

# SJF NEWS

www.st-johnfisher.org | www.ourladyoflourdessheffield.org.uk

Friday 12<sup>th</sup> March 2021



## Welcome Back

It has been so amazing to welcome everyone back this week after the third national lockdown. Of course, school has remained very busy throughout lockdown, as all schools have, supporting the vulnerable pupils and the children of key workers as well supporting children and families at home. However, it has not felt the same without everyone being in school. Though we continue to operate, very much, under COVID-secure measures, it has been just fantastic to see all the children, families and staff reconnect.



We are working hard to ensure that every child feels supported as they return so that they are able to reconnect with us; school routines and expectations; with friends and classmates; and with life as it was before lockdown. We are encouraging the children to open up about how they feel and we are focusing support on anyone who is (or might be) feeling nervous or anxious. I really encourage you to talk to us if your child has struggled in any way during lockdown; the build up to wider reopening; or is struggling now that we are back.

Though the end of the pandemic is hopefully in sight, we cannot afford to ease up. COVID-secure routines are being enforced and there will remain a huge focus on getting the basics right every day, for example, regular handwashing, no mixing of bubbles in school, social distancing and PPE for staff etc.

**Though we cannot wait for the pandemic to be over, and for life to feel more normal, I hope that you will all continue to be patient and stick to the guidance regarding things like mixing households etc. The children have been sharing all their news and colleagues have noted that a number have talked about going to friends' houses with their parents, house parties, sleepovers with friends and all sorts. Clearly lots of things are still not allowed, and my concern is that the virus will be caught and spread, making people seriously ill and forcing me to again close class bubbles and send children home for two weeks of remote learning. Please stick to the rules. It will not be long before restrictions are lifted and we can do more of the things we want to.**

I would like to thank you all for your kind messages and support so far. Thank you also for the phenomenal ways in which so many of you have managed to support your children throughout lockdown. I know that this will have been incredibly difficult at times; balancing other responsibilities with your children's remote learning. There is no doubt that this pandemic and the recent lockdown have both taken a terrible toll on many of us in different ways. Sadly, for too many in our community life will look and feel different as we emerge from the pandemic. If you and your family have suffered in any way and you are struggling as a result, please let us know. If you need help from us or signposting to help from others, then again, I urge you to please contact us. I promise that we will do all we can to help you or to direct you to the help you need from others.

Here are some useful websites:

- **ChildLine** click [here](#)
- **Place2Be** click [here](#)
- **NSPCC** click [here](#)
- **Brighter Futures** click [here](#)
- **Anna Freud** click [here](#)
- **Home Start** click [here](#)
- **Care for the Family** click [here](#)



Improving children's mental health



**Anna Freud  
National Centre for  
Children and Families**



**HOME  
START**



### Citizen of the Week

This week our special award goes to **Filip** in **Y5** who understands that it is ok to make mistakes in line with our 'Statement to Live By' this week! Filip is developing a very positive attitude to learning, and part of this is understanding that making mistakes is an inevitable and valuable part of the learning process - and not something to be feared or worried about. Filip has seen that having a positive attitude to learning and making mistakes will help him to be a more confident and resilient learner. What a fantastic example you are Filip!

### COVID-19 Updates

- SJF Risk Assessment (Version 12, March 2021) – click [here](#)
- SJF Reconnection Plan (Version 2, March 2021) – click [here](#)
- SJF Staff Lateral Flow Testing – click [here](#)
- How parents can order COVID-19 lateral flow home test kits– click [here](#)

### Term 4 Smiley Scores

These will be shared next week.

### SJF Calendar/Forthcoming Events

Click [here](#) to view our online calendar.

