

18th March 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,



After [CAFOD's](#) presentation last week telling us about their Lent Walk Against Hunger campaign, we have taken up their challenge by encouraging as many children as possible to walk to school for the last two weeks of term.

Walking can be a meditative activity. In Lent, we are asked to think of others. We can reflect on the plight of others around the world, struggling on their own journeys and hardships.

CAFOD is asking two things; help them to walk the distance equivalent to the distance around the Earth and to raise funds. We are linking this campaign with another to promote active transport called the Big Walk and Wheel. If you can get walking, cycling, or scootering, we will record your journey daily towards CAFOD's target. If you can contribute financially, we will be collecting donations in class throughout the period.



March:

14th- 25th: STEM Week(s)
25th: Bling your bike day
28th- 1st: School's Holy Week
29th: Little Wandle: Parents Introduction Zoom meeting

April:

1st: Eco Super Hero Day £1

Big Walk and Wheel - 21st March to 1st April

Sustrans is a national charity promoting active travel. This is any way of moving that makes you healthier: walking, cycling, roller skating or scootering for example. Another benefit is a cleaner local environment, as well as reducing carbon emissions.

We will be running activities in school around active travel. Please try to support and encourage your child to actively travel all or part the way to school. We have a number of events for your child to join in with:

- On each day of the challenge, schools compete online to see who can get the highest percentage of their pupils walking, using a wheelchair, scooting or cycling to school. The class teacher will record the children's active travel to school each morning. The school's best five days will determine our final position in the competition.
- During the fortnight children with their class teachers will map the Good, the Bad and the Ugly parts of the children's route to school.
- Friday 25th - Bling Your Bike (or scooter). Children are encouraged to come to school on their bike, scooter or skateboard. The brightest, most colourful machine will receive an eco-prize.
- Friday 1st April – Super Hero Day. Wear an outfit to show you are a hero for the planet. Can you be a Wheeled Wonder, Congestion Conqueror, Walking Wonder or Clean Air Champion? The best themed outfit will win a prize. On this day we ask that the children suggested donation of £1 towards the Cafod appeal.



Holy Week



Holy Week and Easter is the most important time of our liturgical year. This year, we will not be in school for it but we would like to mark it in school prior to breaking up for the holidays. Over the course of the week we will have special assemblies that re-tell the Passion. The children will present the assembly to their Key Stage. There will be two assemblies on each day, led by a different year group. The aim of these assemblies is to take time every day during the week to remember and reflect on the meaning of Holy Week.

Palm Sunday	Last Supper	Penitential Service	Stations of the Cross
Reception & Year 3	Year 1 & 5	Year 4	Year 2 & 6

Every class Reception to Year 6, has been allocated a station of the cross. Each class has been asked to explore this station and what it means. Then the children have been asked to represent the station creatively. The children can represent the station in any way they wish, for example through photography, natural materials or painting. They could add words, phrases and prayers if you wish to. There is no expected way to create the station, it is open to their interpretation, which means there will be 14 different ideas displayed in 14 distinctive ways.

The art work will be displayed in designated communal areas of the school. Once installed, each class will be given a time slot, in which to walk the way of the cross, stopping and looking at each station and how the children across the school have depicted the stations.

On Friday 1st April, we will celebrate Easter in school with the Easter egg hunt and other lovely activities.



Adult Conduct at Hometown

If your child ever comes home upset over an incident in school please come and talk to their teacher or any member of the senior leadership team. Please **DO NOT** approach other people's children. The school is here to listen and to help in any way we can. Please remember there are always two sides to the story and the school is here to mediate and help the children develop positive relationships with one another. An adult approaching a child that is not theirs is totally unacceptable, even if the child in question knows the adult. We want all the children to feel safe at school. Adults who approach our children and make them feel unsafe will be banned from school premises.

Little Wandle: Letters and Sounds Revised Meeting: Tuesday 29th March 9:30am



As you may know the government expects phonics to be taught in every school. They expect schools to take an approach that is rigorous, systematic and achieves strong results for all pupils. All schools need to make sure that phonics is taught in the same way by all teachers within the school. This way, as the children travel through the school the approach is consistent. During the autumn term we researched many programmes on the market. We chose [Little Wandle, Letters and Sounds Revised](#).

This is a complete systematic synthetic phonics programme (SSP). It has involved quite a large investment in terms of time and resources. What makes this scheme different to others is that in addition to the daily phonics sessions, it has built in guided reading sessions three times a week. Therefore, we have also purchased 12 copies of the 120 decodable books to be able to read them with the children in class during the guided reading sessions. These books will be available to read at home as an e-reader. We have been using the scheme for daily phonics with the children since January in Early Years and KS1. The guided reading sessions have started in Year 1 and will commence in Reception after Easter.

We would like to invite all parents of children in Early Years and KS1 to a parents meeting to explain how the system works and how best to support the children at home with their phonics learning. The parents meeting will be on Tuesday 28th March at 9:30am on zoom (link to follow). Please see the attached flyer.

STEM Week(s)



This week Year 4 competed in the 'Race to Infinity' tournament. This maths game created by the University of Greenwich encourages times table fluency and maths reasoning skills. Year 3 and 4 took part in their first of two engineering workshops. Today they had to design and build boats that would float and be able to hold as many marbles as possible. Over the next two weeks there will be many more activities and trips to support the learning of Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths. We have some external visitors coming into school to run workshops or to do talks to various year groups. On Friday, there will also be a Science and Maths fair run by Years 5 & 6 for the younger children. Please ask your children about what they have been learning.

