

Year 4 First Holy Communion, First Confession

If your child is in Year 4 and you would like him/her to make the Sacraments of First Confession and First Holy Communion in St Leo's Parish, Father Michael has organised a Parents' information meeting on Friday 3rd March at 2 O'clock in St Leo's Church. Please bring with you a photograph of your child for a display in Church. (More details to follow soon). Children must be baptised before they can make these Sacraments.

Nursery

The Nursery children are wonderful and have settled really well. We now have our own Nursery room which is lovely and I have received many positive comments from the parents. We are still working very closely with Little Treasures but having our own room makes it easier for us both to organise and plan. If you have a baby or toddler and would like to visit our Nursery please do not hesitate to get in touch with Mrs Clarke in the school office. Our Nursery is run by school staff.

Keeping healthy in school

Please would you let your child bring to school a bottle of still unflavoured water with a sports top as we encourage the children to sip water throughout the day, which is a proven healthy habit that has a positive impact on learning and alertness? We also encourage the children to bring to school their own packet of tissues (thank you to those parents who already do this). It is really important that your child knows the correct way to use a tissue, catch a sneeze and catch a cough – this keeps all of the children healthy and hygienically aware. Thank you.

Dogs

Please do not bring dogs (small or large) onto the school grounds. We have recently had to remove dog muck from the school grounds which is really dangerous for the children if they touch it. We also have many children and parents who are afraid of dogs and then become upset in class. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

How can I help my child's learning?

We have some exciting Teaching and Learning coming up soon for which you can talk to your child about at home and research together:-

Monday 3rd October – Judaism Week

The children will be learning about this religion and culture.

Wednesday 5th October – No Pens Day

The children will have great fun exploring the many ways to learn without using a pen! They also learn how much we depend on using pens. The importance of speaking, exploring and listening is highlighted.

Friday 7th October – National Poetry Day

The children will be looking at a range of poetry; will be reading poetry, will learn about the poets and will have a go at writing their own poetry. If you have a favourite poem please tell your child about it.

Autumn Party Day – Thursday 6th October

We will be having a 'party lunch time' and on this day all school lunches will cost £1.00. If your child usually has a packed lunch, why not let them try a school lunch on this day as it only costs £1.00 – which your child can bring into school on the day. It will be a fun lunch time for the children.

Party Invites

It is always a lovely idea to organise a party for your child's birthday but please can I ask that you be subtle when you are giving party invitations out to the children, as children who do not receive one can become very upset. Teachers feel very uncomfortable giving invitations out as it puts them in a difficult position so please do not ask them to do this. Some parents have sent a cake into school to be shared with every child in the class, whilst we are happy to do this please would you cut the cake up into pieces and wrap them up ready for the teachers to just give out. Thank you for your cooperation with this matter.

Toast/snack

We provide toast as a hot snack for the children to have at break/play times which cost 10p. per slice. The children really enjoy the toast. However some parents send additional snack into school, if you do so please would you make it very simple and healthy e.g. a piece of fruit; a cereal bar or a biscuit. Please do not send into school fizzy sweets, jelly sweets, chocolate bars etc. This makes it very difficult for the parents who are trying to ensure that their children eat healthy snacks and it does not do your child any good. The children in Reception, Year One and Year Two all have toast, milk, water and fruit, so they really do not need any additional snack.

Year 3 Information Parents' Meeting (Reminder)

On Tuesday 4th October we have organised an information meeting for the parents of children who are now in Year 3, the beginning of Key Stage 2. This will also be an opportunity for you to ask any questions.

Attendance

It is really important that your child achieves 100% attendance. Please do not arrange holidays during the school term. I **cannot authorise** any holiday. Some parents will soon receive a penalty notice as this is a government rule which the Education Welfare Service and Ofsted have introduced. Thank you for your cooperation with this important matter.

Half Term

School closes for the half term on Friday 21st October and opens on Monday 31st October.

The school is as busy as ever with lots of exciting learning taking place. It is as always a privilege for us to teach your fantastic children. Thank you for all of your support and help.

A very happy, proud Headteacher

Mrs J Grundy