUNITY FOR THE COMMUNITY



Training on the use of defibrillators and bleed packs is being offered to all on Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> and Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> January. Only 2 hours and open to all in the community.

# **ATTENDANCE**

This week's attendance can be seen below. Our school target is 96% which is represented by the black line.



Well done to Year 6 for just passing the target this week.

Whole school attendance this week is 93.5%

Wishing you all a lovely weekend.

Mr P. Chapman Headteacher