

St Fidelis Catholic Primary School

13th October 2017 Newsletter



SCHOOL MASS

We look forward to seeing as many of you as possible at our next School Mass, which will be held this Sunday 15th October. Children from Years 3 to 6 are encouraged to come and sit with the teachers at the front of the church. As always, we will be making our collection for our local Food Bank and would be grateful for any contributions towards this.

CONTACT INFORMATION

From time to time, some parents need to travel away from home – please ensure that the school is aware of this and that we have up-to-date contact information for whoever is looking after your child. If any contact details have changed over the school holidays, again please let the school office know so that we can update our computer records.

TALK SAFE AND STAY SAFE, LIKE PANTOSAURUS!

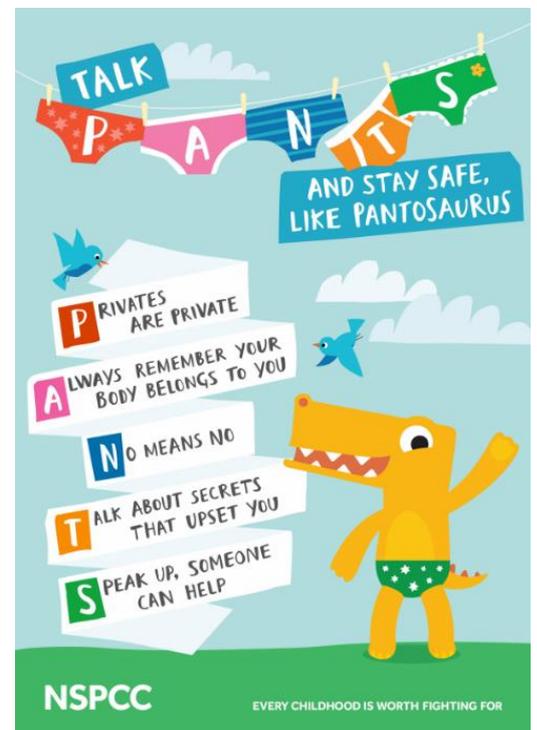
This week, the school was visited by NSPCC staff to remind children about how they can stay safe. Over the next few weeks, our children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 will be having some lessons which teach them how to stay safe. The NSPCC's Underwear Rule campaign helps parents and teachers to keep children safe from abuse, by taking a potentially tricky subject and giving parents and teachers a way to talk about staying safe in an engaging and age-appropriate way.

The central message of PANTS (which acts like a green cross code for staying safe from abuse) is shown on the image on the right. From P through to S, each letter of PANTS provides a simple but valuable lesson that can help keep a child safe: that their body belongs to them, they have a right to say no, and that they should tell an adult they trust if they're worried or upset. For any parents who would like to know more about this programme of work, visit the NSPCC website.

Our school is committed to safeguarding and child protection of children who are at risk of abuse or neglect and Mr Hannon and Miss Quirke share responsibility for safeguarding and child protection for all pupils. The school's policy is available to download from the school website.

ROAD SAFETY

The Council's Road Safety Team has asked us to remind parents, as well as children, how to use our lollipop person safely. Please wait on the pavement, holding younger children's hands, and listen for the patrol to say it is safe **before** stepping off the kerb. Anyone on a bike or scooter should dismount them and everyone should walk in front of the patrol so they can see them clearly. **Please** do not walk out into the road at the same time as the patrol. They need to ensure traffic in both directions has stopped for them before they indicate to you that it is safe for you and the children to cross.



READING DIARIES

Reading diaries should be used every day to record the reading that our children have completed as this helps us all to check on the progress they are making. One way that we can all help with the development of the really important skill of reading is to encourage our children to read each and every day. Help them to do this by switching off the technology for just fifteen minutes- the television, the computer, the tablets and give the children the quiet space to sit down and enjoy reading. Thank you in advance for your support with this.

NURSERY STAY AND PLAY

The Nursery is once again running stay and play sessions for parents to attend. The sessions will take place across the school year on 7th November, 28th November, 16th December, 30th January, 6th March, 20th March, 1st May, 22nd May, 5th June, 19th June and will run from 9.00-9.30am for Wrens and 12.30-1.00pm for Doves.

AFTERSCHOOL SPORTS TEAMS

Miss Bull recently held trials for basketball, football and netball teams. Due to Miss Bull's injury, the clubs will not start until she returns, which will not be before half-term. We will advise you in due course whether your child has been selected for a team.

COFFEE MORNINGS

Mia Weatherill, our school based social worker, is arranging a series of tea/coffee mornings here in the school in St Martha's Kitchen where parents and carers can chat informally about common concerns:

Wednesday 29th November 9:00-10:00am

Improving sleep and bedtime routines

Wednesday 13th December 9:00-10:00am

Supporting anxiety in children

PARENT GOVERNOR ELECTION

The nominations for the Parent Governor election (which is open to all parents) should be received in school by noon on Monday 23rd October 2017.

RECEPTION ADMISSIONS SEPTEMBER 2018

If your child was born between 1st September 2013 and 31st August 2014, it is now time to apply for a place in Reception for September 2018. We will be sending out our application forms very soon. If you are unsure whether we have your child's details on our database, please enquire at the school office.

PARENT EVENING APPOINTMENTS

We're pleased to see that these appointments are filling up without too many problems. If you have not yet booked, please go to our website www.st-fidelis.bexley.sch.uk and click on the parenteveningsystem icon at the bottom of the page

Yours sincerely

Mark Hannon
Head Teacher

Sunday 15 th October 10:30am	School Mass Our Lady of the Angels Catholic Church
Monday 16 th October - Friday 20 th October	Year 6 Residential Trip to Ashford
Friday 20 th October 3:00pm	Year 3 Penguins Class Assembly School Hall
Monday 23rd October – Friday 27th October All day	Autumn Half Term Holiday School Closed
Monday 30 th October	School Resumes
Friday 3rd November All day	Staff Training Day (INSET) School Closed
Wednesday 8 th November 9:00-10:00am	Positive Parenting Workshop School Hall