



Spring Term

## NEWSLETTER

February 2024



Email: [head@st-bedes.cheshire.sch.uk](mailto:head@st-bedes.cheshire.sch.uk)  
Website: <http://www.st-bedes.cheshire.sch.uk>

### ACHIEVING EXCELLENCE TOGETHER

*Inspiring independent learners with Jesus by our side*

Dear Parents/Carers,

I am sure you are all looking forward to the half term ahead. Every week our 'Celebration Assembly' acknowledges how passionately the pupils have been working, we are so proud of their resilience and perseverance, improving their skills, knowledge and understanding across all aspects of the curriculum. It is wonderful to see their enthusiasm and curiosity developing, especially in the exciting workshops that have taken place.



Year 3 have experienced a visit from Stone Age man using our woodland to make fire and bake bread. Sports competitions including hockey and athletics against local primary schools have taken place. The Vikings invaded Year 5 for the day and Year 4 are heading off to Chester to experience the Roman history. These activities bring learning to life for the pupils and this could not happen without the generosity of the funds raised by the FOSB. Often these expensive experiences are fully paid for or heavily subsidised, so that we can arrange these experiences at no cost at all to our families or at a very reduced rate. THANK YOU FOSB.



### CATHOLIC LIFE AND MISSION



The Season of LENT begins on Ash Wednesday 14 February. There will be a celebration of Mass in school for the whole school for pupils to prepare themselves for this time of reflection, repentance and forgiveness. Adults are welcome to join us. During Lent, each class will be arranging various activities to raise awareness of those in need and fundraising to support the cause.

**SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMME** – we pray for all the children and families who are preparing and will be receiving the sacraments of First Forgiveness and First Holy Communion this year. The parish catechists have arranged for the Service of Reconciliation to take place on Thursday 14 March.



Pride ~ Respect ~ Responsibility ~ Challenge ~ Curiosity



*Loving God, pour out your blessing upon our beloved children, that during this time of Sacramental preparation they may grow closer to you, and come to know your special love for them. May this time of preparation be a time of blessing for our families and our community, and unite us all in your great love. Amen.*

### **THIS WEEK IS CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH WEEK - My Voice Matters.**

At St. Bede's, every day we focus on the mental health and well being of our pupils, we remind them of the important qualities to help them to grow strong through *honesty,*



*courage, self-belief, resilience, integrity, self-discipline and self-motivation.*

**The myHappyMind** Programme helps children to understand how their brain works and to support them in developing positive skills and habits to be their very best selves! In school, pupils explore skills and strategies to manage themselves and understand those around them. We hope you will

also take time to access and explore the parent resources on our website and talk to your children about the learning, and practise some of the habits they have developed in school at home. [Emotional Literacy Resources](#)

### **DINNER MONEY PRICE INCREASE**

**Due to rising cost, our school dinner provider ESENTIAL have informed us that there will be a price increase for individual dinners from 1 April 2024. The price of an individual meal will now cost £2.89 each. The increase if a pupil takes a meal every day will now be an additional weekly cost of £1.05, with the weekly meals total cost of £14.45.**

### **ACHIEVING EXCELLENCE TOGETHER**

We expect readiness to learn from ALL pupils. Our three simple rules are:

**BE SAFE ~ BE KIND ~ BE READY.**

Success for all our pupils is very closely linked to the partnership with home and school. This partnership results in high expectations and an engaging attitude to learning. Please ensure :-

- ✓ all homework is completed to a high standard and returned on time
- ✓ promote reading on a daily basis at home (Reception – Year 6)
- ✓ correct uniform and PE kits (sport trainers not 'fashion' trainers), no jewellery, earrings **MUST** be covered and **removed** following the piercing guidance
- ✓ arriving punctually **before** 8.55am – ensure your child has time to walk to class, remove their coat and be seated in class by 8.55am, eager to start the day.
- ✓ healthy snack for break time and in packed lunches – **NO CHOCOLATE OR SUGARY SNACKS** or drinks please. *We are a Nut Free School* - Please do not send any nut based products into school.
- ✓ provide a fresh water bottle every day

### **ATTENDANCE**

We are almost half way through this academic year already! Our whole school attendance percentage is hovering around 95.1% our target is 97%! We were delighted to present 35 certificates to pupils who achieved 100% attendance for the Autumn Term and we currently have 89 pupils on track to achieve this for the Spring term – keep it up! In addition to celebrating attendance above 97%, we also identify pupils who have attendance below 90%.

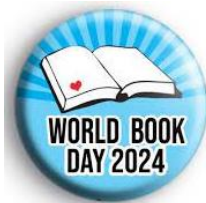
Pride ~ Respect ~ Responsibility ~ Challenge ~ Curiosity

This level of attendance is regarded by the Department for Education as **PERSISTANT ABSENCE (PA)**. We will be sending letters to parents to inform them if their child has a PA level and offer support to help improve this level to avoid gaps in learning and understanding. Thank you for your support in this matter and valuing the importance of attending school. **REMINDER:** Taking holidays in school time can result in a Local Authority fixed penalty notice - £60 per parent, per child. The policy on the school website explains that only exceptional circumstances will be authorised.

