



# Guardian Angels Catholic Primary School

Newsletter No.17

Friday 17<sup>th</sup> January 2020

*Guided by the teachings of the Church we pray, work, celebrate, and care for each other and other people using the gifts we have been given by God the Father, Son and Spirit.*

## Dates for your diary

Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> January 2020	2.45pm	Star/Virtues Pupil Awards (parents of selected pupils invited by text)
Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup> January 2020	2:40-2:55pm	If you would like to become a EYFS 'Secret Reader', please speak to the EYFS teacher
Wednesday 29 <sup>th</sup> January 2020	7pm	Year 6 Confirmation at The Mother of God and Guardian Angels Church

## Invitation to Mass

All are welcome to join us on Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2020 at 9:15am for school Mass led by:

Year 1, Year 2 and EYFS.

All families are invited to **Family Mass** on the first Sunday of each month at The Mother of God and Guardian Angels Church



## A note from Mrs Milligan

After Christmas, I asked all teachers and teaching assistants to ensure that all children were wearing the correct uniform in school. I am delighted to say that the majority of pupils were already doing this! Thank you to parents and pupils for fully supporting the school's uniform policy. The children look extremely smart which helps to uphold our high expectations of behaviour and creates a team spirit amongst our pupils. If you have any queries regarding school uniform, please speak to your child's class teacher.

**Please pray for the pupils of Guardian Angels and St John the Baptist Parish who are preparing to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation on Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> January 2020.**

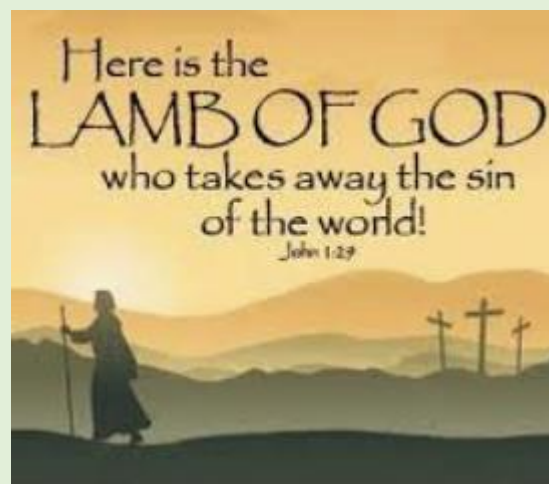
The Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales have designated 2020 as 'The God Who Speaks': A Year of the Word to celebrate the 10th anniversary of *Verbum Domini* - Pope Benedict XVI's Apostolic Exhortation on 'The Word of the Lord', and the 1600th anniversary of death of St Jerome, who translated the Bible into Latin. Therefore, 2020 will be a year of celebrating, living and sharing God's word. To help families with this, the Gospel reading for the coming Sunday will be included within our weekly newsletter as well as pupils receiving the Wednesday word. Please talk to your child at home about this.

## Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Gospel: John 1:29-34

The next day John saw Jesus coming to him, and said, "There is the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world! This is the one I was talking about when I said, 'A man is coming after me, but he is greater than I am, because he existed before I was born.' I did not know who he would be, but I came baptizing with water in order to make him known to the people of Israel."

And John gave this testimony: "I saw the Spirit come down like a dove from heaven and stay on him. I still did not know that he was the one, but God, who sent me to baptize with water, had said to me, 'You will see the Spirit come down and stay on a man; he is the one who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.' I have seen it," said John, "and I tell you that he is the Son of God."



### Attendance

Our target for whole school attendance is 97%; please make every effort to ensure that your child comes to school every single day. Some facts about school attendance:

- 90% attendance is like having a day off every two weeks
- Most children should routinely have attendance rates of 97% or more. This is the equivalent of 6 days absence a year. HOWEVER, 100% is achieved by many pupils every year in both primary and secondary schools
- Remember - the only legally accepted reasons for not being in school are illness, holiday approved by school (exceptional circumstances) or a day of religious observance

### SENDCO

Mrs Potter is our Interim School SENDCO. SENDCO stands for Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Coordinator. Mrs Potter is in school on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday each week. If you wish to speak to Mrs Potter, please contact the school office to make an appointment or request a call back. If you have any new concerns about your child, please speak to your child's class teacher in the first instance and they will be able to assist you.

### Upper Key Stage 2 Phase Leader

Mr Johnson is our Interim Upper Key Stage 2 Phase Leader. Mr Johnson works closely with our other phase leaders, Miss Carroll (Lower KS2) and Miss Hickey (KS1 and EYFS) if you wish to speak to Mr Johnson, please contact the school office to make an appointment or request a call back.

