

Newsletter 5

Dear Parents and Carers,

First of all I would like, on behalf of the governors and all of the school, to thank all of you and your family, friends and workmates, for an absolutely magnificent response to the School Roof Appeal. To date and with money still arriving, our grand total stands at **£2369.95**, a magnificent amount that puts a significant dent in the bill to the Diocese that was paid yesterday. We are so fortunate to have such a kind and supportive school family that understands that at the moment, years of underfunding are catching up on schools all across the country and we are all trying to be innovative to raise funds, cut costs and manage diminishing budgets in ways that least impact upon the children, but this is not an easy task. With the Local Authority scarred by years of austerity there is little fat left to trim, so support like we have seen here from across our community, is a real bonus. Your fantastic efforts are very much appreciated.

We have had a busy time with Open Mornings and Evenings, with excellent attendance across the board though I must thank staff for making every effort to accommodate parental requests at the expense of their own family time on what is a very busy week with several late nights for all of our teachers. Feedback from the Reception Open Mornings was excellent and Mams and Dads do seem to appreciate the opportunity to see the children's learning and routines. I know that we can expect a good turn out next Tuesday November 7th as Reception Parents and Carers visit for lunch.

The Friday prior to the holidays saw our annual walk for CAFOD and again we had a great gathering of the wider school family which was lovely to see. Everyone enjoyed the walk, a challenge for some of our little ones, but our Pastoral Care leaders and many more of the older pupils, were so supportive and helpful. We have donated £120 to CAFOD from school fund, which is around the equivalent of 50p per child, our usual donation request for a non-uniform day. Thanks to members of our SAPA team who supplied refreshments and set everything up.

Tuesday saw a big gathering of parishioners and parents / carers join with all of the children for Mass to mark All Saints and All Souls. It was a lovely occasion actually, being the first time our new Reception children had experienced a Mass in school and their behaviour, again so well supported by their Pastoral Care friends, was impeccable. The singing was good and the children are getting better all the time in joining in with the Mass responses.

Finally, can I remind all families who have a child on packed lunch that the contents should adhere to the policy published on the school website. I am afraid that some pupils are having chocolate bars, biscuits, crisps etc. on a very regular basis, sometimes every day. This is not a healthy option and will impact severely upon long term health and well-being. Can I also remind everyone that nuts are not allowed at any time as we have pupils with nut allergies and exposure can be fatal. Thank you for your cooperation, it is much appreciated.

Best wishes for an enjoyable weekend:

Yours Sincerely,

[K J Smithson](#)

K J Smithson:
Head Teacher.