

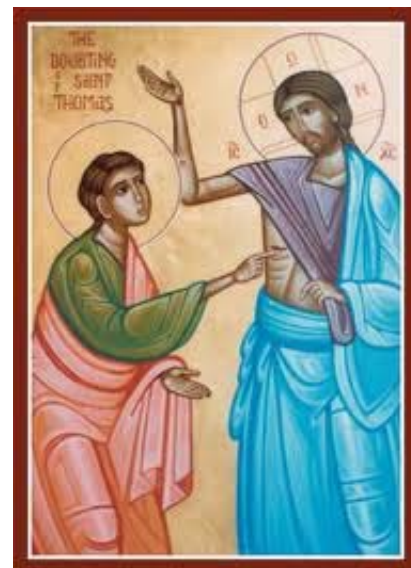


Summer No. 1
28th April 2017

Jesus appears to Thomas

This week's Gospel tells us how Jesus, once again, had to prove himself to others. This time one of His disciples, Thomas, would only believe that He had come back to life if he could physically touch the wounds that had been inflicted upon Him. As Jesus said only those who believe without seeing will be truly happy and sometimes the children at St Winefride's have to accept that some rules need to be followed even if, to them, they make no sense to them! "Why can't we eat snacks in the building?", "What's the point of walking on the left?"

At the end of the day the rules are there to make everyone safe and so that's why they are there.



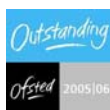
Commonwealth Youth Orchestra



The children from the choir recently performed at Cadogan Hall for a St George's Day concert. Included in the performance was a specially written song paying tribute to Jack Cornwell a young boy from Manor Park, who died in the Battle of Jutland in the First

World War. Jack won the Victoria Cross, the highest award for gallantry, for his bravery and actions so it was fitting that children from Manor Park sang the tribute to him. As always the children behaved in an exemplary manner and we are very proud of them all.

Please keep sending in the SAINSBURY'S Active Kids Vouchers! Don't be afraid to ask for them when you shop as they will often forget to offer them to you!



Monsignor George Stokes

It is with great sadness that we relate to you the passing of Monsignor George Stokes, until very recently the Director of Education for the Diocese of Brentwood. Following is a message from Bishop Alan Williams :

You will be very sorry to hear that Mgr George Stokes died this morning (27th April) at Nazareth House following his recent illness.

Fr George was born in Cape Town in 1941 and came to England as a child where his family settled in Grays. He was ordained to the Anglican ministry in 1965 and served in Newcastle-upon-Tyne. He was received into the Catholic Church in 1969 and studied for the Priesthood from at St Edmund's College, Ware from 1970-1972 and at the Venerable English College, Rome from 1972-1976. He was ordained by Bishop Casey at the VEC in Rome on 10th April 1976.

He served as Assistant Priest, Leigh-on-Sea from 1977-1981; served the BRES Team from 1981-2016; Chaplain to the Bernadine Nuns, Westcliff-on-Sea from 1981-1983; Chaplain to Ursuline Convent, Brentwood from 1983-1986; Administrator for Brentwood Cathedral 1986-1991; Diocesan Director of Education 1991-2016. He resided at Our Lady Immaculate 1991-2008 and Grays 2008-2016 when he moved to Nazareth House. He was appointed Domestic Prelate (Monsignor) in 2005.

Mgr George Stokes served the Diocese with great generosity and dedication. He was well respected by all who knew him and his expertise, especially in the area of education, was greatly valued.

Details of his funeral will be sent when known.

Yours in Christ & Mary,

+Alan Williams, sm

Great Cafod Balloon Race



CAFOD
Just one world

The tags from the balloons are starting to flood back and we have made a display in the ground floor corridor to show how far they balloons have travelled! Many of the balloons appear to be landing around the

Caterham Area of Surrey which is about 30 – 35 km away. However one tag has come back all the way from France! Mr Underwood is particularly excited about this as he always says that maybe a balloon will get to France or Europe and they never seem to quite make it but this year it has come true. Further updates will follow as the balloon tags arrive. A special mention must go to Mr and Mrs Reid, who returned a tag along with a cheque for £5.00 to be donated to Cafod which was both surprising and very welcome.



