

SJF NEWS

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Friday 6th November 2020 (Issue 9 - 2020/21)



Rt Rev Ralph Heskett CSsR

Bishop's House

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Sheffield

S2 2SZ

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5th November 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

By the time you receive this letter we will already be experiencing the second national lockdown of the year. Difficult times for all of us. I know that you are only too well aware of the impact of the Covid pandemic in all our lives in different ways not least in our schools.

The challenge to our schools to continue to offer high quality education midst the complex restraints and requirements in compliance with public health and government regulations is immense. Undaunted, staff continue to work tirelessly in order to ensure that your child continues to learn in a safe environment and when it is not possible for your child to attend school due to Covid they are working to ensure that your child has access to online learning resources.

Sadly the virus will be with us for some time and I appreciate that you must be frustrated at times with the necessary actions of our schools but I ask your continued patience and understanding as our headteachers and teachers and all who serve in our schools work to ensure that your child receives the best quality education in these unusual and difficult times.

With prayerful good wishes.

Yours in Christ the Redeemer,

+ Ralph Heskett CSsR



★ Citizen of the Week

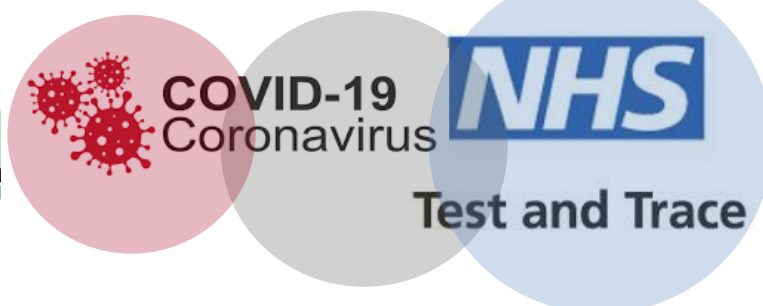
★ This week our Citizen award goes to **Dominique (Y3)** who understands the importance of sticking up for herself and others (without anyone being hurt), in line with our 'Statement to Live By' this week. Dominique is a very special member of our community who really understands the importance of feeling happy, safe and loved in school and at home every day. Dominique approaches everything quietly, with determination and a minimum of fuss. She has an enormous capacity for kindness and knows why it is important to speak up. Congratulations Dominique, everyone is really proud of you!

Term 1 Smiley Scores

St Andrew's House  76	St David's House  79	St Patrick's House  83	St George's House  78
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COVID-19 Update

Since the last newsletter England has been placed in lockdown. Below you will find Information from the Sheffield Council website, also accessible [here](#).



Sheffield, along with the rest of England, went in to lockdown at midnight on Thursday.

The lockdown restrictions will help limit the spread of coronavirus, reduce the impact on the NHS and save lives. The national lockdown is expected to end on Wednesday 2nd December 2020. After this we expect Sheffield and South Yorkshire to return to restrictions under the Tier system.

Key points:

- You should stay at home and only leave your home for education, work, exercise and recreation, medical reasons, shopping for food and essentials, or to care for others.
- The extremely vulnerable are advised not to go to work if they are unable to work from home.
- Don't meet anyone socially (who is not in your household or support bubble), indoors or in private gardens.
- You can visit outdoor public places (parks, playgrounds, beaches, countryside) with your household, your support bubble, or one person from another household.
- You should work from home if you can. Workplaces are asked to stay open if people cannot work from home, including construction and manufacturing.
- Schools, nurseries, colleges and universities remain open.
- Outdoor exercise and recreation are allowed.
- Food shops, supermarkets and retailers selling essential goods and services remain open.
- Pubs, restaurants, all non-essential shops, entertainment venues and personal care facilities are closed.
- Takeaways and deliveries can continue.
- University students must not return to their permanent homes during term-time.
- Don't visit friends or family in care homes unless there are exceptional circumstances.