### Confirmation: 29<sup>th</sup> January 2020

Due to health & safety considerations, we must stress that only one row of seating will be available for each family. We actively encourage extended family and friends to celebrate with you at family gatherings, independently of the service. Thank you.

*Please pray for the pupils of Guardian Angels and St John the Baptist Parish who are preparing to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation on Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> January 2020.*

### Term Time Holidays

Following an unusually high number of requests for term time leave, please take the following into consideration:

**From 1<sup>st</sup> September 2013**, amendments to the **Education (Pupil Registration) (England) Regulations 2006** made clear that **Head Teachers may not grant any leave of absence during term time unless there are exceptional circumstances.**

Term time holidays continue to cause significant concern and debate. While there are many different views, the direct correlation between attendance and attainment is undeniable. Absence from school interrupts teaching and learning and compromises progress. Therefore, we strongly discourage pupil leave of absence during term time. The expectation is that such leave would only be authorised in the most exceptional circumstances.

### Faith and Respect Week Homework

Today you will have received a home-learning project as a pre-learning task for our Faith and Respect week, which takes place between 3<sup>rd</sup> - 7<sup>th</sup> February 2020. All pupils who complete the task will receive 10 house points and there will be one prize awarded per class for the winning project. Homework deadline: Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2020.

We look forward to seeing your creations.



### Modeshift Stars Bronze Award

I am delighted to announce that Guardian Angels has achieved our Bronze Modeshift Stars accreditation. Congratulations and thank you to our whole school community for your contribution and commitment to our many initiatives such as our Walk Once a Week project, Road Safety initiatives and Bikeability that have contributed to this great success. We are now working towards our Silver accreditation.



IF YOU'RE AN  
EU CITIZEN  
LIVING IN THE UK  
APPLY TO THE  
EU SETTLEMENT  
SCHEME ONLINE



### Brexit Update

EU citizens and their families can **apply** for settled status or pre-settled status under the EU Settlement Scheme.

If the UK leaves, the EU without a deal, you'll need to be living in the UK before it leaves the EU to apply to the EU Settlement Scheme. The deadline for applying will be 31 December 2020.

<https://www.gov.uk/settled-status-eu-citizens-families/applying-for-settled-status>



### Article 19 (protection from violence, abuse and neglect)



#### **Safeguarding tip of the week:**

Our school is committed to the highest standards in protecting and safeguarding the children entrusted to our care. Our school will support all children by: Promoting a caring, safe and positive environment, encouraging self-esteem and self-assertiveness, effectively tackling bullying and harassment. At our school in order to protect our children, we aim to: create an atmosphere where all our children feel secure, valued and listened to, recognise signs and symptoms of abuse, respond quickly, appropriately and effectively to cases of suspected abuse.

If you have a concern that a child is being harmed, is at risk of harm, or you receive a disclosure (intentionally or unintentionally), you must contact the following staff member as quickly as possible:

Mrs Milligan, Mr Spindlow, Mrs Tennant, Mr Johnson, Miss Carroll or Miss Hickey



## STARS OF THE WEEK

### Article 29 (goals of education)

There pupils have been 'Aiming High' and displaying this half term's virtues.  
We look forward to congratulating:

Group	Star Pupils	Virtues
EYFS	Amelia N and Lexi-Rose	Mayson
Year 1	Firefunmi and Corey-James	Blake
Year 3	Tia and Archie	Blessing
Year 4C	Charlie and Thomas	Summer
Year 4B	Emily and Meghan	Caitlin
Year 5	Corey and Annabelle	Juliusz
Year 6	Maria and Callum	Sam

Parents of the selected pupils are invited to attend the assembly on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> January 2020 at 2:45pm

### This week we wish a very

#### 'Happy birthday' to:

Mason (EYFS)

And

Lucas (Y5)

### Attendance for last week

#### Article 28 (right to education)

#### Well done Year 4C

EYFS	89.8%
Year 1	99.7%
Year 2	95.7%
Year 3	99%
Year 4B	93.2%
Year 4C	<b>100%</b>
Year 5	96%
Year 6	99.3%
<b>Overall Total for School</b>	<b>96.6%</b>

Our whole school target is **97%** Please ensure that your child is in school every day possible.

*This half term's Virtues are: **Compassionate and Loving***

#### Compassionate:

We are compassionate when we feel sympathy and concern for other people who are in difficulty, whether they are near to us or far away.



#### Loving:

We are loving when we show our sympathy and concern for other people by our actions and by our words.



*God of power, fill us with your Spirit and inspire us to make changes to our lives so that we can help others around the world. Amen.*

Have a lovely weekend

Mrs H Milligan (Head Teacher) Mr A Spindlow (Deputy Head Teacher)