Covid Update

As you know, all Covid restrictions have been removed by the government and there is no legal need to isolate now after a positive test. The guidance states "Stay at home if you can and avoid contact with other people". Therefore, as a school we are remaining cautious and are asking children and staff, who test positive, to stay at home. We ask that if anyone tests positive that they do not return to school until they have had two negative lateral flows tests, 24 hours apart from day 5. We are maintaining this in place until Easter, as we do have vulnerable members of our community, that we would like to keep safe.

Friends of St Winifred's

The Easter eggs are arriving in school! The Friends are asking for Easter eggs in preparation for the children's Easter egg hunt at the end of this term. (Every child receives an egg, so we really do rely on many donations). Please see their flyer attached.



After school clubs Summer Term for year 1 - 6 (after the Easter holiday)

Thank you so much for all the responses regarding our after-school clubs survey. We had 76 families respond, which is fantastic! Our greatest response to date to a survey. We have looked at the similar themes that have come up in the answers and we have been busy this week looking at what we offer. We hope to be able to send another Google Form soon, in order to sign up to a variety of new clubs starting after the Easter holidays.

Vision and Mission

Thank you to those of you have taken the time to complete the survey regarding the school's vision and mission statement. The survey is still open, please follow this [link](#). I would really welcome as many voices as possible.

Nursery Places for September 2022

If you have registered interest for a full-time or part-time Nursery place in September 2022, you should have received the application pack. This will be for children who were born between 1st September 2018 and 31st August 2019. If you would like an application form and have not registered, please contact the school office.

We will be hosting a series of open days this half term. If you would like to book a place on one of the open days, please contact the school office. Please feel free to share this information with prospective parents you may know.

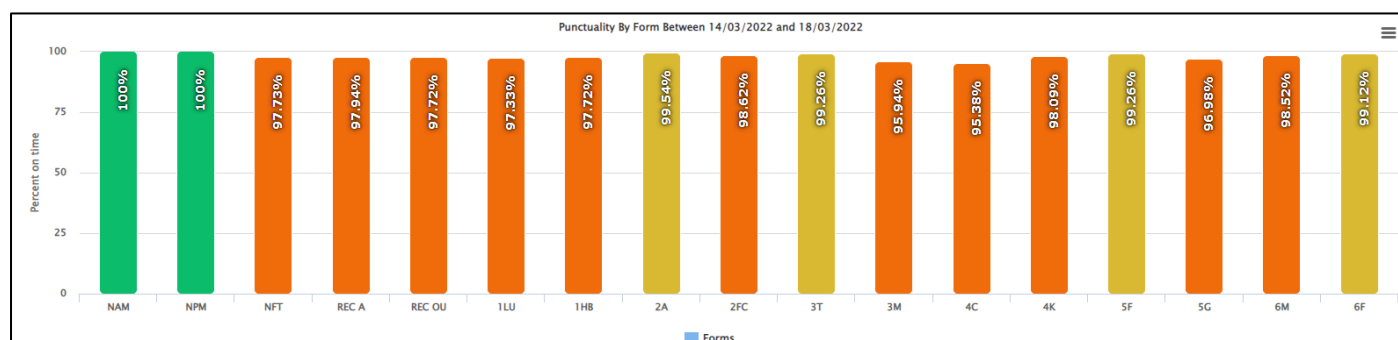
During the School Day	After School
2pm – 2:45pm	4pm – 4:45pm
Thursday 24th March	Thursday 31st March

All parents are entitled to 15 hours free nursery provision but some may qualify for the 30 hours free provision. If you think you may be entitled to the 30 hours provision you should apply for an eligibility code at <https://www.gov.uk/apply-30-hours-free-childcare>.

The Application Form, the Supplementary Form and proof of baptism need to be returned to the school on or before 1st April 2022.

Punctuality:

Punctuality improved this week; 12 classes are above 97%! Please endeavour to get all the children to school on time.



This graph shows the punctuality for this week. This week's winner is: 2A! Well done to the 2A on 99.5%! 3T, 5F and 6F also had 99%+, a fantastic effort.

St Winidred's Peace Garden

The Mini Vinnies would like to thank you all for all the plant donations. They will be busy planting them now that Spring is almost here. If you would still like to donate, they would greatly receive any more donations of plants to develop the area.



Food Bank

Please be reminded that the school's foodbank is open. If you would like to access it, please contact the school office. If you are able to donate to the foodbank, all donations will be greatly received. Thank you to those who send supermarket deliveries to the school for the foodbank. Your generosity is overwhelming.

Wednesday Word

Please see the link to this wonderful resource to share with your child, to support them in understanding the Mass Readings for the coming weekend. <https://www.swcps.lewisham.sch.uk/thewednesdaywordwebsite/>

Parent App:

Most parents are using the app now, if any of you need any help or would like to download it, please contact the school.



Social Media:

Just to remind you, follow us on:



St Winifred's Catholic Primary School



St_winifreds_lee



@stwinifredslee

Thank you for taking the time to read the newsletter, it really is very much appreciated.

Claire Gillespie