Childcare

- Parents can access some registered childcare (including wraparound care) to enable them to work
- if children do not live in the same household as their parents or one of their parents, existing arrangements for contact between them will remain



- parents can form childcare bubbles with another household for informal childcare (child is 13 or under)
- youth clubs and groups are closed except 1 to 1 youth work and support groups

Places of Worship and Ceremonies

- places of worship will generally be closed
- weddings and civil partnership ceremonies are not allowed, apart from exceptional circumstances
- there are limits to attendance at funerals

Sport and Leisure

- indoor and outdoor leisure facilities are closed (including gyms, pools, bowling alleys, leisure centres, golf courses, dance studios, stables/riding centres, soft play facilities, climbing walls, archery/shooting ranges)
- playgrounds remain open

Travel restrictions

- avoid travelling in and out of your local area and reduce the number of journeys you make
- you can travel for work, education, caring responsibilities, medical appointments and essential retail
- don't travel if you have coronavirus symptoms, are self-isolating, sharing a household or support bubble with somebody with symptoms, or you have been told to self-isolate by NHS Test and Trace
- overnight stays, holidays abroad and in the UK, are not allowed
- hotels are only open for people who have to travel for work
- don't share a car with other households unless they are in your bubble
- only use public transport if you have to and wear a face covering if you do

Useful links:

• **Advice on Self-Isolation:**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QILZienYmls>

• **The full Government announcement for South Yorkshire:**

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/local-covid-alert-level-update-for-south-yorkshire>

• **Public Health Sheffield:**

<https://www.sheffield.gov.uk/utilities/coronavirus-covid-19/public-health-guidance>

• **NHS Health advice:**

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>

• **General Government advice:**

<https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>

Home Learning Reminder

Children who have COVID symptoms and are unwell do not have to engage with home learning. Children who are isolating and are well **will** be expected to complete the home learning opportunities that we provide. Initially children will have an 'Isolation Pack' and a plan will then be shared that aligns with what peers will be doing in class. The learning activities will be online and delivered through either Microsoft Teams (guides on our website homepage (click [here](#)) or via our 'Home Learning Portal' (click [here](#)). Password is **2020STJOHN**.

Getting Help

If you do not have the equipment you need so that your child(ren) can access the activities or you have Wi-Fi issues that make connecting to the internet difficult, then please let us know immediately, thank you.

Getting Information

- ✓ Our SJF Remote Learning Policy is available on the home page of our school website or by clicking [here](#)
- ✓ Department for Education (DfE) information about home learning is available by clicking [here](#).



Forthcoming Events

Click [here](#) to link to our online calendar. Below is a summary of forthcoming events.

10-11-20	• Y6 – filming our Community Remembrance Service 2020
11-11-20	• Y6 Community Remembrance Service 2020 available here
13-11-20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PTFA BBC Children in Need 2020 (non-uniform day for a £1+ contribution) • Y6 pupil progress, achievement and target-setting meetings (via telephone) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ we are moving to an online appointment booking system - details will be shared next week
16-11-20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Y5 pupil progress, achievement and target-setting meetings (via telephone) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ we are moving to an online appointment booking system - details will be shared next week
17-11-20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Y1 pupil progress, achievement and target-setting meetings (via telephone) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ we are moving to an online appointment booking system - details will be shared next week
18-11-20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Y5 – filming the weekly Liturgy of the Word • Y2 pupil progress, achievement and target-setting meetings (via telephone) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ we are moving to an online appointment booking system - details will be shared next week
19-11-20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Y5 Liturgy of the Word available to watch here • Y4 pupil progress, achievement and target-setting meetings (via telephone) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ we are moving to an online appointment booking system - details will be shared next week
20-11-20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Y3 pupil progress, achievement and target-setting meetings (via telephone) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ we are moving to an online appointment booking system - details will be shared next week
23-11-20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FS2 pupil progress, achievement and target-setting meetings (via telephone) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ we are moving to an online appointment booking system - details will be shared next week
26-11-20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Y4 – filming the Advent Wreath Blessing Liturgy 2020 • Reminder to order school lunches for the following week (or weeks)
27-11-20	• Y4 Advent Wreath Blessing Liturgy 2020 available to watch here

