



# Sacred Heart School

Newsletter 16: 16th January 2017

## CELEBRATING 100 years of EDUCATION

Service Before Self.

e-mail– [info@sacredheartschool.co.uk](mailto:info@sacredheartschool.co.uk) [www.sacredheartschool.co.uk](http://www.sacredheartschool.co.uk) 01760 721330



@SHS\_Swaffham



Friends of Sacred Heart School

Mon 16 <sup>th</sup> Jan	<b>Change of date - Lessons resume with Mrs Bygrave</b> Tennis resumes at regular times No guitar lessons with Mr Graham today 7.00pm PTA Meeting in the Prep Room. All welcome
Mon 16 <sup>th</sup> – Wed 18 <sup>th</sup>	8.30am – 3.45pm Year 6 Assessment and Scholarship Days
Tues 17 <sup>th</sup> Jan	No lessons with Mrs Crossman
Thurs 19 <sup>th</sup> Jan	3.45pm – 5.00pm U16 Netball v TGS. Home
Fri 20 <sup>th</sup> Jan	3.45 – 6.00pm Year 7, 8 & 9 Boys Hockey v Glebe. Away
Tues 24 <sup>th</sup> Jan	2.15pm – 5.30pm Mass & 6.00pm Governors Meeting in the Prep Room 7.00pm Free School Parent Committee in the Junior Common Room 3.45pm – 6.10pm U12 & U15 Netball v Springwood. Away
Thurs 26 <sup>th</sup> Jan	6.30pm Marketing Committee meet in the Prep Room. All welcome 3.45pm – 5.30pm U14 & U16 Netball v Springwood. Home
Mon 30 <sup>th</sup> Jan	12noon – 5.00pm Year 11 GCSE History Trip to Norwich Playhouse
Tues 31 <sup>st</sup> Jan	3.45pm – 5.30pm U15 Netball v TGS. Home 7.30pm NarVOS meeting entitled 'Birdtrack'
Fri 3 <sup>rd</sup> Feb	8.45am – 4.30pm ISA Football Stoke College
Tues 7 <sup>th</sup> Feb	9.15am Year 3 & 4 Assembly in the Barn Theatre. Parents welcome to make refreshments beforehand 3.45pm – 6.10pm U12 Mixed Hockey at Lynnsport
Weds 8 <sup>th</sup> Feb	<b>5.00pm – 7.00pm Year 10 &amp; 11 Parents Evening. Please note change of date</b>

**We would like to clarify that if pupils are dropped off before 8.15am then it should be at the front gate. The back gate is opened at 8.15am for the safety of the children as there is no one at that end of the school before 8.15am and we would be leaving the premises open and unattended. Pupils arriving by car after 8.15am should only be dropped off at the back gate.**

**Snow is expected and the school will, as always, remain open.** We are very willing to provide a 'child sitting' service for those who can safely bring their children to school. **No one should attempt to travel if the roads are dangerous.** The minibuses will not run if there is any doubt about safety on the roads. Please bring wellingtons / boots for outdoor wear and shoes for inside in snowy weather.

**Lower school pupils must have a pair of named wellington boots in school and a peg to attach them together.**

**Pupils have been congratulated by Churches Together for supporting the Town Carol Service.**

There were a record number of willing participants for the Nativity Tableau, hosts of angels and shepherds. The Christmas Poetry Competition was won by three of our pupils and two of them were available to read on the evening with a stand in volunteer. The original poems and the confident

articulation were moving. The Sacred Heart group were also congratulated on their carol choir which included Little Pedlars to Year 8 pupils. There was no opportunity to practice for this event, which happens every year, so grateful thanks to all pupils who were a credit to the school and rose to the occasion.

**KLMF 96.7 Young Hero Awards. Young Carer of the Year - Abigail Wilkinson! Year 2. She was presented with her award by Norfolk's Deputy Lieutenant Mark Williams on 16 December 2016. Abigail has taken care of her mum since she was 2 years old, as her mum has MS and asthma.**

Her nomination is below:

*"When Abigail was only two years old, I had a sudden onset of MS which paralysed the left side of my body. Abigail had to quickly learn to wash and dress herself as well as help me. It has been just the two of us for five years now. She is now seven years old and although I can move better now, I still have bad spells when I can't do things for myself. She helps me to wash, dress, prepares meals, feeds the animals, cleans the house, does the washing up, puts the washing in and hangs it up. She has had to grow up very fast and has had a very different childhood than I would have liked for her to have. She is a very brave girl and even now when I have to go into hospital she takes responsibility for things at home. I*

am extremely proud of my Abigail, as her father left when all this started as well, and she has had to attend counselling. We have had support from family and friends, but the majority of the time we are on our own. She looks after me every day, and I would love to give her this award to show her just how much I appreciate it and how wonderful she is." When she won the award, Abigail said: "It's really exciting! I enjoy looking after mummy a lot."