Attendance this week			
1 <sup>st</sup>	FS2	100%	Bobby Bear will visit next week
1 <sup>st</sup>	Y1	100%	Bobby Bear will visit next week
1 <sup>st</sup>	Y5	100%	Bobby Bear will visit next week
4 <sup>th</sup>	Y3	99.6%	Brenda Bear will visit next week
5 <sup>th</sup>	Y2	99.2%	Elvis Owl will visit next week
6 <sup>th</sup>	Y4	98.4%	
7 <sup>th</sup>	Y6	96.1%	
Target = 98%		Average Attendance = 99.1%	



Get Set, GO!			
1 <sup>st</sup>	Y5	88%	
2 <sup>nd</sup>	FS2	86%	
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Y1	84%	
4 <sup>th</sup>	Y3	82%	
4 <sup>th</sup>	Y2	82%	
6 <sup>th</sup>	Y4	80%	
7 <sup>th</sup>	Y6	78%	
Average = 83%			

### Mothers' Day 2021

I would like to wish all our mums, grandmothers and anyone who fulfils either role to our wonderful children, a very happy Mothers' Day on Sunday! Thank you to our friends from the PTFA for arranging daffodils for every child to take home and give to their mum, grandma or to someone else who is very special at home.

### World Book Day 2021

I would like to again thank our friends from the PTFA for running the SJF World Book Day mask competition. You can view pictures of the entrants by clicking [here](#).

The PTFA is such an important part of school life and is always looking for more volunteers to join their ranks. If you are interested in finding out more about what they do, and how you can help, please email Clair Prestidge and the PTFA committee ([ptfa@st-johnfisher.org](mailto:ptfa@st-johnfisher.org)). Thank you.



### Important Reminder: Cough Sweets

As children settle back in here is a reminder of a message shared by Mrs Pickering previously:

*"We noticed that a few children have brought cough lozenges in to school. Whilst we understand that parents/carers are giving these in order to ease their children's cough/sore throat symptoms, they are a form of medicine and so have the potential to cause harm. They also present a potential choking risk.*

*We have strict procedures regarding the use of medicines in school and a healthy eating philosophy that does not allow children to have sweets. Our concern also is that lozenges brought in to school without the knowledge of staff will be shared and consumed by children as if they are sweets. Please support us by not sending your child into school with lozenges. Thank you for your support."*





### SJF School Council Update

Our council will start meeting again soon and will then share their updates in future newsletters as usual.



### Our Weekly SJF Sixty Second Challenge

For this week's fun activity, we are continuing with Mrs Prentice's challenge is to see how many times you can throw a ball in the air - and clap - whilst the ball is in the air! Please watch the video to see how it must be done, and don't forget to let your teachers know what your best and highest score is! Can you beat Mrs Prentice's impressive score? Please click [here](#) to see the video! Thank you

### Our Catholic Life

#### *Parish News*

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

#### *Our Lenten Prayer: 'The Confiteor'*

I confess to almighty God  
and to you, my brothers and sisters,  
that I have greatly sinned  
in my thoughts and in my words,  
in what I have done,  
and in what I have failed to do;

through my fault, through my fault,  
through my most grievous fault;  
therefore I ask blessed Mary ever-Virgin,  
all the Angels and Saints,  
and you, my brothers and sisters,  
to pray for me to the Lord our God.



#### *Weekly Liturgy of the Word*

Our next Liturgy of the Word will be led by the young people of **Y5**. It will be recorded on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> March 2021 and made available to watch on **Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> March 2021** by clicking [here](#).

#### *Lent Class Liturgies*

These take place in every class on all days except PE days and when a class has Music or French lesson at the end of the day. Sadly, COVID restrictions mean that we cannot invite parents/carers to join us, but we will pray for your intentions.

### Term 4 Curriculum Overviews

If you would like to find out what your children are learning and ways you can support them at home please click [here](#). If you need any additional help and support please get in touch. We are very aware that sometimes people can lack confidence or become confused by the terminology and new ways of teaching, which change and develop over time. Please call school or email colleagues via the class email address.

A reminder that enquiries and non-urgent messages should be emailed directly to the class teachers. Below is a reminder of the class email addresses. Teachers will answer these within 24 hours but not after 5.00pm, at weekends or during holidays/Bank Holidays. Please send urgent messages to the School Office please.