Week 1 Attendance		
1 st	Y2	99.7%
2 nd	Y3	98.7%
3 rd	Y1	98.6%
4 th	Y5	98.1%
5 th	Y4	96.5%
6 th	Y6	95.3%
7 th	FS2	90.3%
Average Attendance = 96.8% (Target = 98%)		



6. Get Set, GO!		
1 st	Y6	95%
2 nd	Y2	93%
3 rd	Y4	81%
4 th	Y3	78%
5 th	Y5	74%
6 th	Y1	73%
7 th	FS2	72%
Average = 81%		



Our Weekly SJF Sixty Second Challenge

Well done to all the children who had a go at last week's 'Catch and Clap' challenge.

Look out for our new 'Tap Up Tennis' challenge which you can see demonstrated ably by one of our fantastic Sports Majors by clicking [here](#).



SJF School Council Update



Here is a message from Riley, one of our Y5 Councillors:

This week in school council we were trying to think of different games that the children can play in the playground.

We were talking about different the things we could raise money for, that would be nice for the children as well.

Our Catholic Life

Parish News

Information about parish and Diocesan life including the times of Masses, Confession and sacramental preparation is available via this link to the parish website: <http://www.ourladyoflourdessheffield.org.uk/> .

November Prayer

During November we remember all those who have died and pray for the repose of their souls. We also remember the dead of war both service personnel and civilians. Our prayer is:

***Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord
And let perpetual light shine upon them,
May they rest in peace. Amen.***



Gathering Song (spoken at this time)

Peace, perfect peace -	Thus says the Lord,
Is the gift of Christ our Lord	Will the world know my friend!
Peace, perfect peace -	Peace, perfect peace -
Is the gift of Christ our Lord...	Is the gift of Christ our Lord.

Weekly Liturgy of the Word

Thank you to the young people of **Y4** for leading this week's liturgy. Please click [here](#) if you would like to watch it. The next liturgy will be led by the pupils of **Y5** and will be filmed on **Wednesday 18th November 2020**. The recording will then be uploaded to the website so that it can be viewed the next day.

Remembrance 2020

This Sunday all parts of the UK will come together in different ways to mark Remembrance Sunday. This year will be different in many ways because of the lockdown caused by the Coronavirus pandemic. We will be playing our part too, as we do every year.

The children will learn about the origins of Remembrance Sunday and reflect on the sacrifices made by British and Commonwealth service personnel and their families in the First World War and in all conflicts since. The children will also recall the suffering of civilians on all sides as they pray for peace and an end to all conflicts.

The school community will come together for Armistice Day on **Wednesday 11th November 2020** to watch a recording of this year's Community Service of Remembrance. The service, led by the young people of Y6, will be filmed on **Tuesday 10th November** and will then be uploaded to our website so that it is available for anyone to watch the next day. You will be able to find it by clicking [here](#). In spite of everything, it will be a special and fitting way to mark this important day in the life of our country.



LEST WE FORGET

Sunday 8 November 2020



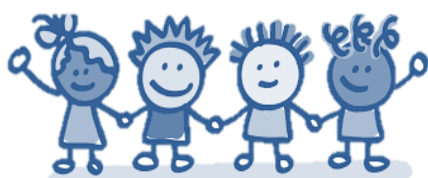


Poppy Appeal 2020

At a time when the Royal British Legion is appealing for additional donations because of the devastating impact of the pandemic on this year's appeal, I am very pleased to share that we have probably sold more poppies in school this year than in any year since I started working at SJF. Thank you! We will be told how much we raised in due course.

If you would like to know how to support The Royal British Legion at this challenging time please click [here](#).

SJF Be Safe Be Happy Week 2020



FS2

During 'Be safe, Be Happy Week' our FS2 children learned about how to be a good friend and what happens when friendships go wrong. They thought about bullying and talked about the importance of standing up for others, repeating the important SJF message to 'Tell! Tell! Tell!'

