



The Little Way

Monday 24th May 2021
www.stteresasnewcastle.org.uk



Follow us on Twitter:
@StTeresasCP



'Shine in Little Ways'

Mental Health Awareness Week –nature

Last week was mental health awareness week, which saw us embrace our outdoor surroundings. It was a great opportunity to take some time out of our busy timetables and reconnect with nature. Classes got outside to Heaton Park, Jesmond Dene and our Forest School to enjoy time walking, talking and playing together. More photos/information can be found on our Twitter page or our website.

Wellbeing Ambassadors

In celebration assembly Mr Turner presented nine of our children across various year groups with their new 'wellbeing ambassador' lanyards. These children spoke to the whole school about their new role in school, including being there for others when needed. Thank you to Mrs Mackenzie and Mrs Tibbs for their ongoing work towards promoting wellbeing for all in our school.

COVID update

Whilst there are many measures being relaxed both this month and next, we continue to ask parents/carers to adhere to our risk assessment procedures whilst on school premises. Ensuring you are wearing a mask, remaining socially distanced and exiting our site as quickly as possible has helped us up until now. We continue with these measures, as well as many others, until government guidance is updated for schools. Thank you to you all for your understanding and cooperation at this time with our procedures and measures.

Year 1 place

Due to a child moving out of the area, we have a place in Year 1 available, with no waiting list for that year group currently. Please let friends/family know if they are moving into the area.

Parking/Road Safety

It has been brought to the school's attention that a small number parents/carers are not driving/parking considerately near the school. Heaton Road is obviously a busy road at drop off/pick-up times and we ask parents/carers to park considerately near the school.

Please do not use the entrance to the school/church car park to drop your child/ren off and turn/reverse back onto Heaton Road.

Please also ensure that you adhere to the speed limit in the school traffic management area (20 mph).

Achievements

Well done to Orla in Year 3 who has recently won International Garden Photographer of the Year for her age category. Superb skills Orla!

School building developments

An area of the school that governors and Mr Turner have been well aware that needs updating are our school toilets.

A full refurbishment is not only costly, but can only be scheduled for the summer holidays.

Due to having to replace one of our school boilers and the pandemic, we were unable to do this last summer.

We are delighted to be able to tell you that we have been successful in applying for funding through the Diocese to complete this project this summer.

We will also be completing the third stage of our planned redecoration of the school, so the main areas (hall, classrooms, library and corridors) will have been decorated in the past 4 years.

Work will be completed in our hall to the floor, after a leak damaged it. So it will be sanded, varnished, new lines added and sealed.

ICT suite

During the pandemic, it has made it even more obvious than before that we do not have an abundance of space in our building.

The staff have discussed this collectively and I have decided to repurpose our ICT suite.

The room will become a multi-functional for intervention, wellbeing, small group work, meetings and a space for before/after school club to use.

Our computing curriculum will not be affected by this change, as we have moved to more mobile technology in recent years, including iPads, Learning by Question tablets (Year 5/6) and we are investing in laptops to ensure children still experience keyboard/PC skills and digital literacy.

We look forward to sharing with you our developments over the summer in the new academic year.

Bishop Bewick Catholic Education Trust consultation

Thank you to the two parents who contributed to the consultation.

The minutes to the Full Governing Body meeting where our governors were able to ask various questions to Mrs Anita Bath (Chief Executive), have been published on our website last week, for any parents interested in the process.

School holidays

This week, Friday 28 May the school breaks up for the May half-term. We will return to school on Monday 7 June. We hope you all have a restful and happy half-term break.

Next year's school holidays are now on our website:
<https://www.stteresasnewcastle.org.uk/virtual-office/key-information/term-dates/>