



RE Newsletter - St. Patrick's VA RCP School

Spring 2018



From their very first days in St. Patrick's our children continue the journey many began when they were baptised. One of the first hymns they sing is " He's got the whole world in His hands..... and Jesus' love is very wonderful." Their friendship with God is nurtured throughout their time in St Patrick's.

Each class has an altar which constantly changes; the children choosing what they wish to put on their altar. As the Liturgical season changes so too does the appearance of our altars. We pray in many different ways. Traditional prayers are encouraged but Collective Worship can be listening to music, looking at and reflecting upon an image or there can be Liturgy which will have The Word of God at its heart.

The children in all classes, Nursery to Year 6, are given opportunities to lead worship. In class, this can be in the form of

- Choosing how they GATHER.
- Choosing how they RESPOND to the WORD.
- Choosing the MISSION; (what we have to do now we have listened to the Word.)

*Please pray with your children.

Just because you don't see anything happening, doesn't mean that God isn't working. The moment we pray, God sets the miracle into motion.

St. Patrick's School Mission Statement

The School Motto, 'May Christ be seen in us', summarises the intent behind our work here at St. Patrick's. When we are open to Christ we move towards achieving our full potential in all things. With this in mind we seek to:

- provide opportunities and to allow for prayer, worship and liturgy to become meaningful, pivotal and valued aspects of our lives in faith
- develop the partnerships among the Home, School, Parish and Community to support and enrich the work of both pupils and staff
- provide opportunities, a quality curriculum and a sound delivery of programmes of study through which knowledge, skills and understanding will equip our pupils for the responsibilities and experiences of life now and in time to come
- promote a climate of justice, care, honesty, diligence, respect, tolerance and forgiveness so that children and staff can relate with each other with confidence and to good purpose
- foster a sense of concern and care within the school so that we can serve each other and the community both locally and beyond.

Nurturing Human Wholeness

Each week all staff and children share a statement to live by which is designed to promote confidence and consideration in all members of the school family. Please join us in living out these statements as extended members of our family.

10.1.18	Mr Williams	Simple things can make us happy
17.1.18	Mr Duffy	I try to love others as I love myself
24.1.18	Mrs Hughes	I try to follow our school and classroom rules
31.1.18	Mr Williams	I know that I belong to a community that includes school
7.2.18	Mr Duffy	I know we are happiest when we are united
	HALF	TERM
21.2.18	Mrs Hughes	I listen to what you say. I show I am listening to you

28.2.18	Mr Williams	I cooperate with others in work and play
7.3.18	Mr Duffy	I try to use words that make the world a better place
14.3.18	Mrs Hughes	I try to appreciate the beauty and wonder in the world around me
21.3.18	Mr Williams	I know it is OK for me to make mistakes
28.3.18	Mr Duffy	I can learn from my mistakes and failures
EASTER		BREAK



We believe that worship in a Catholic School names and celebrates God's presence in our lives.

Each time we pray in class it is *Collective Worship*. However, it is also planned with a structure, with reference to the Church's year, CAFOD, HARVEST and CAFOD Lenten Family Fast Day, Remembrance Day, World Peace Day, Christian Unity Week, St Cuthbert's Care Focus during Lent, Mother's Day, May the Month of Mary, October the Month of the Rosary, Lent, Advent and Feast Days.

These acts of Worship are incorporated into our termly *Collective Worship* plan.

On Wednesday all of the children Worship in the hall, the theme is recorded in our Termly Worship timetable. We usually follow "Nurturing Human Wholeness." At other times these acts of Worship follow the Liturgical Year or are appropriate to what is happening in the world/country/ locality.

Parents and parishioners are welcome to join us for Collective Worship once every 3/4 weeks Friday afternoons at 2:45 pm in the school hall. These will be led by different groups each time and refreshments will be provided afterwards in the school library.

Class	Date
Y3/4—Miss Cox	23.2.18
Y3—Mr Fletcher	16.3.18
Y2—Miss Brown	20.4.18
Y1/2—Mrs Williams	18.5.18
Y1/Rec.—Mrs Railton	22.6.18
Rec—Miss Wharry	13.7.18



***Whole School mass will take place on the first Friday of each month at 9.15, please join us.**

Sunday mass at St. Patrick's Church is 9.00 each week and children can attend a special liturgy which is age appropriate. We would be delighted if you could join us.

During their time at St Patrick's we try to nurture each child's love of God and their understanding that they are very precious in God's eyes. We do this each and every day.

We try to deepen their Faith journey so that as they get older their faith journey

develops. We want the children in Year 6 to leave us having grown in Friendship with God.



Celebrating the Year of Mary in schools in the Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle

Year of Mary

The theme of World Youth Day 2017 was taken from Our Lady's song of praise, the Magnificat, '***The Mighty One has done great things for me***'. The Pope has chosen to focus on Mary for the next two years' World Youth celebrations, culminating in Panama in 2019. Francis has asked young people to journey with Mary, describing her as 'a role model to be imitated'.

