



*Love, live and learn with Jesus Christ.*

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15<sup>th</sup> October 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

### **Deepest Sympathies**

As a St. Nicholas school community, I know you will all join the staff of the school in sharing your prayers, thoughts, sympathies and heartfelt condolences for the Wolfindale family who lay their beloved Victoria to rest today. Please keep the family in your prayers at this difficult time. Eternal rest grant unto her, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon her. May she rest in peace. Amen.

### **God Who Speaks**

At this time of year we thank the Lord for the food which He provides and we share some of our good fortune with those who are going through hard times:

"When you are harvesting in your field and you overlook a sheaf, do not go back to get it. Leave it for the foreigner, the fatherless and the widow, so that the Lord your God may bless you in all the work of your hands." Deuteronomy 24:19

### **Harvest Collection**

Our Harvest collection is in full swing. We are asking for:

- Tinned goods (meat such as hot dogs, beans, soup, vegetables etc.)
- Dried goods (pasta, rice, oats, biscuits etc.)
- Toiletries (deodorant, toothbrushes/paste, shampoo, shower gel)
- (New) warm socks and gloves
- Tea bags, coffee & sugar

Please do not send anything perishable. Thank you.

You are most welcome to attend our Harvest Mass in church on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> October at 10am. **Please note that, as per the church's risk assessment, pupils in KS2 (and all adults) will need to wear a face covering. It would help us immensely if pupils could bring in their own face covering. Thank you.**

### **Wednesday Word**

<https://www.paperturn-view.com/uk/wednesday-word/holiday-special?pid=MTA101634&v=41.5>

### **Year 4 - Sacrament of Reconciliation**

Please keep Year 4 in your prayers as they receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time. Children will begin to receive the Sacrament of Eucharist at the end of October. This year group has had a delayed journey to receive their Sacraments and we rejoice with them during this most important spiritual milestone.

### **Year 4 First Holy Communion rehearsals**

Please find attached the confirmed slots from Father Allen for Year 4's First Holy Communion Masses.

### Prospective Parents' Open Sessions

Do you or someone you know have a child due to start school in September 2022? If so, would you like to attend one of our open sessions to have a tour of the school and ask any questions you may have about the admissions process? We would love to see you during one of our open sessions. Times and dates are below.

Please telephone the school office on 0121 355 2649 to book in to your preferred slot:

Monday 15th November: 9.15am

Tuesday 16th November: 1.30pm

Wednesday 17th November: 11am

Thursday 18th November: 2.30pm

### Parking on Wakefield Close

We understand the difficulties of parking during school drop off and pick up times. However, we have been contacted by distressed residents of Wakefield Close who are understandably upset at some of the more inconsiderate parking demonstrated by some motorists. Please do not park so as to block driveways or obstruct pavements; this is a health and safety risk for pedestrians and those in wheelchairs or with pushchairs. Thank you in advance for your support and cooperation, it is important that we treat our neighbours with respect.

### RSHE block week - w.b. 18.10.21

As previously communicated, RSHE (Relationships, Sex and Health Education) is taught in three 'block weeks' throughout the academic year. For your information, the first of these weeks is next week (w.b. 18.10.21). It is important that you are aware of the topics which will be covered in case your child/ren ask questions at home. If you need any guidance or have any questions please contact Mrs Noble-Barton through the school office:

Year groups	Topics covered during RSHE on w.b. 18th October
Reception	<p><b>EYFS Module One: Created and Loved by God</b> explores the individual. Rooted in the teaching that <b>we are created by God out of love and for love</b>, it helps children to develop an understanding of the importance of valuing themselves as the basis for personal relationships:</p> <p><b>Unit 1 - Religious Understanding</b> introduces children to the story of creation, where God created the earth, sea, stars, plants, animals and humans. The five-story sessions encourage children to creatively explore this topic and help them to deeply know that they are created by God out of love and for love.</p> <p>In <b>Unit 2 - Me, My Body, My Health</b>, children meet the story book characters of Freddy Teddy, Mollie the Cat and Billy Bird who will reappear throughout this scheme of work. Children will learn about their uniqueness in real terms, including celebrating differences and individual gifts, talents and abilities. They will learn about looking after and using their God-given bodies and develop their vocabulary around this topic.</p> <p>Over the three sessions of <b>Unit 3 - Emotional Well-Being</b>, children will learn about likes, dislikes and self-acceptance. They will learn from Freddy Teddy and his friends how to describe different feelings, both good and bad. Finally through a real world example, children will learn that actions have consequences; that when we make mistakes we should say sorry and ask for forgiveness.</p>