• <b>School Office</b>	• <a href="mailto:enquiries@st-johnfisher.org">enquiries@st-johnfisher.org</a>	• <b>Year 3</b>	• <a href="mailto:Year3@st-johnfisher.org">Year3@st-johnfisher.org</a>
• <b>FS2</b>	• <a href="mailto:FS@st-johnfisher.org">FS@st-johnfisher.org</a>	• <b>Year 4</b>	• <a href="mailto:Year4@st-johnfisher.org">Year4@st-johnfisher.org</a>
• <b>Year 1</b>	• <a href="mailto:Year1@st-johnfisher.org">Year1@st-johnfisher.org</a>	• <b>Year 5</b>	• <a href="mailto:Year5@st-johnfisher.org">Year5@st-johnfisher.org</a>
• <b>Year 2</b>	• <a href="mailto:Year2@st-johnfisher.org">Year2@st-johnfisher.org</a>	• <b>Year 6</b>	• <a href="mailto:Year6@st-johnfisher.org">Year6@st-johnfisher.org</a>



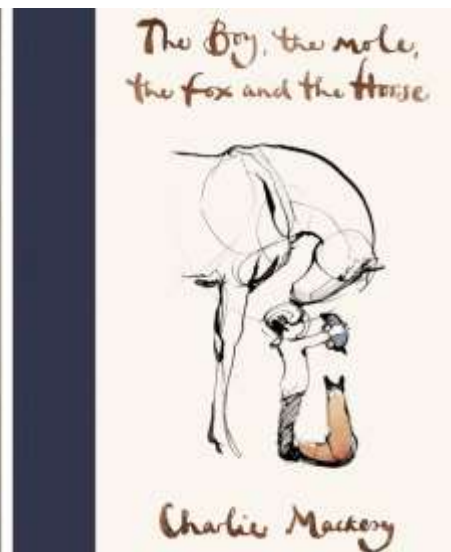
### Achievements Outside of School

As you know we celebrate all achievements in and out of school. Whether achievements are big or small we love to publish and share the good news. Please email your children's achievements out of school via our [enquiries@st-johnfisher.org](mailto:enquiries@st-johnfisher.org) email address. Thank you.

### Reading for Pleasure

I am delighted to say that we are part of an exciting project with the Open University and a number of other Sheffield schools aiming to promote reading for pleasure. Through the training that we are having, we are learning about the incredible impacts on children who read voluntarily and often, for pleasure. The evidence shows how significantly it supports children's general confidence, growth and development. It not only improves reading and writing confidence, but also the development of language skills. Children who read regularly on average make more progress, close gaps more easily and are happier, more successful learners.

As part of the project we will be encouraging all our SJF children. We will invest significantly to improve our own stock of both modern and traditional books covering a wide range of topics and types, including information books and stories. We aim to inspire our less willing and confident readers as much as our more willing and confident readers with books that are inclusive and which grab their interest; books that excite and inspire, including graphic novels. We are also looking at creating exciting reading spaces both in and outside of the school building.



Each week we will share a recommendation for younger and older children. This week our book is for *all* ages.

**The Boy, the Mole, the Fox and the Horse** is a 2019 bestselling illustrated book by **Charlie Mackesy**. It follows a lonely boy who ambles through the countryside on a spring day. He first meets the mole and then the other animals in the title. It was the 2019 Waterstones Book of the Year. It is a beautiful book with incredible illustrations and quotes that are as relevant and meaningful to a five-year-old as they are to a 105-year-old!



We have used quotes from the book as a staff, during the earlier days of the pandemic. It is an inspiring and surprisingly relatable book – both simple and deep at the same time – and we heartily recommend it to you.



## Golden Children

<b>FS2</b>	<b>Shelby</b> for being so kind, for sharing so well with others and for taking such pride in her classroom! Amazing!
<b>Y1</b>	<b>Jan Z</b> for having an amazing attitude and for trying really hard in all he has done, producing some amazing work this week! Well done Jan, keep it up!
<b>Y2</b>	<b>Jacob W</b> for setting a great example with his excellent behaviour and because he he has been trying his best with everything! Well done superstar!
<b>Y3</b>	<b>Noah</b> for being so polite and for having fantastic manners! He has been a shining example to everyone in Y3 and we are all so proud of him!
<b>Y4</b>	<b>Connor</b> for having an amazing week! He has worked hard in all lessons; trying his best and having a positive attitude! Well done!
<b>Y5</b>	<b>Raheel</b> for having an excellent attitude to learning and for constantly trying to improve his knowledge in all curriculum areas! A super example to others!
<b>Y6</b>	<b>Rosie</b> for having such a positive first week back in school and for managing to keep smiling when things get tough! What a star!

