

SJF NEWS

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Friday 23rd October 2020 (Issue 8 - 2020/21)



Citizen of the Week

This week our award goes to **Olivia (Y5)** who understands that it is important to stand up for others when they are being hurt, in line with our latest 'Statement to Live By'. In so many ways Olivia is such a positive role-model to others. Her quiet and unfussy approach, coupled with her kind and generous nature, means that she is well liked and respected by everyone. Olivia has a strong sense of justice and of what is right and wrong and she understands the importance of speaking up for herself and others when needed. Congratulations Olivia!

Term 1 Smiley Scores



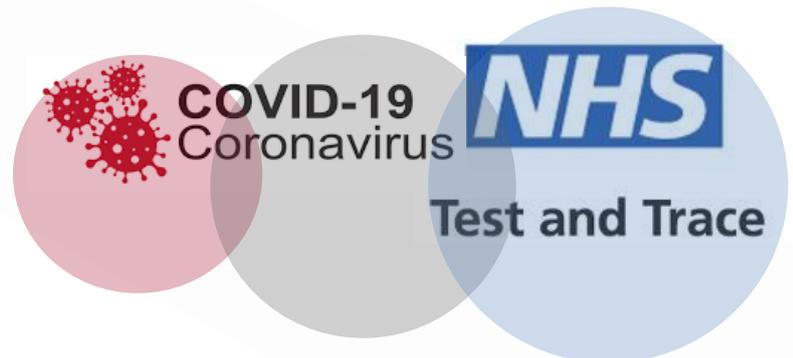
Term 1 Champions

Congratulations to the young people of St George's House who will receive 'Golden Time' at the beginning of next term for earning the most SJF smileys in Term1!

COVID-19 Update

Since the last newsletter Sheffield has been moved to Tier 3. Below is information taken directly from the gov.uk website along with useful links.

Following close discussions with local leaders, South Yorkshire will move from local COVID alert level high to very high from Saturday 24 October.



This means that new measures will come into place including the following:

- People must not socialise with anybody they do not live with, or have formed a support bubble with, in any indoor setting or in any private garden or at most outdoor hospitality venues and ticketed events.
- People must not socialise in a group of more than 6 in an outdoor public space such as a park or beach, the countryside, a public garden or a sports venue.
- All pubs and bars must close, unless they are serving substantial meals.
- People should avoid travelling outside the very high alert level or entering a very high alert level area, other than for work, education or for caring responsibilities or to travel through as part of a longer journey.
- Residents should avoid staying overnight in another part of the UK, and others should avoid staying overnight in the very high alert area.

In addition, it was also agreed that from Saturday 24th October additional closures will include:

- betting shops
- adult gaming centres
- casinos
- soft play centres



The rate of COVID-19 infections is rising rapidly across the UK.

The case rate in England stood at 169 people per 100,000 from 9th October to 15th October, up from 100 people per 100,000 for the week 25th September to 1st October. Cases are not evenly spread, with infection rates rising more rapidly in some areas than others.

In South Yorkshire rates are among the highest in the country and continuing to rise rapidly with case rates ranging from 285 people per 100,000 in Doncaster up to 402 people per 100,000 in Sheffield.

Although originally focused on the younger population, we are seeing rises in the older population now as well. In order to reduce these numbers and ensure that the NHS isn't overwhelmed and has capacity to treat other conditions we need to act now.

To support the local authority during this period, the government will be providing a financial support package. In addition to the £ 1 billion of funding the Prime Minister set out on Monday 12 October. This includes additional funding of £11.2 million for local enforcement and contact tracing activity.

Additional financial support will also be provided for local companies – recognising the additional strain these measures will place on businesses.

Local COVID alert level very high will take effect across all parts of South Yorkshire. It will cover:

- Barnsley
- Doncaster
- Rotherham
- Sheffield

Matt Hancock MP, the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care Secretary said:

I'm very grateful to the local leadership in South Yorkshire who have worked together closely, cross party, on the need for additional measures to protect lives and livelihoods. A failure to act now would only lead to tougher and longer lasting restrictions later.

I understand the sacrifice people in South Yorkshire have already made and the enormous impact further measures will have on people's lives. That is why we are also providing support to businesses and contact tracing activity across South Yorkshire.

Now is the time for us all to work together to get this virus under control.



