

Thursday 7th July 2011

Newsletter 6

Dear Parents

The PTFA newsletter is also coming home today. You will see that this has been an astonishingly successful year for them and I would personally like to thank the committee, Mrs Bell (Chair), Mrs Wardle (Secretary) and Mrs Hutchings (Treasurer) for their time and commitment over the last year and of course, to everyone who has supported the events during the last year. PTFA funds paid for the recent Travelling by Tuba workshops and I hope you enjoyed it as much as we did. I'm sure Chris and Stewart will be back.



Each year the PTFA also pay for the annual house prize, this year the children in St George had a Science show as their prize:

It was great fun for everyone and it was cool when he made Humayrah fly!
Elizabeth (House Captain).

Congratulations to Elizabeth and her team for earning 13, 603 house points this year and well done to all this year's house captains, they have done a superb job.

We were delighted to welcome Father John Sullivan from St Joseph's Ramsbottom, during our Mission Together week. He shared his experiences of living amongst the poor and needy families living in remote areas of Bolivia and helped us to understand how our money, collected throughout the year, can really make a difference to the lives of children around the World. This year the children, with your support, and not

forgetting Miss Farrow's sponsored walk, have raised just over £1200.00. Thank you to everyone who joined us for the end-of-year Mass, we were delighted to welcome Father Peter from The Servite Friary into school and thank him for his kind words.

School excursions (or the lack of them) made national headlines again this week. As a school, we have always been committed to taking the children on educational visits although we are well aware that this is an additional cost to you as parents and we certainly do everything we can to keep the cost as low as possible. Our ninth residential trip to Robinwood was another great success. It was Miss Cooper's first visit and although, on her return, she slept for a whole day, she has assured me that she is up for the challenge of a return visit next year! Summer trips have included visits to Stockley Farm (Nursery and Reception), Turton Tower (Year 4), Crucial Crew (Year 5) and the Museum of Science and Industry (Years 1 and 2). Photographs will be placed in the Gallery section of the website within the next couple of weeks.



Two lovely performances to end the year: the drama club performed *The Comedy of Errors* and we were very impressed by the sheer amount of dialogue the children had learned and the beautiful way in which the words were delivered. Miss Farrow was delighted with the children's commitment, this extra curricular activity also allowed children to learn about the history of the theatre, design their own tickets and posters and serve handmade Elizabethan biscuits at the interval. Mrs Parry ensured everyone looked the part. It was a lovely evening, thank you to everyone involved. The Irish dancing display opened our Merit Assembly this morning. Beautiful dancing; well done to Mrs Gardner and all the girls.

Each year we present the Entwistle Award to a child in Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 who has made the most academic progress this year. I am delighted to announce that this year the trophies were given to Billy (Year 4) and Grace (Year 1). Congratulations to you both and my thanks to Mrs Bell for presenting the trophies in this morning's end-of-year Awards Assembly.



Although the children have taken part in several sporting events inside and outside of school, I am aware that several parents would like us to hold an annual sports day to which parents could be invited, so it is my intention to hold one next year and details will hopefully come out in the autumn so that you can pencil the date in your diary. Although we do not have our own playing field our children take part in a full programme of physical education. The infant children use our own hall for gymnastics and street dance as well as the state-of-the-art sports hall at Holy Cross Sixth Form College for their weekly games lesson. Junior children have access to the fields, netball courts and the sports hall at Bury C of E High School each week and all children from Year 3 upwards have swimming lessons each year. Extra curricular activities include Irish dancing, fencing, football and netball and the introduction of tennis coaching this year is likely to continue in the autumn. The staff willingly give up their time to run these clubs and they are always very well attended.

Tomorrow we say goodbye and thank you to Miss Jones (Year 2) and Miss Nield (Year 5) and wish them well as they start out on their teaching careers. Our good wishes also go to Miss Creegan who is getting married next week. We hope she has a wonderful day and we look forward to welcoming her back as **Mrs Moore** in September. Tomorrow we also present our Year 6 children with a dictionary and a cross, small reminders of their time at Bury Catholic Preparatory School. Although I have not been allowed to see their rehearsals, I am reliably informed they have one last performance for us! We wish them well and look forward to hearing of their continued success.

Final Year 6 Assembly readings

These candles represent the special gifts we have been given at this school:

- We have learned how to care for one another*
- We have become ready to learn*
- We have been shown how to improve ourselves*
- We have learned how to accept our differences and*

- *We have learned how to show concern for our world and its people.*

Another busy year which began with an inspection ends with staff preparing new and exciting changes to the curriculum and governors committed to a significant investment in ICT provision. You will see from the list of leavers' destinations on the website, that our children have, once again, achieved places at the schools of their choice. This supports our belief that there is no lack of rigour in a small school, no one gets 'lost in the crowd' here and that good results can be achieved when children are happy and a school works effectively with parents. We are fortunate to have such a committed and hard working team of staff and they, like me, sincerely appreciate all the support you have given us over this last year and the commitment you make in choosing this school for your child.

We all hope you have a good summer break.

Yours sincerely

Anne Dean
Head teacher

School opens on Tuesday 6th September 2011

Staff list for September 2011

Nursery	Mrs Duxbury and Mrs Purvis
Reception	Miss Cooper and Mrs Moore
Year 1	Mrs Green and Mrs Taylor
Year 2	Mrs Tomlinson, Mrs Parry
Year 3	Mrs Gaskell
Year 4	Mrs George
Year 5	Mrs Baumber
Year 6	Miss Farrow