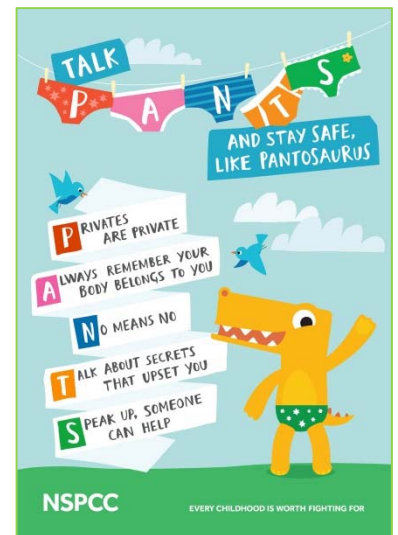
Safeguarding Update

As you may know the school recently underwent a Safeguarding Audit, and part of the requirements were that we continue to update our parents on a regular basis about the steps we are taking to keep the children safe. This term we will be discussing the NSPCC's PANTS rules. These are designed to teach pupils how to stay safe from sexual abuse, without giving explicit information or telling scary stories or even using the term "sexual abuse". Children will learn about the 'PANTS' acrostic, which stands for:

- Privates are private.
- Always remember your body belongs to you.
- No means no
- Talk about secrets that upset you
- Speak up, someone can help.

The sessions will be fully age-appropriate.

More information about talking PANTS, including a short film and a parent guide can be found at nspcc.org.uk/pants

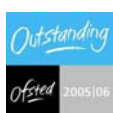


We are also taking this opportunity to warn you about an insidious 'game' that has been in the national news this week. The 'game' requires children to take part in ever more dangerous trials and has resulted in the deaths of over 100 children across Europe. If you notice children hiding injuries or being reluctant to tell you what they are doing online do not take no for an answer and find out what they are up to. Remember always follow the golden rule and never let children be online in a different room to yourself!

Marathon Kids and Running in General



As you know we like a bit of running at St Winefride's, in fact there is a rumour going around that the staff might be running the Great Newham Run again this year, after all it's only 10 kilometres or 10 000 metres! Added to that we are very proud to announce that Mr McAteer has now completed 100 parkruns and can expect his special black 100 T-shirt soon. Mr Savin is up to 62 parkruns and Mr Underwood has rocketed up to 10! There will soon be a chance for all the children at St Winefride's to run their own marathon as we have signed up to Marathon Kids a wonderful scheme aimed at getting children to run more and be generally fitter and more active. More details will be provided as soon as the scheme is up and running!



Pupil Premium & Free School Meals

Due to funding concerns highlighted previously, it is vital that all parents log on to the following website <https://pps.lgfl.org.uk> and see if they qualify for Pupil Premium this year. For every child that is registered on this website the school receives extra funding that may only be spent on children on this register. It is also used to register for Free School Meals. Although School Meals are currently free ***this is only guaranteed until the end of this school year.*** So PLEASE go to the above website and check if you are eligible.

Dates for your Diary

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| Friday 5/5/17 Class 3 Assembly + Cafod | Friday 12/5/17 Reception Assembly | Friday 19/5/17 Class 9 Assembly |
| Thursday 25/5/17 Whole School Mass Ascension Day | Thursday 25/5/17 Children break up for half term holiday | Friday 26/5/17 INSET DAY no children in school |

Half Term – Friday 26/5/17 to Monday 5/6/17

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| Monday 5/6/17 children back to school | Thursday 8/6/17 School Elections | Friday 9/6/17 Class 4 Assembly |
| w/c 12/6/17 Y6 Cycle Training | Friday 16/6/17 Class 8 Assembly | Friday 23/6/17 Class 7 Assembly |
| Thursday 29/6/17 Whole School Mass Ss Peter and Paul | Friday 30/6/17 Class 6 Assembly | Friday 30/6/17 School Fete |
| w/c 3/7/17 International Week | Friday 7/7/17 International Week Assembly | w/c 10/7/17 Sports Week |
| Monday 10/7/17 Race for Life | Friday 14/7/17 Class 5 Assembly | Monday 17/7/17 Leavers Performance |
| Tuesday 18/7/17 Governors Assembly | Tuesday 1:30pm Start of Summer Holiday | |

Summer Fete

The Annual Summer fete will be held on Friday 30th June 2017. If you are able to help or have any ideas or suggestions please pop along to the coffee morning next week, where we will be having a chat about it.

Before and After School Clubs

There will not be any Before School Sports Clubs until after year 6 SATs. They will begin again on Monday 15th May 2017. Letters will be given out during the next two weeks for those children who would like to attend one of the Before School Clubs.

After School Clubs are up and running as usual. All those children in the Dance Club should resume their lessons on the next Monday after the Bank Holiday.

This Week's Prayer

Please join with your children in saying this prayer;

Dear Jesus, help us to accept by faith that you have risen from the grave and that you are alive. Help us to believe, because it is true, whether we believe it or not. Amen.

God Bless You, Mr Underwood ⁵⁰

