



SCHOOL UPDATES

LENT 2017:

Next week, pupils will be taking part in a 40 minute sponsored activity. The classes will be thinking creatively about where money is going – St Cuthbert's Care and the Home for Hope (a project for homeless 'Streetboys' run by the Little Sisters of St Francis, Kenya) – and completing a 40 minute activity inspired by this; the 40 minutes being a symbolic representation of the 40 days of Lent. Please help your child to raise funds as widely as you can, and ensure all sponsor money is returned to school before the end of term.

PARENTS' EVENING:

Thank you for coming along to our Spring Term Parents' Evenings – which were an overwhelmingly positive experience. You can have your say about the curriculum feedback given on the night by completing a very short parent voice survey at <https://tinyurl.com/jzvq6ud> or by following this QR Code:



COMIC RELIEF:

We will be raising money for Comic Relief on Friday 24th March by having an own-clothes day in school – recommended donation of £1 per family. We will also be getting in to the spirit of the day by hosting a school-wide joke competition. Pupils who would like to take part will need to prepare their best (appropriate!) joke for Monday. Heats will take place in class, with the winning jokes being posted via our Twitter feed, for parents and other onlookers to vote one! Pupils will also vote via the school ipads in class. We will announce the winning joke in our celebration assembly on Friday!

HEADLICE:

We have been informed by a few parents of pupils in KS2 of an outbreak of head lice. This is not an uncommon occurrence in schools, and should not cause alarm. Though not particularly pleasant, children suffering from head lice (nits, nymphs or larvae) can be easily treated with lotions/sprays and creams. Useful guidance can be found on the NHS website (<http://www.nhs.uk/Conditions/Head-lice/Pages/Introduction.aspx>). We would expect children suffering from the symptoms of head lice to be treated before coming in to school – but not to be absent from school.

REMINDERS

MOTHER'S DAY SALE:

We are still on the lookout for some generous gifts for our upcoming Mother's Day Sale (Tuesday 21st March). If you have any new/unused gifts that you would be willing to donate, please bring them to school by Monday 20th March.

On the day, pupils will be invited to buy **one gift** for their mother (or indeed another family member). Prices will be 50p, £1 or £3 for a gift, and pupils are encouraged to bring in the exact change needed for their chosen gift.

LENT 2017 – “We are God’s Microphone”:

This week, as part of our Lenten almsgiving, we have been collecting canned/packet produce which will be donated to the Worswick Welcome – a project to support the homeless and needy of Newcastle and Gateshead, run from St Andrew’s RC Church, Worswick Street, Newcastle. This year, we are asking pupils from the following classes to bring a can/packet of the following items to school by **Friday 17th March**. The school’s ‘Mini-Vinnies’ will be delivering our donation in the coming weeks.

Reception: Beans/Peas
Year 1: Coffee
Year 2: Tea
Year 3: Sugar
Year 4: Biscuits (wrapped e.g. Twix/Kit-Kat/Penguin)
Year 5: Tinned Ham
Year 6: Tinned Tuna

UPCOMING EVENTS

C2C RIDE:

A reminder that there will be an after-school ride on Monday 20th March, from 3:15-5pm.

ADULT CHOIR:

All adults welcome, the next rehearsals are:
29th March.

FRIENDS OF ST MARY’S:

The next meeting for the Friends of St Mary’s will be Thursday 4th May, 9am at school. All welcome!

THE WEEK AHEAD W/C : 20/03/17

MONDAY - C2C Ride 3:15-5pm

TUESDAY - Mother’s Day sale

WEDNESDAY - Y2 Visit to Grace Darling Museum (all day – packed lunch needed)
Y3/Y4 Multi-skills at St Thomas More (pupils involved will receive a separate letter with all the details)
NO CHILDREN’S CHOIR

THURSDAY - Y1 Forest School (am)
Y2 Forest School (pm)
Y5 Centre for Life Visit (all day – packed lunch needed)
Y4 Rugby League competition at Gateshead Stadium (pupils involved will receive a separate letter with all the details)
School Football Blaydon and District League at Fellside (pupils involved will receive a separate letter with all the details)

FRIDAY - Gateshead FC Football Session – Lunchtime (school football team; full kit required) 2 of 2