Robert Jenrick MP, the Secretary of State for Local Government said:

I would like to thank the Mayor of the Sheffield City Region Dan Jarvis and the leaders of the local councils of South Yorkshire for the constructive discussions we have had about how to get the virus under control in the region.

Given rates are amongst the highest in the country I am pleased that we were able to reach an agreement that ensures swift action is taken in accordance with the public health advice. I fully recognise the huge impact this will have on communities in the area and the sacrifices people will be making.

That's why we have agreed an extensive package of support for local people, businesses and councils.

The restrictions we have agreed together will only be in place for as long as they are absolutely necessary. They will be reviewed jointly in 28 days' time.

The government is totally committed to working with local leaders as we tackle this challenge, for the benefit of all the people of South Yorkshire.



Useful links:

- **The full Government announcement for South Yorkshire:**
<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/local-covid-alert-level-update-for-south-yorkshire>
- **Public Health Sheffield:**
<https://www.sheffield.gov.uk/utilities/coronavirus-covid-19/public-health-guidance>
- **NHS Health advice:**
<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>
- **General Government advice:**
<https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>

Home Learning Reminder

Children who have COVID symptoms and are unwell do not have to engage with home learning. Children who are isolating and are well **will** be expected to complete the home learning opportunities that we provide.

Initially children will receive an 'Isolation Pack' and then a plan detailing tasks, activities and links to online lessons and activities provided by the government and others that aligns with what is being taught in school.

Our SJF home learning activities will be online and delivered through either Microsoft Teams (guides available on the home page of our SJF website or by clicking [here](#)) or via our own 'SJF Home Learning Portal' which is accessible [here](#). A reminder that the password is **2020STJOHN**. Please remember to notify us if you have any difficulties accessing home learning activities because of Wi-Fi connectivity issues and/or lack of hardware.

- ✓ Our SJF Remote Learning Policy is available on the home page of our school website or by clicking [here](#)
- ✓ Department for Education (DfE) information about home learning is available by clicking [here](#).

Forthcoming Events

Click [here](#) to link to our online calendar. Below is a summary of forthcoming events.

26-10-20	• School Holiday
27-10-20	• School Holiday
28-10-20	• School Holiday
29-10-20	• School Holiday
30-10-20	• School Holiday
02-11-20	• Be Safe Be Happy Week 2020 (Day 1) • FS2 PE uniform all day
03-11-20	• Be Safe Be Happy Week 2020 (Day 2) • Y1 + Y2 PE uniform all day
04-11-20	• Be Safe Be Happy Week 2020 (Day 3) • Y3 + Y4 PE uniform all day • Y4 class Liturgy (recording)
05-11-20	• Be Safe Be Happy Week 2020 (Day 4) • Y5 + Y6 PE uniform all day • Y4 class liturgy available to watch on the website by clicking here • Reminder to order school lunches for the following week (or weeks)
06-11-20	• Be Safe Be Happy Week 2020 (Day 5) • Celebration Assembly (photos of award winners available by clicking here) • Flu vaccines for pupils and staff



Final Week Attendance		
1 st	Y2	99.0%
2 nd	Y5	97.2%
3 rd	Y6	96.0%
4 th	Y3	95.5%
5 th	Y4	94.7%
6 th	FS2	94.0%
7 th	Y1	93.1%
Average Attendance = 98.1% (Target = 98%)		



Get Set, GO!		
1 st	Y6	93%
2 nd	Y5	91%
3 rd	Y2	90%
4 th	FS2	88%
5 th	Y4	83%
6 th	Y3	78%
7 th	Y1	73%
Average = 85%		

Term 1 Attendance		
1 st	Y2	99.2%
2 nd	Y1	98.6%
3 rd	Y3	98.5%
4 th	Y6	98.4%
5 th	Y5	97.6%
6 th	FS2	97.3%
7 th	Y4	96.9%
Average Attendance = 98.1% (Target = 98%)		

2020-2021 Attendance to Date		
1 st	Y2	99.2%
2 nd	Y1	98.6%
3 rd	Y3	98.5%
4 th	Y6	98.4%
5 th	Y5	97.6%
6 th	FS2	97.3%
7 th	Y4	96.9%
Average Attendance = 98.1% (Target = 98%)		



Our Weekly SJF Sixty Second Challenge

Well done to the following students who took part in a tough challenge this week in which they each had to do as many burpees as possible in 60 seconds! Well done anyone else who had a go! Special congratulations to:



Look out for our new 'Catch and Clap' challenge which you can see demonstrated ably by one of our fantastic Sports Majors by clicking [here](#). Why not practise over the holiday?

