

ST. BEDE C. E. PRIMARY ACADEMY

SPRING 2 2020 NEWSLETTER

Introduction

We are now just over half way through the school year and our children are currently learning about the Christian festival of Lent, which will lead to the celebration of Easter at the end of this term. This is a fantastic opportunity to think about how we live our lives and how we can become 'Good Samaritans', as our school scripture suggests.

This year we want to recognise Lent lovingly, and we have invited all pupils to take part in 'The 40 Acts of Love Challenge'. Children have been provided with a grid and we are asking them to complete as many acts of 'Love' as they can during Lent. It would be great if parents and carers also took part in this challenge to spread the Love, which is one of our school values!

Staffing

A very warm welcome to a few more staff who have recently joined us: Miss Lindley, Year 1 SEN Assistant, Miss Sloane, Reception SEN Assistant and Miss Hartley, Year 5 Teaching Assistant. We hope you'll be very happy here at St. Bede!

Trips and Events

On Wednesday 12th February, four children from the Ethos Committee visited Bolton Parish Church to take part in a 'Market Place Event'. The event celebrated God's love for us all. The children took part in services, sang hymns, played games and hosted their very own stall. It was a fabulous morning and was thoroughly enjoyed by all!

Punctuality

Can we please remind parents that children should arrive at school in time to line up in the yard at **8:55am** each morning. The main school gates are locked **promptly at 9:00am** to ensure the safeguarding of your child/children once school is in session. Any child arriving after the gates have locked need to be signed in at the school office on Haynes Street.

Can we also remind parents that the Haynes Street entrance is only used once the main school gates have locked at 9:00am. We have recently noticed parents/children arriving early at this entrance and waiting for it to open at 9:00am. Unfortunately this will mean that a child receives a late mark; please ensure your child arrives at school for 8:55am via the main school gates. Thank you for your support.

Reading for Enjoyment

Reading is a key focus for us this year and we have set up a lot of initiatives to encourage children to read more and to enjoy their reading. We have linked up with our local library and children now visit once every three weeks to choose books to take home; we celebrated World Book Day with children bringing to school their favourite bedtime story; Year 4 have introduced a reading race where parents encourage children to read at home and then summarise what they have read in a few sentences. In school, they will then be asked further questions about the book and will be awarded tokens to go into a draw for a prize! We have also recruited lots of parents, grandparents and carers who have kindly volunteered to give up their time to help support some of our children with their reading ... the children are really enjoying this experience! If anyone else is interested in this role please leave your details at the school office.

Attendance

Attendance to the end of Spring 1 was 95.22% which is disappointing, as our target is 96.50%. Remember, an education is one of the finest gifts we can give to our children and they are entitled to it. **School Matters ... if your child Attends Today, they will Achieve Tomorrow!**

School Charity

This year our Ethos Committee chose the charity which the school would raise funds for. After the children conducted research and delivered presentations about charities close to their heart, it was agreed by all members that St. Bede would support 'Children with Cancer UK'. Throughout Lent, the Ethos Committee and the wider school community will hold fundraising events to raise money for this worthy charity.

If you were an Engineer what would you do?

This term we have been taking part in the Primary Engineer Leaders Awards. This has been a fantastic opportunity to engage our pupils with real engineers, let their creativity run free and share their ideas in the Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) competition. The competition challenged our pupils to research engineering, interview and listen to engineers and answer the question 'If you were an Engineer what would you do?' The lucky eight winners will spend a day at the Bolton STEM centre taking part in activities led by engineers and scientists.

PGL 2020

A reminder for parents of children who are attending PGL in June that the final balance is required by **Friday 27th March**. Payments should be made at the school office. Thank you.

St. Bede Academy Nursery

Nursery admission letters were sent out at the end of February and notifications of places will be issued w/c 11th May.

Our Nursery are trying to make improvements to the EYFS outdoor area. Any donations of recyclable items, plants, tubs or baskets would be most welcome.

Nursery are also having a Lent raffle to raise money for 'Children with Cancer UK'. The first prize is a family entry to Smithills Hall Farm and other prizes including an Easter chocolate basket. If you would like to purchase tickets, please visit Nursery either before or after school.

Walking Bus

For those families who are new to school we would like to draw your attention to our 'Walking Bus' service. On a Wednesday morning, before school, St. Bede offers a 'Walking Bus' service along Lever Edge Lane, for children in Reception to Year 6. Parents can take their child to a designated 'bus stop' where they will be picked up by our 'Bus Conductor' Mrs Stones. She will then walk them to school where they will receive a complimentary breakfast before going to class for registration. Mrs Stones has been our dedicated 'Bus Conductor' for many years and she is fully DBS cleared and trained in First Aid. The children have lots of fun and keep fit along the way. If your child would be interested in joining, or you would like to volunteer your own services, or you would just like to know more information, please leave your details with the school office.

P.E. Theme Week

Kiya from Year 5 is one of our P.E. Ambassadors, here she writes about P.E. Theme Week: "In the first week of term, we participated in P.E. Theme week. In P.E. theme week, we interviewed some teachers about healthy eating, we created our own Olympic parade and we dressed in different colours to represent places around the world. The children in our school worked really hard to create presentations about their country; they danced, performed and made art work. I enjoyed interviewing the teachers with the P.E. ambassadors because I found out lots about their diets. We can't wait for the next one!"

Team Teach Parents Course: Understanding Behaviour

Transformative training for parents and carers of children and young people, seeking an understanding of positive behaviour strategies. Location: St Bede Academy, Saturday 25th April, 2:00pm – 5:00pm. Price: £60.00 + VAT. Book online: www.teamteach.co.uk or call 0203 746 0938.

The Friends of St. Bede (PTA)

The Friends of St. Bede have two initiatives taking place this half term. They look forward to judging lots of wonderful creations for their 'Decorate an Easter Egg' competition and then on Friday 27th March, in the evening, the popular 'Easter Bingo' will take place in the school hall. Letters have been sent out separately for these events and we welcome your support.

Driving and parking around school

Just a reminder when driving and parking your cars to please be courteous and mindful of children, and our neighbours who live in properties immediately surrounding the school. Thank you.

Dates for your Diary

Wed 18 th Mar	9:00am 4E Class Assembly
Thu 19 th Mar	9:00am & 12:45pm Nursery Mother's Day Stay and Play & Tea Party
w/c 23 rd Mar	Year 2 and Year 5 Lent activities
Wed 25 th Mar	9:00am RT Class Assembly
Fri 27 th Mar	Non-uniform day in exchange for Easter Eggs 6:00pm Easter Bingo and stalls in the school hall
w/c 30 th Mar	Reception and Year 6 Lent activities
Wed 1 st Apr	9:00am School Council Assembly
Fri 3 rd Apr	EASTER SERVICES 9:30am Years 1 to 3 in St. Bede's Church 10:15am Reception and AM Nursery in the school hall (<i>with Easter Bonnet Parade</i>) 1:45pm Years 4 to 6 in St. Bede's Church 2:00pm Reception and PM Nursery in the school hall (<i>with Easter Bonnet Parade</i>)

And finally ...

School will close for the Easter break at 3:15pm on Friday 3rd April and re-opens on Tuesday 14th April at 8:55am. Follow us on Twitter [@StBedeCEPrimary](https://twitter.com/StBedeCEPrimary). This Newsletter and lots of other information can be found on our website: www.stbedeacademy.org.

Thank you for your continued support.

If you wish to make any comments about this Newsletter, or about anything else in school, please make them in the box below and return to the school office.

Comments:

My child is in Class.....