*Thank you for your cooperation.*

### SWIMMING GALA

This week we will be sending out an electronic survey for you to complete this week if you would like your child to take part in the swimming gala on Saturday 9 March 3.30 – 5.30pm. This is a wonderful event for all of our pupils to take part in from Reception to Year 6. Do ask your class teacher if you would like further details.



### WORLD BOOK DAY CELEBRATION – Thursday 7 March

We will have plenty of fun activities taking place throughout the day, including games, crafts, listening to stories, quests and quizzes. Pupils are invited to come into school **dressed as their favourite book character** or **AN ADJECTIVE!** Further details and ideas to follow.

### FOSB Friend's of St. Bede's PTA



Following the success of the Christmas Fair, the FOSB committee have taken a well earned break this half term to recharge their batteries and prepare for the future events. I am pleased to inform you that the team of committed, enthusiastic and passionate volunteers are arranging a Spring Term Disco for KS1 and KS2 on Friday 15 March. Look out for further details coming soon.

### PARENT/CARER CONSULTATION

**Save the date: Tuesday 5 March and Wednesday 6 March**

*Please ensure you have your login details available to make your appointment when the booking system goes live, avoiding additional workload for the school office.*

### FAIRTRADE FORTNIGHT



We are proud to be a **Fair Active** School and this year we are aiming for **FAIR ACHIEVER** status. We will be celebrating Fairtrade Fortnight 2024 during the week beginning 26 February. Pupils will be learning all about paying a fair price; where our food comes from; climate change and how we are connected to people around the world. There will be classroom activities, a Fairtrade Hamper Raffle and a Fair Trade shop selling Fairtrade 'Divine' chocolate bars. The chocolate bars will be limited to one purchase per child. Price: £1.00 each. The chocolate that pupils buy will be taken and enjoyed at home! There are lots of resources available if you would like to find out more.

<http://www.fairtrade.org.uk>

**REMINDER: School office hours 8.30am - 4.30pm**

**Dates for your Diary**

Pride ~ Respect ~ Responsibility ~ Challenge ~ Curiosity

Please check these dates carefully as we are always adding new information and these dates are subject to change.

| <b>February 2024</b> |          |   |
|----------------------|----------|---|
| Mon-Fri              | 5-9      | Children's Mental Health Week – lots of activities taking place in school for pupils  |
| Monday               | 5        | Choir attending Young Voices Concert at Manchester AO Arena   |
| Tuesday              | 6        | Safer Internet Day (promoted all week) Digital Leaders will lead assemblies/theatre company workshops with Y1,2,3,4 (online safety)         |
| Tuesday              | 6        | Sports Hall Athletics Final for Y5/6 pupils   |
| Thursday             | 8        | 5pm Year 6 Parents – Information meeting about KS2 SATs assessments   |
| Friday               | 9        | 2.15pm Reception Class – Stay and Play 'Chinese New Year'   |
| Monday               | 12       | 6pm Reception Class Parent/Carer Reading Workshop   |
| Wednesday            | 14       | 2.30pm ASH WEDNESDAY Mass – all welcome   |
| Thursday             | 15       | Y4 Roman Experience – Chester<br>Y5 Safety Central Day<br><b>HALF TERM</b>  |
| Friday               | 16       | <b>INSET DAY – SCHOOL CLOSED</b>  |
| <b>HALF TERM</b>     |          |   |
| Monday               | 26       | Pupils Return to School<br>Fair Trade Week in school  |
| Thursday             | 29       | Year 5 and Year 6 SNAP TRAP Workshop (online safety)  |
| <b>March 2024</b>    |          |   |
|                      |          |   |
| Monday               | 4        | Year 2 Florence Nightingale Experience  |
| Tuesday              | 5        | Parent/Carer Consultation Meetings  |
| Wednesday            | 6        | Parent/Carer Consultation Meetings  |
| Thursday             | 7        | World Book Day – dress as a book character or an ADJECTIVE!   |
| Thursday             | 7        | 6pm Parents Meeting for Sacramental Programme – St. Bede's Church   |
| <b>SATURDAY</b>      | <b>9</b> | <b>Swimming Gala 3.30 – 5.30pm at Brio Leisure Centre</b>   |
| Monday               | 11       | Y5 and Y6 St. Bede's Church – service of reconciliation   |
| Tuesday              | 12       | Y4 St. Bede's Church – service of reconciliation  |
| Thursday             | 14       | 6pm First Forgiveness Service – St. Bede's Church   |
| Friday               | 15       | FOSB DISCO further details to follow  |
| Mon-Fri              | 18-22    | Y5 and Y6 Residential trip to Glaramara, Lake District  |
| Thursday             | 21       | Year 4 Activity Day at SNCHS  |
| Mon-Thur             | 25-28    | Holy Week services taking place in school   |
| Thursday             | 28       | 1.30pm Whole School Mass at St Bede's Church (weather permitting) All welcome!<br>End of term – <b>please collect from Church at 2.30pm</b> |
| <b>EASTER BREAK</b>  |          |   |
| <b>April 2024</b>    |          |   |
| Monday               | 15       | Pupils Return – Summer Term commences   |