

# St George's R.C Primary School Newsletter

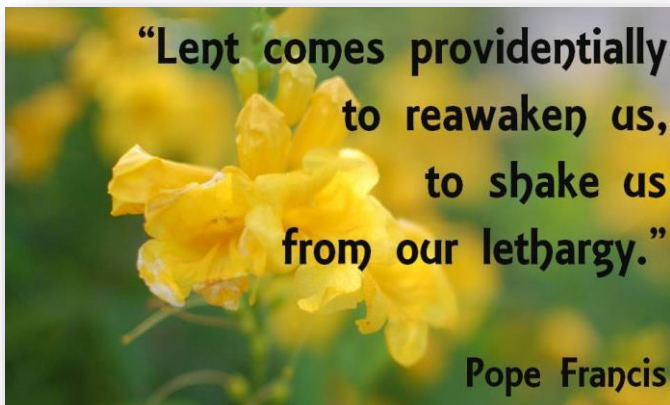
March 2017

Headteacher: Mrs Dee Patton-Statham

Lent begins on Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> March 2017 with Mass in Church @ 10:00



~ WELCOME ~ WORD ~ WORSHIP ~WELFARE ~ WITNESS ~



## THANK YOU!

Thank you to everyone who came and had school dinner with us and attended our Catholic Culture and Community open afternoon on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> February. All of your feedback was very positive! You were very impressed with the children's work and you all enjoyed the school dinner! Thank you to everyone from the parish who came to help!



## St David's Day!

Year 3 will be celebrating their Patron Saint's day on Ash Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> March. Year 3 are allowed to wear their own clothes on that day. The Junior Chaplains will be working on a very special Patron Saint project with Mrs Iggulden next half term.



## LENT 2017

In the Catholic Church, the year is divided into liturgical seasons based on significant events in the life and ministry of Jesus. The Church Year begins with Advent, which is celebrated as four weeks of preparation before Christmas.

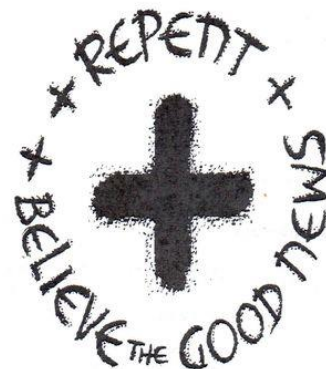
Lent is a season of fasting and penance in preparation for Easter Day. Lent is the 40 days before Easter. Holy Week begins on the Sunday before Easter (9<sup>th</sup> April 2017) with Palm Sunday (also called Passion Sunday), Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Holy Saturday.

On Ash Wednesday, ashes are applied to our forehead in the sign of the cross as the words, "Remember, you are dust and to dust you shall return" are spoken to us. This reminds us of our mortality as well as our need for ongoing repentance.

The other words which can be used are, "Turn away from sin and be faithful to the Gospel." This reminds us of our call to continual conversion and holiness of life.

The ashes for Ash Wednesday are normally made from blessed palm branches from the previous year's Palm Sunday. The ashes are sprinkled with Holy Water and incensed before distribution.

Ash Wednesday Mass is at St George's Church on Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> March at 10:00. EVERYONE VERY WELCOME.



St George's RC Primary School ~ Christ at The Centre



St George's Roman Catholic Primary School York



@StGeorgesRCSch

## Operation Encompass

Monday 6<sup>th</sup> March sees the launch of Operation Encompass. This is a new project that will run jointly between all schools, academies, colleges and the police in York and North Yorkshire.

Operation Encompass has been designed to provide early reporting to schools of any domestic abuse incidents that occur outside of normal school hours and that might have an impact on a child attending our school the following day. This information will be shared at the earliest opportunity between Monday to Friday and when an incident occurs at the weekend, the school will be notified on the following Monday by the police.

A nominated member of school staff, known as a key adult, will receive the information from the police. They will be able to use information that has been shared with them, in confidence, to ensure that our school is able to make provision for possible difficulties experienced by children or their families. Information will be shared where it is identified by the police that a child or young person was present, witnessed or was involved in a domestic abuse incident.

Operation Encompass has already proved to be very effective in providing appropriate support to children.

We are keen to offer the best support possible to all of our children and we believe this initiative is going to be extremely beneficial and supportive for all those involved.

## Safeguarding Initiative Update March 2017

As you are aware, we are obliged to keep a strict record of children arriving late in the mornings so that we can offer appropriate help and support to families who are persistently finding it hard to get their children to school on time. Keeping these records has proven to be very helpful for parents to look at habitual issues that school has been able to help with. It has proven to be a very beneficial initiative.

From Monday 27<sup>th</sup> February, we will now be keeping a record of children who are persistently collected *late* from school. Parents will have to sign the children out from the office and will be asked to provide a reason for late collection. Please be aware that at times children ARE collected late due to traffic, appointments that have run over etc. and this is something that school and the City of York are very sympathetic to.

There is however, a small handful of children who are still on the premises until 4:00 or 4:30 as nobody has collected them and we can't get hold of parents. As you can imagine, the children can become very upset and worried.

School will be working with families who persistently collect their children at unacceptably late times from school.

Thank you for your support.

### Easter Eggs!



During Lent there are no cake sales but we will be selling The Real Easter Egg for £3.99. We have tried the chocolate and it is DELICIOUS.

There is a little Easter Story included in the box. The chocolate is Fairtrade and profits go to charity. So far, the Real Easter Egg Company has donated £250,000 to charities! What's not to love? It's all good. Mrs Humphries will be running a special Easter Egg design competition next term as part of her work on our Chaplaincy Team.



Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> March!!

Come to school dressed as your favourite book character! Everyone will receive a special token to buy a world book day book at our book fair next term with Derek the Bookman!

We will hold a special assembly on 2<sup>nd</sup> March so that we can see everyone's costumes! Everyone very welcome.

### Staff Car Park ~ gentle reminder!

Sadly, there is no room in our staff car park for parents to park there in the mornings or afternoons! Staff come and go regularly throughout the school day and any rare space is always needed. Please DO NOT park your car in the staff car park. Spaces are available on both sides of Winterscale Street (behind school) and at the side and front of school. THANK YOU.

