

St. Winefride's Newsletter

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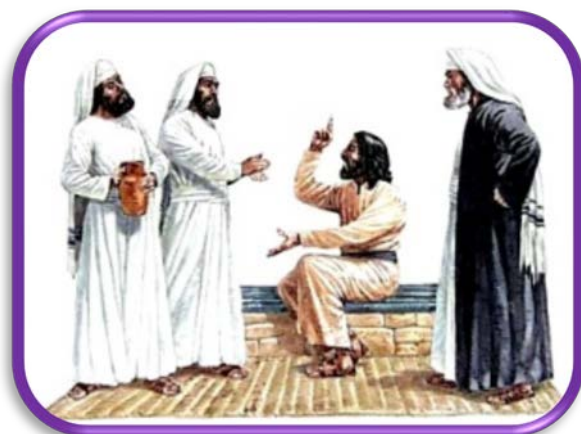
Headteacher: Mr Paul Underwood

Autumn No. 1

4th September 2015

Welcome Back!

Quick as a flash the summer holidays are over and we are back at school! This week's Gospel told the story of how Jesus confronted the Pharisees who condemned him for not following tradition. Jesus pointed out that it is not what goes into a person that defines them but rather what comes out from their heart. At St. Winefride's we believe that all our children, parents/carers and staff are truly good people and it is our pleasure to welcome you all back to St. Winefride's for the new term.

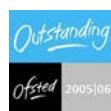


New Playground



We are sure you will have noticed that the playground has had a major overhaul during the summer! We now have a running track, a cricket pitch, a calm area, lots of new (deep) artificial grass areas and crucially no numbers on the floor! At home time Class 1 and 2 will now be dismissed from the Nursery playground and the teachers will line the other children, starting with Class 3 furthest from the gate and continuing in order until Class 11 will be lined up closest to the Blue Canopy. It may take a short while to get the hang of it but we are sure it will soon be running smoothly. As you will be able to see, the surface of the playground

consists of a rubber compound, which reduces the chances of injury to the children if they should fall over. However this surface is not compatible with studded footwear, i.e. football boots, etc. Therefore, in line with our uniform policy, children will not be allowed to wear studded footwear in the playground, this includes the Astrozone, which has suffered damage due to football boots with studs and blades being worn while playing in it.



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Official Opening of the Playground

We will be having an official opening of the playground next Friday 11th September, where the children will take part in an opening ceremony based on the Rugby World Cup, which is taking place during September and October. This will be the first assembly of the year and parents will be more than welcome to attend the ceremony which, of course will be held in the new playground. It will start at 9:45am, just after the Coffee Morning finishes.



Coffee Morning

Miss Khanom will be hosting the first Coffee Morning of the new term next Friday 11th September, it will start when the children arrive at school and continue until the playground opening ceremony is due to start. There will also be details provided about this year's MacMillan's Coffee Morning.



New Members of Staff

We are delighted to announce that you may well be seeing a couple of new faces about the school this year, Mrs Agyemang in Reception, while Miss Bradley will be working alongside Mrs Herron in Class 9.

Before and After School Clubs

The children will be receiving information about the available Before and After School activities during next week. We will endeavour to make the clubs accessible to all children and therefore we may have to limit the number of clubs each child is able to attend, dependent on who would like to take part in each activity. Once the permission letters are handed out they need to be returned as quickly as possible. Please do not assume that your child is in a particular club until you have received the confirmation slip from the school, which will detail which club and the time it starts and finishes.

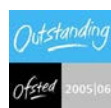
ECaM Lessons

Every Child a Musician Lessons are continuing again this year for our Year 5 & 6 children. We have not yet been given a start date from the organisers and will therefore inform you as soon as we hear from them. On the plus side the instruments for children about to begin their lessons are due to arrive early next week so be prepared to carry home your guitar, flute or violin!