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**On Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> January the cross country team went to Neatherd School to participate in the Mid Norfolk Cross Country event.** It was very muddy but everyone tried their hardest and came back with very impressive results. Alice Strafford, Harriet Horton and I came within the top 10 and are looking forward to the next round. Thanks to Mrs Calvert for organising this event and Mr Hodges and Mrs Woodhouse for taking and supporting us.  
*Connie Wildbur. Year 10*

**On Tuesday a small group of 10 senior school children attended the Mid Norfolk Cross Country at Neatherd School, Dereham.** It was a very mild day and great weather for running. As always the pupils were an absolute delight to be with and all ran very well with the top performances coming from Hattie 4th, Alice 5th in the Under 14 race and Connie 5th in the Under 16 race. We were all very nervous at the beginning when we looked at the competition, but there was nothing to worry about as everyone performed really well all achieving credible places. Here is a picture of a happy but muddy group of children after the races.

Well done Alex, Jack, Jasper, Hattie, Alice, Lily, Rebecca, Daisy, Joe and Connie. *Jeremy Hodges*



**Snow came to Swaffham on Friday – enough to make Snowmen!**



**2017 Duke of Edinburgh Update:**

The team of 2017 is heading towards being our biggest and best ever group of candidates. First out is Aurelia who takes the challenge of her Bronze assessment at the end of March. Following this, she and five others undertake the Silver practice expedition at Seething on 28th to 30th April. Joining them at Seething are the seven Bronze candidates on

their first expedition. School minibus transport to and from Seething is provided.

Should the candidates pass the practice, their assessment will be held at Theberton Fri 30th Jun until Sun 2 July for Bronze and until Monday 3rd July for the Silver group.

It is requested that personal kit be organised as soon as possible. This especially includes robust socks and stout hiking boots that have been 'broken in'. Good quality camping equipment is available for use free of charge.

I am very proud of our candidates and wish them every success in their expeditions. *Mrs Kathy Laban*

**Mrs Calvert and Miss Wookey have now renewed their First Aid on a three day course** and are fully tested to oversee all the other staff who have basic First Aid.

**For the Inset Day staff thought about Mental Health and Well Being of pupils and staff.** This has become a topic that has to be seriously reflected on in schools today. We hope that we do all we can to prevent too much pressure on children or adults. In order to understand and protect children we need to be aware of anxieties, deaths, marriage breakups etc. as these can adversely affect people of any age. Please share with us so that we can be supportive.

### **Parents Group meeting held on Tuesday 10th January 2017**

Sr Francis provided a summary of the activity that have been going on behind the scenes to support and progress Sacred Heart's application to become a Free School. There has been a fact finding visit to Kidderminster Holy Trinity School which transferred from a private Catholic school to a Free School in 2013. This was a very helpful visit with plenty of best practice ideas and recommendations were shared.

External support and assistance has been sought and the school is continuing to establish a working relationship with the New Schools Network. The Catholic diocese has employed the services of an external consultant who has significant experience of the Free Schools application process. He is currently reviewing Sacred Heart's application - he will be providing feedback and guidance to help our cause.

Elizabeth Truss MP for South West Norfolk (Secretary of State for Justice) and Dame Rachel de Souza (of the Inspiration Trust) have also played a part in supporting our application and further involvement from them is currently being sought. The next application submission date is 31st March 2017 and there is still plenty of work to be done to ensure we meet this deadline. In order to help with this and in response to the recommendations made

by the Holy Trinity school a parent group has now been formed to work alongside the school to provide additional resource and experience to compliment the current activity that's underway.

A meeting was held on 10th January 2017 to discuss and formalise this - a number of Marketing, PR and Fund Raising ideas came out of this session - with plenty of positive and enthusiastic support from the parents.

Two key priorities that were highlighted were, firstly, the need to expand our fundraising activities and look at ways of encouraging significantly more donations from the wider community.

The second is to gather evidence from the wider community to demonstrate that there is a genuine need for a Free School in Swaffham. In order to achieve this we need to collate 400 names and addresses of parents who wish to register their interest in sending their child/ren to the school once it has transitioned to its new Free School status. This is not a formal commitment agreeing to send children to the school but just an indication that they could possibly be interested in doing so.