Our Catholic Life

Parish News

Information about parish and Diocesan life including the times of Masses, Confession and sacramental preparation is available via this link to the parish website: <http://www.ourladyoflourdessheffield.org.uk/>.

November Prayer

During November we remember all those who have died and pray for the repose of their souls. We also remember the dead of war both service personnel and civilians. Our prayer is:

**Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord
And let perpetual light shine upon them,
May they rest in peace. Amen.**



Gathering Song (spoken at this time)

Peace, perfect peace -	Thus says the Lord,
Is the gift of Christ our Lord	Will the world know my friend!
Peace, perfect peace -	Peace, perfect peace -
Is the gift of Christ our Lord...	Is the gift of Christ our Lord.



Weekly Liturgy of the Word

There was no Liturgy of the Word this week because we had our Harvest Festival Mass. Our next Liturgy of the Word will be led by the children of **Y4**. It will be filmed on **Wednesday 4th November 2020** and the recording uploaded to the website for viewing the following day. Thank you.

Harvest Festival Mass 2020

I would like to thank Mr MacInnes and Mrs Barrett for preparing the liturgy for our annual Harvest Mass of thanksgiving and I would like to thank the special young people of **Y5** for leading today's liturgy! Everyone fulfilled their roles with such purpose and dignity! We are all very proud of you! I would like to thank the parish COVID wardens for helping us all to be safe and finally I like to offer our sincere thanks to Fr Bede for celebrating a very special Mass, which was necessarily different in order to be COVID secure.

The children watched the Mass on Friday and a recording is also available for friends and family of our Y5 children (and anyone else who wants to) by clicking [here](#) or by going to the Films section of our website (accessible from a tab on our homepage).



Lastly I would like to thank everyone who donated food items in order to support the important work of our friends at the St Wilfrid's Centre in Sheffield as they reach out to some of our city's most vulnerable people.

Remembrance 2020

On **Wednesday 11th November 2020** a recording of our Community Service of Remembrance will be available to watch on our website as our community comes together to mark Armistice Day 2020. As with everything at the moment, our service will be adapted to ensure that it is COVID-secure. It will still be a special and fitting way for our school to mark this important day in the life of the UK.

We will also teach our children about the sacrifices made by British and Commonwealth service personnel and their families in the First World War and in every conflict since, and we will honour them. We will also reflect on the suffering of all civilians as we pray for peace in our world and an end to armed conflicts. Please watch our service when it is uploaded, and invite your relatives and friends to do the same, especially if they are a serving or former members of our armed services or merchant navy.



LEST WE FORGET

Sunday 8 November 2020

Poppy Appeal 2020

As we do every year, we will be supporting the Royal British Legion's annual poppy appeal. Paper poppies in a range of styles will be on sale to all staff and pupils for a donation to the appeal. For metal badges we ask for minimum donation of at least £1.

Poppies will go on sale from the first day back until Armistice Day, which is on Wednesday 11th November 2020. Thank you.



Term 2 Learning Value

Here is an update from Mrs Broadhead about our Term 2 learning and sports value, **honesty**.

What is honesty?

Many children think honesty means you 'don't tell a lie' – which is definitely part of being honest. However, honesty is more than just not lying.

A more complete definition of honesty shows that an honest person does not do things that are morally wrong as well.

If something you do is breaking the rules/law or if you have to hide what you are doing because you know you will get in trouble, then you are probably not being honest. So honesty is about integrity and speaking and acting truthfully.

Honesty in what you say...

Honesty is speaking the truth, it is not...

- * saying things that are not true
- * saying things you think might not be true
- * making things up in order to hide the truth

Lying is dishonest because you are saying something that isn't true.

Honesty in what you do...

Honesty is acting with integrity. Being honest means you act in a way that you know is right. Dishonesty is when you do something *you know* is wrong, morally, or when you have to hide your actions because you know they are wrong.

Honesty in yourself...

A big part of honesty is what you say and how you act toward others. However, another part of the definition of honesty is whether you treat yourself in the same way. Being honest with yourself means you really know why you are acting in a certain way; whether what you tell yourself is true; and whether you are really being true to yourself, your values and what you believe.