## Writing Champions

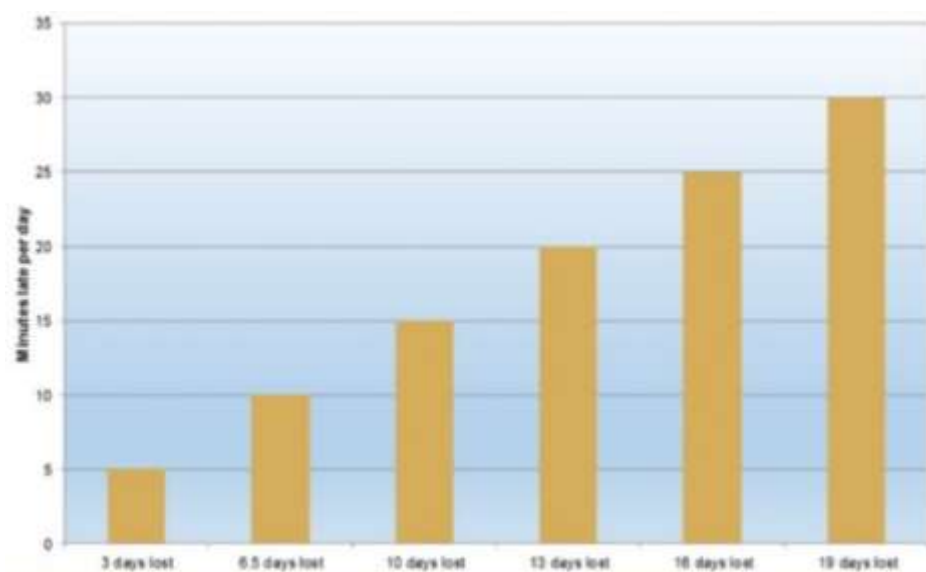
<b>FS2</b>	<b>Year 1</b>	<b>Year 2</b>	<b>Year 3</b>	<b>Year 4</b>	<b>Year 5</b>	<b>Year 6</b>
Freddie	Drew	Musa	Noah	Tadisa	Phoenix	Faith

## The Importance of Punctuality

It is really important to arrive at school on time. This chart shows how just a few minutes here and there can quickly add up to significant lost learning if ignored.

Below are the start and finish times as we continue to operate under COVID-secure restrictions.

We have listened to feedback and are trialling a reduction in staggered start/finish times at the beginning and end of the day, so there is less waiting. This will only continue however if people arrive on time and park safely and legally when they do. Thank you.



	Morning Entry Times	School Start Times	Evening Entry Times	School Finish Times
<b>FS2</b>	8.45am	8.50am	3.15pm	3.20pm
<b>Y1</b>	8.45am	8.50am	3.15pm	3.20pm
<b>Y2</b>	8.45am	8.50am	3.15pm	3.20pm
<b>Y3</b>	8.55am	9.00am	3.25pm	3.30pm
<b>Y4</b>	8.55am	9.00am	3.25pm	3.30pm
<b>Y5</b>	8.55am	9.00am	3.25pm	3.30pm
<b>Y6</b>	8.55am	9.00am	3.25pm	3.30pm





### Parking Safely

Please help us keep all our children and families safe at the beginning and end of the school day (and our neighbours happy) by remembering to park safely, considerately and legally.

Do **NOT** park on the zigzag lines, double yellow lines, pavements and grass verges. Thank you.

To avoid congestion (caused by parked cars) we encourage everyone to either walk from home or to park safely, legally and slightly away from school and to walk in with their children ('park and stride'). No one is allowed to park in the church car park, as it remains part of our one-way system in and out of school, and we want to avoid accidents. In response to concerns raised, the local authority will continue to monitor parking and driving around school at the start and end of the day and school staff will be deployed along the roadside to encourage safe and responsible parking and reduce the likelihood of accidents.

Children continue to be encouraged to bring a scooter or bicycle to school. This can be taken home straightaway by the adult accompanying the child or it can be left in our shelter *at the owners' own risk*. If left in the shelter it is important that children only handle their own bicycle or scooter.