A further meeting has been arranged for 24th January 2017 with the aim of formalising a clear plan of action with key priorities agreed and time frames set - if you would like to be part of this and feel you could commit some time to support this crucial initiative to help transform our school then please come and join us on the 24th - thank you very much. *Krissie Goldsmith*

On behalf of the Sacred Heart Parent Group

### **I'm raising donations for Sacred Heart School every time I shop online through [easyfundraising.org.uk](http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk)**

and wondered if you'd fancy joining me in a spot of feel good shopping? It's so simple to get going all you have to do is:

1. Go to <http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/sacred-heart-school->
2. Sign up for free
3. Get shopping and start raising

No catches, no hidden charges and Sacred Heart School will be really grateful for your donations. It would be fantastic if you could join me and really help make a difference! *Liselle Dorling*

**The Uniform Shop** would welcome any good quality uniform. Please send in any uniform that has been outgrown, clearly named, to sell on.

**Badges with the school emblem are available to purchase from the office for £2.50.**

**Stamp Appeal** – Sr Emilia would like to ask that any stamps that you received on Christmas envelopes be sent in for her charity collection. Thank you.

Please send in any unwanted Christmas cards for the Art Department to use. Thank you.

**On Sunday 22nd January 2017 at 3pm at the Swaffham Community Centre. 'George and the Dragon' will be performed by Garlic Theatre puppet show.**

Come with us to England in the Middle Ages, add a fiery dragon with an appetite for monks, knights, sheep and princesses, then a sprinkling of a simple country lad called George. Now that sounds like a recipe for fun!

We are over the moon to welcome back the award winning Garlic Theatre after their sold out show in Swaffham last year. A wonderful afternoon of puppet magic awaits. Suitable for all children & adults with a good sense of adventure and fun.

Refreshments available. Enquiries: 01366 328648  
Tickets £9 members, £12 non-members, Children free (max 2 per paying adult).

**Kumon Maths and English Study Centres are offering a two week free trial** between 1st and 28<sup>th</sup> February. If you are interested and would like more information please contact Sarah Burke on 01553 841557. Sarah previously taught Maths at the school.

**Nar Valley Ornithological Society (NarVOS)**

Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> January 2017, 7.30pm in the Barn Theatre.

Please come along to this illustrated talk by Stephen McAvoy, entitled: BirdTrack

Stephen McAvoy works on BirdTrack for the BTO (British Trust for Ornithology). BirdTrack is an exciting project that looks at distribution of birds across Britain. Stephen will talk about the scheme to which anyone with an interest in birds can contribute. You can use it for your own records and for supporting conservation. Please come along and find out more. Visitors most welcome. Admission £2 on the night if you are not a NarVOS member.

For more information about this meeting or NarVOS call Ian Black on 01760 724092.

**IMPORTANT NOTICE:** We encourage all visitors, parents, pupils and staff to be extra vigilant when walking on school premises. We are fortunate to have mature trees on our grounds but the fallen leaves and damp conditions will make the surfaces slippery at this time of year. Particular care must be taken on the ramp in the field. We are doing our best to keep it safe.

**2016 – 2017 Term dates:**

Spring Term:

8.30am Thurs 5<sup>th</sup> Jan 17 – 3.45pm 10<sup>th</sup> Feb 17

8.30am Mon 20<sup>th</sup> Feb – 3.45pm Fri 31<sup>st</sup> March

Summer Term:

8.30am Mon 24<sup>th</sup> April – 3.45pm Fri 26<sup>th</sup> May

8.30am Mon 5<sup>th</sup> June – 3.45pm Wed 12<sup>th</sup> July

Staff inset days: 13<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup> July

**2017 – 18 Term dates:**

Autumn Term:

8.30am Wed 6<sup>th</sup> Sept 17 – 3.45pm Wed 18<sup>th</sup> Oct 17

8.30am Mon 30<sup>th</sup> Oct 17 – 3.45pm Thurs 14<sup>th</sup> Dec 17

Spring Term:

8.30am Thurs 4<sup>th</sup> Jan 18 – 3.45pm Fri 9<sup>th</sup> Feb 18

8.30am Mon 19<sup>th</sup> Feb – 3.45pm Fri 23<sup>rd</sup> March 18

Summer Term:

8.30am Tues 17<sup>th</sup> April 18 – 3.45pm Fri 25<sup>th</sup> May 18

8.30am Mon 4<sup>th</sup> June 18 – 3.45pm Thur 12<sup>th</sup> July 18

Staff inset days: 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> Sept 2017, 15<sup>th</sup> Dec 2017, 16<sup>th</sup> April 2018, 13<sup>th</sup> July 2018

**Sr Francis and staff**