They learned about staying safe online and talked about being near an adult when playing online games. We also talked about why it is important it is so importance never to share personal information.

In class we talked about the 'Pants Rule' and even decorated a pair of pants. In pairs we looked at some pictures of friendly and unfriendly behaviour and talked about them before sorting them in to groups.

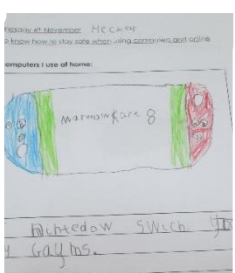
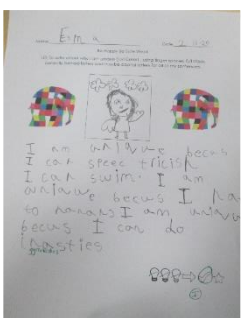
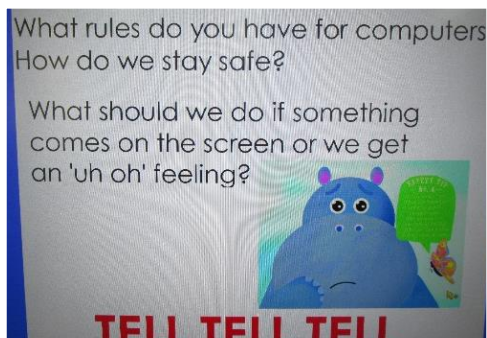
We repeated the key messages to keep safe from germs and virus as we thought about things like flu spread. The children have all listened well and given some really thoughtful answers.



Y1

To begin 'Be Happy Be Safe' week we started by thinking how elephants are all the same and yet different. Children discussed this and fed back their ideas. We then moved on to children. The class decided that we are all children but more than anything we are all very different from each other for many, many ways and this is brilliant. After sharing the story Elmer the children wrote about what makes them unique. We ended the afternoon by taking about what to do if they felt sad, upset or had a worry ball. TELL! TELL! TELL! The children created some super art and it is proudly on show in the window, overlooking 'The Oasis' yard.

Today we used the NSPCC information and a dinosaur called Pantosaurus to learn about the important underwear rule! The children then designed some very fancy pants to hang on the classroom washing line. You can enjoy the important message by clicking [here](#).



Y2

This week we have looked at anti-bullying, internet safety, PANTS and wellbeing. The children of Y2 created a puzzle piece to show that when we are united we are stronger at promoting anti-bullying. They chose phrases such as 'Be nice to one another!'; 'Tell! Tell! Tell!'; 'Work Together!'; 'Celebrate differences!' and 'Love one another!'

We thought about internet safety too, and they created some rules:

- ✓ Always ask a grown-up for help if you see anything strange or unusual on your tablet or phone!
- ✓ Don't download or install anything without asking a grown-up first!
- ✓ Remember, not all games and videos are for children!
- ✓ Don't talk to strangers online and don't tell them where you live!
- ✓ Don't share your personal information with anyone, i.e. passwords and usernames!
- ✓ Only play on games that are for your age!
- ✓ If you are ever unsure what to do, remember Buddy's song, and always ask for help!

The children worked very hard all week. Well done Year 2!



Y3

This week we have looked at how to stay safe and happy both in and out of school.

We had a great lesson learning all about the P.A.N.T.S. rules learning how important they are.

We also discussed how fantastic it is that we live in a world with so much variety.

We talked about how we can celebrate our differences and stand united against bullying.



Y4

This week as part of Be Safe Be Happy, the children were looking at the SMART rules. They were very busy creating their own PowerPoint presentations to explain the rules for staying safe online.

- ✓ Safe
- ✓ Meet
- ✓ Accepting
- ✓ Reliable
- ✓ Talk





Y5

As part of our Y5 Be Safe, Be Happy Week the children discussed the different rules and strategies that we can use to keep ourselves safe. We reminded ourselves of the key messages from the NSPCC's PANTS campaign, and used the PANTS rules to explore how best to remain safe and protected. We also learned about how best to stay safe online, including learning about the age restrictions on various social networking sites and apps and the steps we can take to prevent us coming to harm when using the internet.