### Reconnection Meetings

In support of our focus on pupils' wellbeing and reconnection invitations were sent out to everyone to book meetings with their children's class teachers in order to share your lockdown experiences, concerns and ideas as together we build a view of each child's needs and priorities not just in terms of learning but also in terms of their wellbeing. The meetings for Y6 pupils took place today, and below are the dates for other year groups.

<b>Year 6</b>	<b>Year 5</b>	<b>Year 1</b>	<b>Year 2</b>
<b>Friday 12<sup>th</sup></b> <b>March 2021</b>	<b>Monday 15<sup>th</sup></b> <b>March 2021</b>	<b>Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup></b> <b>March 2021</b>	<b>Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> March</b> <b>2021</b>
<b>Year 4</b>	<b>Year 3</b>	<b>FS2</b>	
<b>Thursday 18<sup>th</sup></b> <b>March 2021</b>	<b>Friday 19<sup>th</sup></b> <b>March 2021</b>	<b>Monday 22<sup>nd</sup></b> <b>March 2021</b>	

### Safeguarding Reminder

At St John Fisher we take internet safety extremely seriously. We make sure that we know the current risks and the potential risks lurking in the background and aim to share this information regularly so that our parents and carers are well informed. We have held workshops and share information via this newsletter and the website.

### SJF Website

In response to children's increased use of the internet to access online learning or kill time during lockdown, we created a new area of our website dedicated to internet safety. A reminder that this area is packed full of advice for parents, carers and children and can be reach by clicking [here](#).

It is our aim to keep internet safety at the forefront of our thinking. The online world has a hugely positive side when used responsibly; offering children access to a wealth of information, games and opportunities. However, it also opens the door to a darker side where there is potential for cyber-bullying; access to inappropriate information, images and videos; grooming and exploitation.

**Predators do not discriminate. They will target any child, from any background and family.**

**All** children are potential targets, especially if they have unsupervised access to the internet via PCs, laptops, tablets, smartphones, smart TVs, gaming consuls, apps at home and whilst 'roaming' or even, via free Wi-Fi in shops as well as on buses, trams, trains, restaurants and even via a neighbour's router not configured right.



### *Safeguarding at St John Fisher*

At SJF, promoting the internet safety of all our children is a key segment of our wider safeguarding role. As Headteacher, I am the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) in our school. I am supported in this role by my Safeguarding Team of Deputy DSLs: **Mrs Barrett**, **Mrs Hadfield** and **Mrs Pickering**.

Obviously 'Safeguarding' generally, and internet safety specifically, are also key Governor responsibilities. Overall, responsibility rests with our Chair of Governors, **Mrs Sarah Ludlam**. However, the day-to-day monitoring of school systems and actions is the responsibility of **Mrs Clair Prestidge**, who is our designated Link-Governor for Safeguarding. Mrs Prestidge reports directly to Mrs Ludlam and the full Governing Body.

Unsurprisingly the key area of *Internet safety* is also a key feature of our Computing curriculum, led and coordinated in our school by **Mr Broadhead**. He also works closely with the local authority to ensure that staff, Governors and parents/carers are kept up-to-date and that the curriculum remains current and relevant to our children given the ever-changing nature of the risks they face currently and will, sadly, face in the future.

As well as the ongoing curriculum there are certain points of the year when there is an additional focus on being safe. 'Be Safe – Be Happy Week' is one and Internet Safety Day will be another.

### **ROBLOX**

We know that Roblox has been a major hit with children at SJF and worldwide, even though it is an odd-looking and often confusing game - for parents and carers at least. There are supposedly adult-only areas that children can easily access. Please follow the links to find out more about the game and the risks:

- The Family Zone – click [here](#)
- Protect Young Minds – click [here](#)
- Web Safety – click [here](#)
- Internet Matters – click [here](#)