Consequently we have decided to continue our 'Year of ...' plans with a **Year of Mary**. Each month will be linked to a virtue shown by Mary and celebrates her many names. There will be the usual links to prayer, liturgy, prayer station, resources, artwork and the liturgical and global calendar. There is also a [Year of Mary prayer bag](#) which we will share with families.

Following a Year of Mary will be an opportunity to introduce the children and young people of our diocese to the many names and images of Our Lady and to allow them to come closer to Mary, the mother of God, and our Mother.

Autumn was a very busy time; here are a few of the things we did:-



We had a great day – proudly wearing Pudsey colours! A total of £187.88 was raised for Children in Need.



Thank you for the donations given for our Harvest Festival. Donations of food were given to Bridge House homeless men's refuge. Flowers and chocolates were distributed to members of our parish. They much appreciated our visit!

Save the Children Christmas Jumper Day raised a fantastic £133.44 which will be used to support children in our world today.



The choir were very busy over the festive period. They performed at Sainsbury's supermarket raising £93.49 for the Butterwick Children's Hospice.



In December our Mini Vinnies group held a book sale which raised £135.70. We then used this money to buy new books, which were given as Christmas presents to children in North Tees Hospital and the Butterwick Children's Hospice.



Good Morning Mrs Hughes

Thank you for taking the time to visit the Children's hospice this morning with Cath, Abbie & Emily and for bringing the beautiful books.

Michael Morpurgo is one of my favourite authors, a firm favourite with children. I've added up the total value of the books to buy and it's an amazing £287.59. These books will certainly make a difference to our children and also ongoing fundraising. Please pass on our thanks to everyone who participated in this fundraising it really does make a difference to the hospice.

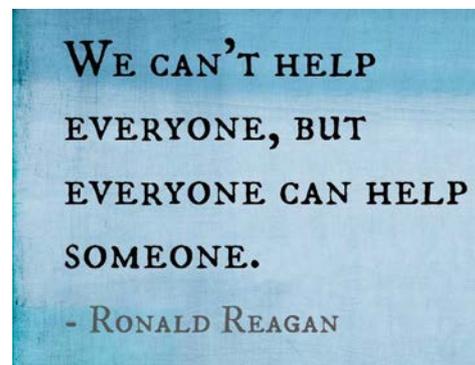
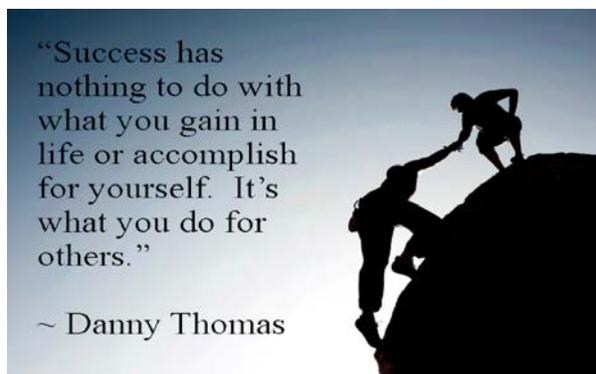
I have attached a formal letter of thanks.

With regard to the cheque you have please send it to the address below.

I hope you enjoyed your visit this morning and wishing you a very Happy Christmas

Best Wishes

Patricia



Our School is part of the Mini Vinnies. Check out their website at minivinnies.org.uk

St. Patrick's 200 Club

As a Catholic school we receive 10% less funding than state schools, a small price for being able to offer the added dimension of our Catholic faith! The 200 Club exists to provide funding for our school to help make up the difference.

To buy a number costs just £1 per week. Every 13 weeks there is a club draw with the following prizes:

1st prize £1000

2nd prize £250

3rd prize £100

4th prize £50

The remainder of the money is used to support the school, so we all benefit!

Act without delay to avoid disappointment.

Standing order mandate forms can be obtained from Mrs. Hughes or arrangements can be made to pay by cheque or cash.

Thank you for your support and thank you to the current members for their continued support, it is much appreciated.

Please send me a bank mandate form for the 200 Club.

Name

Address

- Five numbers have recently become available.

Wednesday 20th December,

We had to wait in the library; everyone else was in church apart from us; as the president and vice president of the Mini Vinnies we were going out. We went to deliver books bought with the profits from our book sale (which was a big success, thank you all!!!) to the Butterwick Children's Hospice and to the children's ward at North Tees hospital.

We were made welcome by the staff at the Butterwick. When we entered the building, we were told that we were able to have a tour led by staff and we were very happy as we love to help people and it is a great help if we see how they live. As we made our way around the hospice we met some of the children who live there; they were happy and could relax and have fun. We learnt a lot from the tour and were very grateful for the chance to see how others live.

We then went to North Tees hospital, where we were taken to the 'hang out' room where people relax. We gave them the books we had brought. They were very happy and looked grateful for our donation.

In both places, we had our pictures taken with the staff there. We really enjoyed the trip out to see how people live. We were really touched staff because they were really caring and looked after the children like they were their own.

By A M Heath and E J Saint

Do you have a favourite charity you would us to consider supporting?

I would like you to raise funds for.....

Signed.....