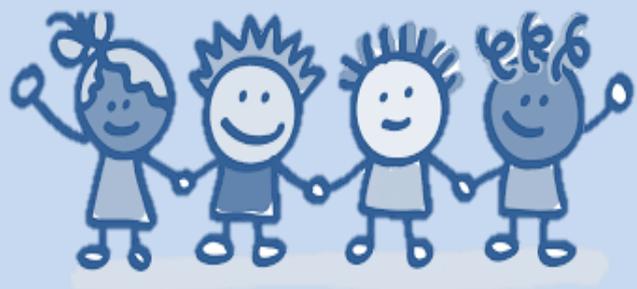
Achievements outside of School

Please send details of any of your children's achievements out of school to us via our main email address (enquiries@st-johnfisher.org) and they will be included in the newsletter.

Be Safe Be Happy Week 2020

Overview

Our annual 'Be Safe, Be Happy Week' takes place straight after the holiday, in the first week of Term 2. There will be focus on personal wellbeing and mental health as well as the usual promotion of respect, tolerance and understanding of others as a way of preventing bullying from taking root in our school. There will also be the ongoing push on internet safety as part of our goal to ensure that each and every SJF pupil feels happy, safe and loved at school, at home and online every day.



The format of this year's Be Safe Be Happy Week will be simpler because of all the restrictions and because we will be balancing curriculum time with our continuing and ongoing focus on helping pupils to catch up.

Internet Safety Workshop

We are exploring different ways to share the latest updates with you because our usual workshops will not be taking place this year. Please look out for information. Thank you.



Keeping Children Safe Online

Social media sites and apps are created so that different people can connect across the UK and the world.

This can be both a good and bad thing as it brings people together. This can be positive but can also, potentially, expose the young and vulnerable to the risk of connecting with someone who is dangerous and seeking to groom children. It is for this reason that most sites claiming to be responsible, have age restrictions.

Parents and carers who allow (or even help) their children to get around these rules and could be placing their children at risk. Today there is also an incredible amount of peer pressure on all our children to have a social media presence, with many of the safer more child-friendly sites bypassed because they are 'uncool'.

Please do not help your children to get around the rules restricting access to sites, even if they tell you that EVERYONE else they know is allowed by their parents/carers to be on the sites. Age limits are not there to ruin children's fun, they exist to protect children - and it is worth remembering they are **minimum** age limits anyway - children can and should wait if you have any doubts around their levels of maturity and safety.

None of the sites highlighted below are for primary-aged pupils. With so many ways to access the internet, e.g. using next door's Wi-Fi, free Wi-Fi in shops/restaurants and via games, it is not possible to monitor everything a child does (or is exposed to) via social media, even for the most determined and well-intentioned of parents/carers. Please use the links we will be sharing in the coming weeks in order to stay informed.

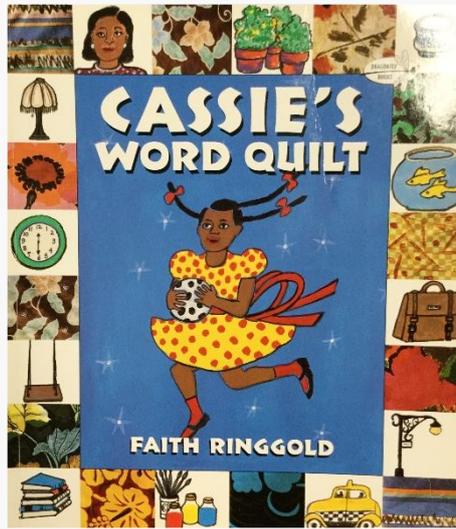
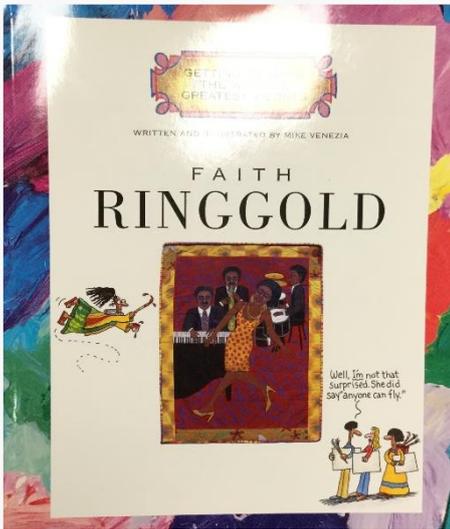
action for children