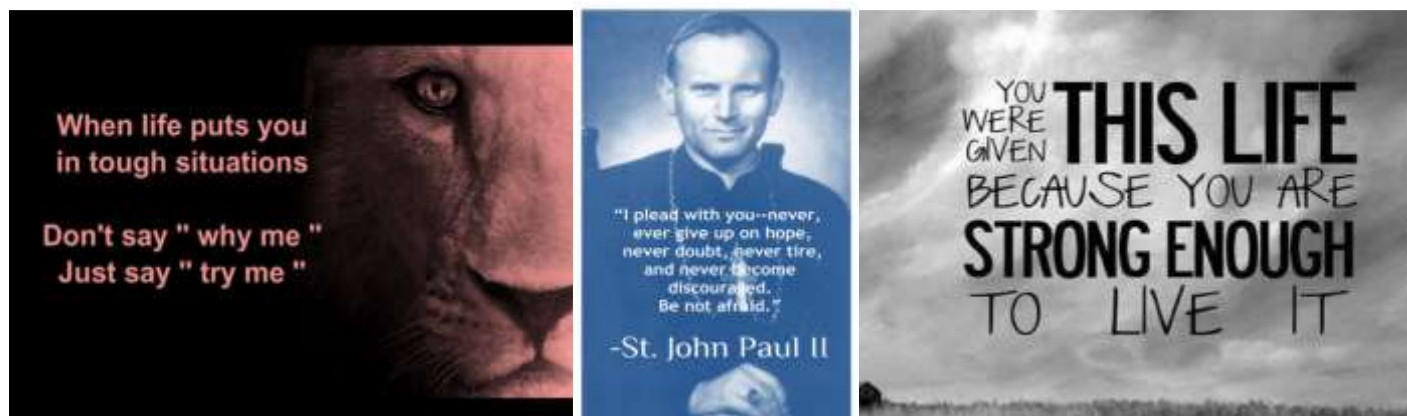
### **Statement to Live By**

Next week our 'statement to live by' is '**I try to keep going when things are difficult and not give up**'

**Time to talk:** Recently we have been thinking about why making mistakes (and then learning from them) is an important part of learning. This is particularly key as we are all busy reconnecting and getting used to all being together again.

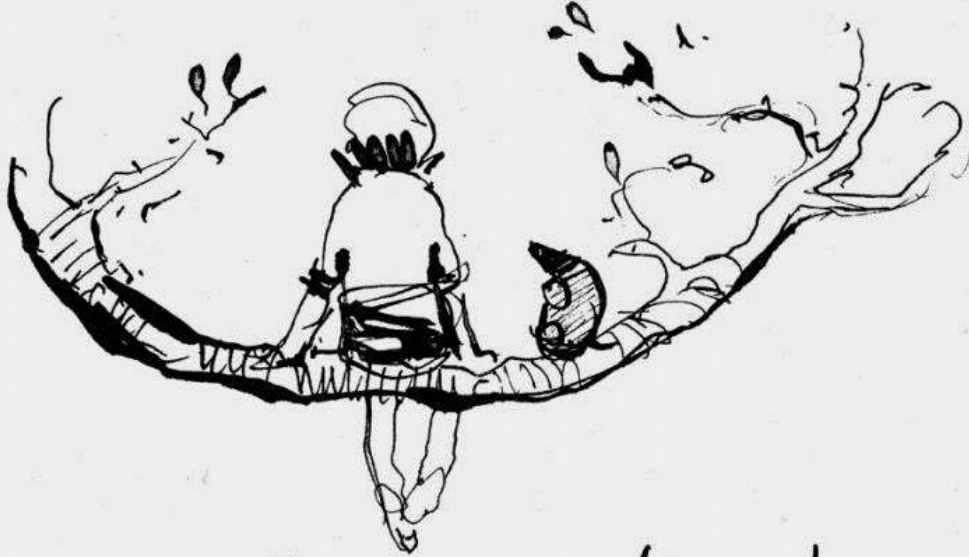
Next week we will continue to reflect on why it is so important to be resilient, especially when we are learning something new or making an important change in our lives. At St John Fisher we encourage our children to remain positive and never ever give up.

Can you think of a time when you refused to give up? How did you feel when things did not go as you wanted? What made you keep going? Did you achieve your goal in the end? How did it feel when you did?



A Final Thought...

"What do you want to be  
when you grow up?"



"Kind," said the boy

Charlie Mackesy

Best wishes,  
Mr Barratt