Y6

During our annual Be Safe Be Happy Week we decided to think about mental health - our mental health. We reflected on the different ways we can try to turn our negative thoughts into happy ones and what we can do to change our mind-set in order to feel more positive. We also thought about the importance of being safe online and considered the different pressures and risks we face when we go online. We reflected on the different things we can do in order to be safe.



Achievements outside of School

Please send details of any of your children's achievements out of school to us via our main email address (enquiries@st-johnfisher.org) and they will be included in the newsletter.

This week's achievements are:

- **Jacob** in **Y4** for being so kind and supportive of his brother who has additional needs and also for making everyone at home delicious chocolate apples for bonfire night! What a superstar you are, Jacob!
- **Kessy** in **Y5** achieved the Stage 4 in swimming recently! Congratulations Kessy, a great achievement!



Golden Children

FS2	Lilah for always doing the right thing; for showing great listening skills; and trying really hard every day!
Y1	Caleb for being an absolute pleasure to teach; for always trying hard to do his best! He is also kind and caring and such a great friend for lots of children in our class!
Y2	Keyla for making a super start to Term 2; for supporting her partner so brilliantly; and for trying really hard to tackle her maths challenges!
Y3	Sofia for being open, for showing honesty and for helping and supporting all her friends!
Y4	Katy for coming back with a fab attitude after the holiday and for working really hard, concentrating on every task she faces! What a star!
Y5	Jess for her effort during lessons and for always making brilliant contributions to class discussions!
Y6	Alana for being determined and resilient in her maths lessons this week. Even though she found some things tricky, she has kept trying. Her hard work is certainly paying off!

Writing Champions

FS2	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Jenson	Julia	Jack F	Kacper	Jacob	Finley	Tiarnan

Term 2 Curriculum Overviews

These will be sent out soon.

Pupil Progress, Achievement & Target-Setting Meetings

Details will be shared about a new online system we will be using to simplify the booking of appointments. Parents/carers of children with special educational needs and disabilities who normally have meetings with Mrs Hadfield and the class teacher will not have to make appointments. Details of the meetings will be sent out directly.



PTFA: BBC Children In Need Appeal 2020

Next Friday the children and staff are invited to dress down rather than wear their school uniform in support of the BBC's annual Children in Need appeal.

There will be a collection on the school gate at the beginning and end of the school day and will invite parents/carers to contribute a minimum £1+ per pupil for the appeal. Please note that all money raised will go directly to Children in Need.

Please be as generous as you can with your donations! Thank you in advance, and thank you also to our amazing PTFA committee!

Blue Day (The Feast of St Andrew)

To mark the feast of St Andrew all the children in St Andrew's House are invited to come to school dressed in blue on **Monday 30th November 2020**. The children in the other three Houses must wear full school uniform as usual.

In normal circumstances the children would gather for games and activities with Miss D'Roza, the Head of House, however this year because of COVID controls in school there is very little space and it will not be possible to mix children from different bubbles. So this year it will be all about the dressing up!



SJF Advent & Christmas 2020

Advent Blessing Liturgy

Our traditional Y4-led liturgy will go ahead as usual, but like everything else at the moment, it will be behind closed doors. The liturgy will be filmed on **Thursday 26th November 2020** and will be available to watch on **Friday 27th November 2020** by clicking [here](#).

Advent Daily Liturgies

Our daily class-based liturgies will take place in each class every day during Advent, except on the days when the children have PE, Music or French. Traditionally we invite family and friends to join us however this will not be possible this year. Though the liturgies will not be filmed, photographs will be posted in the 'Class Zone' of the website from time to time during Advent.

Christmas Cards

There is a great SJF tradition of pupils sending one another (and staff) Christmas cards in the lead up to the Christmas holiday. We even have a fantastic post box, created by Mr and Mrs Ramsden for the purpose! I also know it is a job that the young people in Y6 very much enjoy – sorting and delivering all the cards to the children in the classrooms.