Age Restrictions for Social Media Platforms



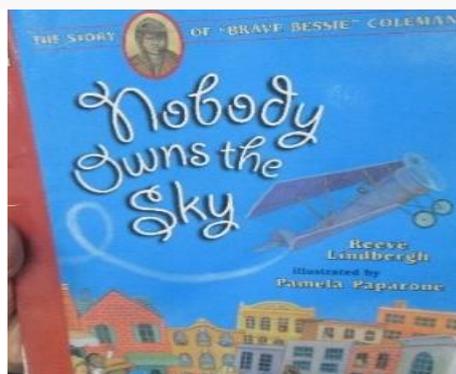
SJF Black History Month 2020

FS2 As part of Black History Month celebrations FS2 have learned about the artist **Faith Ringgold**. Faith was a teacher in New York City who grew up in the Harlem district. Her work tells her own personal story but also shares the history of other African Americans. She creates beautiful paintings and quilts that depict her life and she incorporated her artwork in to a children's book called 'Tar Beach' which was about her childhood. The children of FS2 drew pictures of their houses and we turned the work in to Ringgold-inspired paper quilt.



Y1 During Black History Month, we heard the story of Bessie Coleman who defied the odds in order to achieve her dream of becoming the first female pilot in 1922, a massive 98 years ago!

It got us thinking, and we had a good talk about our own dreams and what we would like to do when we get older and the children shared their thoughts. Their ideas ranged from being a footballer, to a dancer, a popstar, a nurse, a teacher, a mechanic and an Xbox player! Bessie Coleman inspired us all to dream big!



Y2 As part of their 'Black History Month' exploration the young people of Y2 learned all about the remarkable life of the famous nurse, **Mary Seacole**.

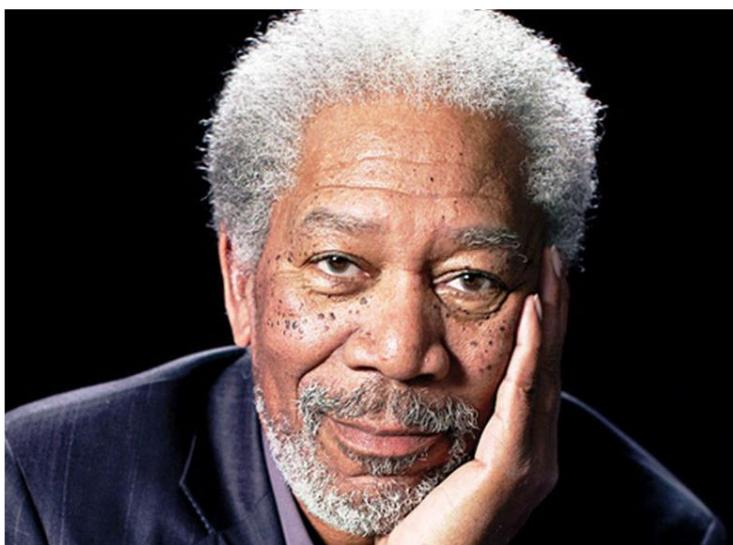
Mary was a dedicated British-Jamaican nurse who set up a field hospital known as 'The British Hotel', behind the lines, during the Crimean War which took place between 1853 and 1856.



Coming from a tradition of Jamaican and West African "doctresses", Mary Seacole displayed compassion, skills and bravery whilst nursing British soldiers during the Crimean War, through the use of herbal remedies. For her bravery and dedication she was awarded the Jamaican Order of Merit in 1991, 110 years after her death and in 2004 she was voted the greatest black Briton. The children of Y2 drew portraits of Mary Seacole and wrote their own non-chronological reports about her incredible and inspiring life.

Y3 The children of Y3 investigated the life of world famous Jamaican sprinter, Usain Bolt. They studied his life and influences as well as his many achievements. The children also learned about his home country, Jamaica. They studied the Jamaican flag and learned about its features so they could each create their own version in the shape of the island of Jamaica.

Whilst learning about Jamaica the children discovered lots of interesting facts about its many natural and human landmarks. The children really enjoyed learning about Usain's life and homeland.



Y4 During our SJF Black History Month the children of Y4 focused on the life of the world-famous Hollywood actor, Morgan Freeman.