Mr McAteer's 10k Run

We are delighted to let you know that not only did Mr McAteer complete the Great Newham Run over the summer holiday, as well as Mr Porrit who also took part, he also beat his personal best time for the distance by recording a highly creditable 42:55 minutes! This put him well within the top 400 competitors out of a total of more than 17,000 runners! If you sponsored Mr McAteer or Mr Porrit, please endeavour to hand over the donation as soon as possible. Mr Savin has been inspired by these efforts and has entered a 5k run in Portsmouth at half term.



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Lost Property



The lost property trolley is located in the new cloakroom area and is accessible via the playground. If your child has misplaced an item of clothing etc. please look in the lost property trolley first, before asking at the main office. Items within the lost property trolley will be kept until the end of each half term, when they will be put out on tables in the playground for parents/carers to look through, once each half term has finished any unclaimed items will be recycled.

Transition to Secondary School

We know it seems uncommonly early to be thinking about such things, but we will be holding a meeting to give advice on how to apply for your child's place at secondary school in the next couple of weeks, the time will depend on finding a suitable evening, taking into account the Year 6 trip to Cardfields.

Transition from Nursery to Reception

We would like to remind the parent/carers of our Nursery children that gaining admission to the Nursery does not guarantee your child a place in a reception class next year. While it is true that the majority of children who attend the Nursery do indeed go on to attend the main school, every application the school receives is judged on a specific set of criteria and we are not allowed to give preference to children who have attended the Nursery.

Cardfields

Would any Year 6 parent/carer who need to pay the final amounts for the residential trip please call in at the main office as soon as possible. It may still be possible to fit in a few more children if you or your child has had a late change of heart about attending the trip, once again please call into the office for details.

Contact Details

You will soon be receiving a form from the School Office, requesting your contact details. While it is rarely necessary to contact you during school time, it is vitally important that these details are up to date. Last year the office staff found that the contact numbers given were not available on more than one occasion. Please ensure that the numbers you provide are both accurate and that the owner of the number is able to answer the 'phone during school time, i.e. if the person detailed is not allowed to answer personal calls during work time, then it is not really sensible to use that person as an emergency contact.



Forthcoming Assemblies

Friday 11th Sep – School Playground opening Ceremony, all children taking part

Friday 18th Sep – Class 5

Friday 9th Oct – Class 11

Friday 23rd Oct – Black History Assembly

Friday 14th Nov – Class 4

Friday 28th Nov – Class 7

Friday 11th Dec – Classes 1 & 2

Friday 25th Sep – Class 9

Friday 16th Oct – Class 3

Friday 7th Nov – Class 10

Friday 21st Nov – Class 8

Friday 4th Dec – Class 6

Friday 18th Dec – Governors Assembly



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Term Dates for the Academic Year 2015/2016

Autumn Term – 3rd September 2015 to 18th December 2015.

Half Term break Monday 26th October 2015 to Friday 30th October 2015.

INSET day Friday 2nd October 2015 – School closed to children, staff training day.

Christmas Holiday Starts at 1:30pm Friday 18th December 2015.

Children return to school on Monday 4th January 2016 at 8:55am.

Spring Term – 4th January 2016 to Thursday 24th March 2016.

Half Term break Monday 15th February 2016 to Friday 19th February 2016.

Easter Holiday starts at 1:30pm Thursday 24th March 2016.

Children return to school on Thursday 7th April at 8:55am.

Summer Term – 7th April 2016 to Friday 15th July 2016.

Half Term break Monday 30th May 2016 to Friday 3rd June 2016.

INSET day Friday 27th May 2016 – School closed to children, staff training day.

Summer Holiday starts at 1:30pm Friday 15th July 2016.

Uniform List

Attached to this newsletter is the St. Winefride's Uniform List as agreed by the Governors. Please take the time to read it and ensure that your children are sent to school wearing the correct uniform. Once again please note that no studded footwear is allowed to be worn at school.

This Week's Prayer

Every week we put a prayer in the newsletter, related to the week's Gospel. Please say the prayer with your children.

Dear Father,

Help us to remember that we are in this place to worship you and that true worship comes from the heart. Amen.

God bless you,

Mr Underwood.

