

## St. Monica's Primary School

## DIOCESE OF SHREWSBURY

## **Newsletter 27th October 2023**

Dear Parents and Carers,

We've made it to the final day of half term one, and what better time is there to stop for a moment and reflect upon what a fantastic start to the new school year we have had. The children are all wonderfully settled and know their new class routines and timetables really well.

Our new Forest School curriculum has begun with our Blackbirds class and Reception children, and their reflections on how their sessions have been are a delight to read, and confirm to us the reason we have chosen to enhance our curriculum in this direction.

We have record numbers of children taking up a range of music instruments, and there have been a number of sporting enhancements and competitions taking place already, in just the first 8 weeks.

Living the school's mission continues to be at the forefront of our days in school, and the children have shown how they are developing their social conscience with their work on the harvest and during recycling week.

All round, there is a buzz of the excitement and love of learning.

This term we have welcomed 7 new pupils across the school, and we have 3 more new starters joining us after the half term break. We warmly welcome them and their families to our St Monica's community, and it is wonderful to see our school continuing to grow. I know you will be making the parents very welcome too.

May I wish you all a lovely, relaxed half term break, with an opportunity for the children and staff to refresh and get ready for another half term of joyful learning!

Warm regards

Mrs J Pearson

#### **School Photographs**

Tempest will be in school on Thursday 16th November to take individual and sibling photographs of your child/children.

#### **Parents' Evenings**

We return to school on Monday 6th November and our Parents' evenings are on Tuesday 7th and Thursday 9th November.

You will have received a spider message on Wednesday to book a time to meet with class teachers for Parents' evening. Please make sure that you have confirmed a time on either of the two dates. Thank you.

#### **Lost Property**

Please can we ask that you check that names are still clearly visible on uniform after washing. Out lost property has continued to grow each week this term. Many of the school jumpers, cardigans and P.E. tops have been in the lost property since we started back in September. We will have one final push to clear these items this afternoon. Please take a moment to reclaim any lost clothing.

#### **Class and Curriculum Information Sheets**

Please look out for the Half Term 2 class and curriculum information sheets which will be posted on each class Google Classroom today. This will give you details of timetable and any particular activities for the class in the coming half term.











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#### Y5 Swifts—Bike Right

Year 5 have had a fabulous time developing their skills and confidence to ride their bikes on today's roads.







#### Y4 Kingfishers—Tattenhall

What a wonderful residential. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed the experience.







#### Y4 Kingfishers—Forest School

Forest School Clothes Kingfisher class (year 4) will be doing Forest School on Tuesday and Friday afternoons for 6 weeks after half term. PE kit will only be needed on Monday (for gymnastics). The PE on Tuesdays will be to do with orienteering and outdoor games of strategy. On forest school day, the children should wear old clothes. The weather obviously means wellies and a waterproof coat are important but other than that, layers are probably best since it might be warm inside school in the morning. Waterproof trousers are optional. If your child has hiking boots, make sure they know how to tie their own laces. It is really important that they do not wear fabric trainers. If you don't have any wellies, we will see if we can get you a pair to borrow. ② Old clothes (layers) ② Waterproof coat ② Wellies (or waterproof hiking boots) ② Optional — waterproof trousers ② Hat and gloves ③ Afternoon healthy snack to be named, since they all go into one tub to be given out when we are outside.









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#### **Clubs for Autumn 2**

Thank you for completing the clubs google form for Autumn 2. Mrs Rylance will confirm places this afternoon at 4.30pm. Please note that w/c 6th November the following clubs will be running after school: Lego Club, Pocket Rockets, Junior Choir, Cross Country and French Club, this is due to our Parents' evenings on Tuesday and Thursday. All clubs will run as normal from Monday 13th November. Thank you.

We would love to get your feedback on our extra-curricular club provision; please look out for a google form survey coming your way. We'd be extremely grateful for a few minutes of your time to complete the survey.

#### **Open Day**

Our next Open Day is on Wednesday 15th November. Tours are at 9:30, 11:00 and 1:30. Please do spread the word to friends who may be interested in seeing our lovely school. Thank you.

#### **Diocesan Building Fund**

Can I strongly encourage you to consider contributing to this cause? The way Catholic schools are funded means that the Diocese has to pay for a portion of all work on school buildings. The school pays an annual amount for this whether we receive parental contributions or not, so any voluntary contributions you can make would be really appreciated.

Over the last few years St Monica's has benefitted from several building projects paid for via the Diocesan Schools Building Fund.

Gift aiding increases the value of your contribution by 25%. If you would like to Gift Aid your contribution please log onto www.dioceseofshrewsbury.org/schools-building-fund and follow the link or you can make a contribution through your ParentPay account. Any amount you feel happy to offer will be received with thanks.