I am very sad to say that this year, because of all the COVID restrictions, it will not be able to happen. The rules around quarantining cards make it just too difficult. I really wish there was another way. We therefore ask that you continue to support the measures we have put in place to keep all the children and staff safe, by not letting your children bring cards in to school. Thank you in advance for your cooperation and support.

Nativity Plays

The Christmas nativity play is an important event in any school calendar. It is a special moment that our children will always remember. Due to restrictions our nativity plays cannot go ahead as they normally would. For example, we cannot welcome family and friends to come in to school to watch; nor can the children sing. This year we will not mix the Y1 and Y2 classes as we normally would either, the FS2, Y1 and Y2 classes will each do something separately. It will be simple but still very special. Staff will film the children and these films will be available to watch on the class pages of the website from **Monday 21st December 2020**.

Community Carol Concert & PTFA Refreshments

Due to the current COVID restrictions prohibiting communal singing and gathering in church and school, we have no choice but to cancel this special event this year.

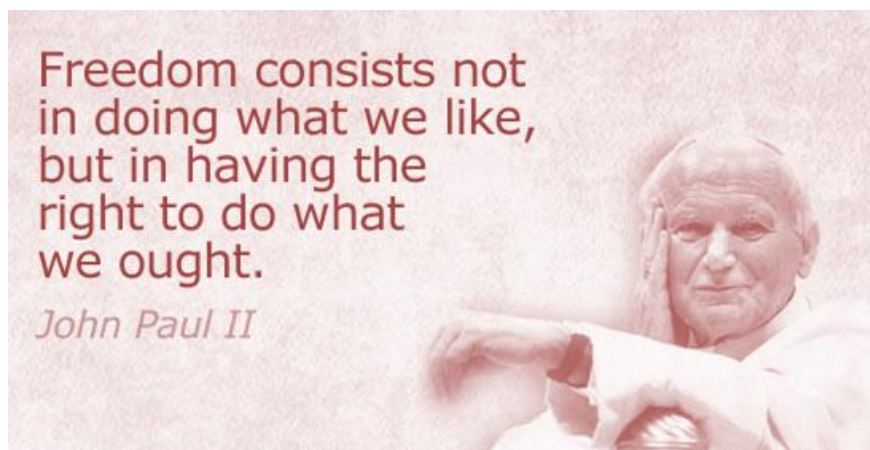
Statement to Live By

Our statement next week is '**I know that rights match responsibility.**'

Time to talk: Our rights are what every human being deserves, no matter who they are or where they live, so that we can live in a world that is fair and just.

Everyone has the right to:

- ✓ be happy
- ✓ be safe
- ✓ be loved
- ✓ be safe
- ✓ be educated
- ✓ shelter (somewhere to live)
- ✓ warmth
- ✓ food
- ✓ clothing
- ✓ personal space
- ✓ freedom of speech
- ✓ freedom to be different
- ✓ to feel comfortable
- ✓ equal opportunities - given the chance to be what you want regardless of wealth, religion or race



Responsibility

Of course since these rights are for everybody, it means we all have responsibilities too. A responsibility is something that is your job to do something about, or to think about. It is something that affects our lives and other people's lives.

Some of our responsibilities:

- ✓ to follow the rules at home, at school and in the community - after all they are there for our safety and to protect our rights and the rights of others
- ✓ to stand up for our rights and the rights of others as much as we can
- ✓ to be the best person that we can be
- ✓ to take care of our own bodies as best we can
- ✓ to respect the rights of others
- ✓ to look after our own belongings and respect the belongings of others
- ✓ to learn as well as we can
- ✓ to care about others who are not as strong in some ways as we are

What do you think are the most important rights and responsibilities? Why? Everyone in the world is an important and special person.

A final thought...

"The whole purpose of education is to turn mirrors into windows"

Sydney J Harris

Best wishes,
Mr Barratt