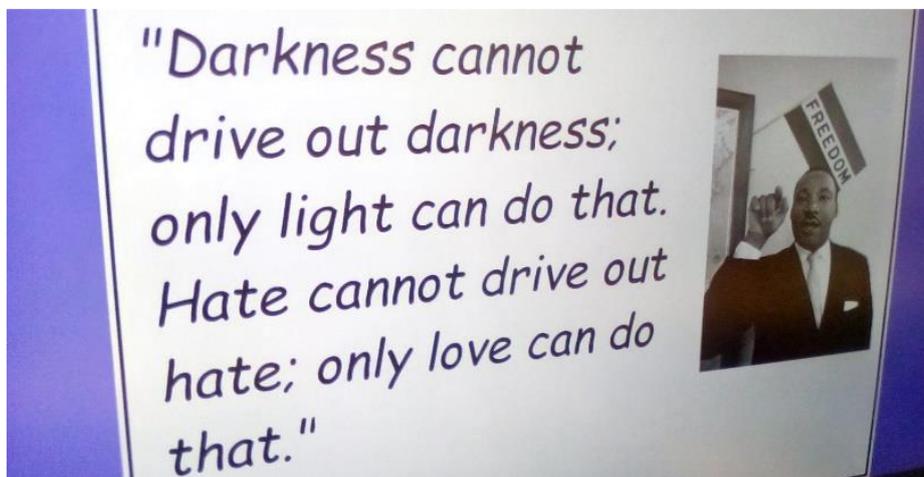
Morgan Freeman has appeared in many stage plays, films, television programmes including Robin Hood, Prince of Thieves, Batman, Bruce Almighty, The Dolphin Tale to name but a few.

His voice is even used for one of the characters in 'The Lego Movie'!

The Y4 children had great fun doing research and writing about his incredible life in the form of a biography. They also completed pencil portraits of him – everyone did a great job!



Y5 The young people of Y5 explored the inspirational life of the Civil Rights Activist, Dr Martin Luther King Jr. They considered his motivations and aims whilst considering the important events that shaped his life. They reflected on the things he said and wrote; thinking about their importance at the time as well as their continuing relevance today. Finally, the children had a go at writing diary entries from the viewpoint of Dr Martin Luther King Jr. They each tried to imagine how he might have felt on the day he shared his famous 'I have a dream' speech in August 1963. Their diary entries were so descriptive; showing a deep understanding of how this great man must have felt on that remarkable day.



Y6 Black History month is a time of remembrance. We reflected on the ways black people were treated as we explored the lives of Jesse Owens, Rosa Parks and Martin Luther King.

We learned how the US 'Jim Crow Laws' kept people segregated simply because of their skin colour, thinking specifically about Rosa Parks and Jesse Owens and how their stories played a part in the American Civil Rights Movement.



Flu Vaccine: School Programme

Here is an important reminder for all parents/carers about the national schools' flu vaccine programme.



Dear Parent/Carer,

If you would like your child to receive the nasal flu vaccine in school please follow this link to complete an online consent form:

<https://www.nhsimms.uk/FLU/information?id=140025&Type=FLU>

The vaccinations will take place at your child's school on Friday 6th November 2020. The link closes on 29/10/2020. If your child has been given the nasal flu vaccine since September 2020 please disregard this message. If you have any problems accessing the link please telephone **0333 358 3397** (Option 7).

Statement to Live By

Our statement next week will be '**I try to stand up for myself without hurting others**'.

Time to talk: We are all important, and during our special 'Be Safe – Be Happy Week' we will reflect on what that actually means. Everyone deserves to be treated with respect.

We have the right to be accepted for being just how we are and also to feel happy, safe and loved every day at school, at home and when we are online.

If someone (or something) gets in the way of these rights then we should not stand for it. We can and should stand up for ourselves and for others who being treated badly. How can we do this without hurting others?

To stand up for yourself takes strength. but to stand up for others takes courage.

- Alice Ann Jennet Lisenby

Just in case you have forgotten today:
You matter.
You are loved.
You are worthy.
You are magical.

You were given
THIS LIFE,
because you're
strong enough
to live it.

Thank You!

I would like to thank all my fantastic colleagues and our incredible trainees for all their hard work and dedication over what has been an exciting but extremely challenging first term. I would like to also thank our Governors, Fr Bede and the PTFA who have supported us in so many different ways.

A final thought...

"Darkness cannot drive out darkness, only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate, only love can do that"

Reverend Dr Martin Luther King Jnr

Best wishes,
Mr Barratt