	<p>Through Mollie the Cat and Billy Bird talking about their respective journeys from kitten/egg to adult animals, in <b>Unit 4 - Life Cycles</b> children will explore the natural human cycle of life, focusing on what children can remember about their development so far and what they know will happen as they get older. This is underpinned by the religious understanding that growing up is part of God's plan for our lives and that we are loved by Him at every life stage.</p>
<p>Years 1 &amp; 2</p>	<p><b>KS1 Module One: Created and Loved by God</b> explores the individual. Rooted in the teaching that we are created by God out of love and for love, it helps children to develop an understanding of the importance of valuing themselves as the basis for personal relationships:</p> <p><b>Unit 1 - Religious Understanding</b> introduces children to the story from the Gospel of Matthew, when Jesus welcomed all of the little children to come to Him. The five-story sessions encourage children to understand that they are created by God out of love and for love. Children will revisit this Gospel story at the end of this Module.</p> <p>Building on this knowledge, <b>Unit 2 - Me, My Body, My Health</b> encourages children to celebrate similarities and differences between people, including our God-given bodies and the things they enable us to do! Teaching also includes maintaining personal hygiene and the physical differences between boys and girls. Pupils will learn the appropriate biological names for genitalia.</p> <p>Over the three sessions of <b>Unit 3 - Emotional Well-Being</b>, children will meet presenters Jayden and Josie and fictional character Super Susie. They will help children to understand and articulate their own changing feelings and how other people's feelings might differ from theirs. Children will learn how they can manage their feelings and about the consequences of their actions.</p> <p><b>Unit 4 - Life Cycles</b> returns to the Gospel story from Unit 1, to show that God created us to follow the cycle of life and He loves us at every stage. Children will learn about the specifics of the human life cycle and celebrate how they have already changed and grown.</p>
<p>Years 3 &amp; 4</p>	<p><b>LKS2 Module One: Created and Loved by God</b> explores the individual. Rooted in the teaching that we are made in the image and likeness of God, it helps children to develop an understanding of the importance of valuing themselves as the basis for personal relationships:</p> <p><b>Unit 1 - Religious Understanding</b> explores the Gospel story of Jairus' daughter in various creative and reflective ways. Through story and discussion, children will learn that they are designed for a purpose and how they should live in light of this. A second session unpacks the Sacraments of Baptism and Reconciliation as a foretaste of heaven and a wonderful part of our relationship with God.</p> <p>In <b>Unit 2 - Me, My Body, My Health</b>, children meet animated character, AJ, who will reappear throughout this scheme of work. In this Unit, children will learn to celebrate similarities and differences, and to appreciate and look after their bodies as gifts from God. Teaching also covers specific physical and emotional changes during puberty, and that growing from boys and girls to men and women is part of God's loving plan for creation. <b>Year 4</b> will cover the changes which occur during puberty. Year 3 will not cover this.</p> <p><b>Unit 3 - Emotional Well-Being</b> helps children to understand the difference between feelings and actions, how to manage them and what they can do to help themselves stay emotionally healthy. In this Unit, the media is discussed as a 'fake reality' and God's love for us is presented as a better basis for our self-confidence. Finally, children will identify unacceptable behaviours and learn to</p>

	<p>build resilience against negative feelings by practising thankfulness.</p> <p>Returning to the story of Jairus' daughter from Unit 1, <b>Unit 4 - Life Cycles</b> explores the miraculous nature of human conception and birth and offers an opportunity for thanksgiving. Sexual intercourse is not discussed in this session.</p>
<p>Years 5 &amp; 6</p>	<p><b>UKS2 Module One: Created and Loved by God</b> explores the individual. Rooted in the teaching that we are made in the image and likeness of God, it helps children to develop an understanding of the importance of valuing themselves as the basis for personal relationships:</p> <p><b>Unit 1 - Religious Understanding</b> explores the Gospel story of the 'Calming of the Storm' (from Matthew, Mark and Luke). Over five story sessions, children will consider experiences of change, growth and development, and the trust that they can have in the person of Jesus through times of trial and tribulation. This is the religious and spiritual foundation for the exploration throughout the rest of the work covered in <b>Module 1: Created and Loved By God</b>.</p> <p>Teaching across the rest of the Units in this Module is based on our own TV drama series, <b>Paradise Street</b>. Please read 'How to Lead Paradise Street sessions' before leading these.</p> <p>In <b>Unit 2 - Me, My Body, My Health</b>, children will learn that celebrating differences between people is enriching to a community and know that their self-confidence should arise from being loved by God. They will learn about the physical changes that boys and girls go through during puberty and how they should respect and take care of their bodies as gifts from God. Genitals are also mentioned here.</p> <p>Continuing through the <b>Paradise Street</b> series, <b>Unit 3 - Emotional Well-Being</b> helps children learn about pressures that they may experience from themselves, others and the media. Children will develop ideas on how to build resilience through thankfulness, use simplified CBT techniques to manage their thoughts, feelings and actions and cope with new or difficult feelings such as romance and rage. The final session in this Unit covers how children may be affected by what they see online, including pornography.</p> <p>In <b>Unit 4 - Life Cycles</b>, children will learn about God's design for creating new life through a more nuanced understanding of menstruation, fertility, conception, fetal development in the womb and childbirth. One of the sessions talks about sexual intercourse within the context of marriage being God's plan for the place of sex within a relationship.</p>

### Safeguarding newsletter

Attached to this newsletter is a safeguarding newsletter. These special safeguarding newsletters will be produced each term on a different topic. This half term's newsletter is on 'Harmful Sexual Behaviour'. We appreciate that this is not the nicest topic to read about but, unfortunately, school and parents need to know the signs to look out for and what to do if a disclosure is made.

As ever, please contact one of the St Nicholas Safeguarding Team (Mrs Noble-Barton, Mr Porter or Miss Ramsden) if you have any concerns or questions.

## School Disco

A reminder that the PFA school disco is on **Thursday 21st October straight after school**. Please see message below from the PFA:

**When:** Thursday 21st October (last day of school term)

**Time:** 3.30pm - 5.30pm. School staff will take the children from their classrooms to the school hall. Parents pick up at 5.30pm

**Price:** £5 per child which includes a drink, a bag of sweets, tattoo, nails and face painting. **Please pay via the PFA box located in the Reception area. Please ensure you enclose the correct payment in a sealed envelope with your child/childrens name clearly marked.**

**What to wear:** Own clothes. Please send your child in on Thursday 21st with a bag of clothes to change into before the disco.

## 'Squid Game'

Please note that we have had reports of young children watching this very violent Netflix series. Please be vigilant.

## Phonics Links

Reception - 's' 'm' 'a'

<https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/Uu96hAfE/L341rSfP>

<https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/80qdX8ua/EfQyurgM>

<https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/80qdX8ua/EfQyurgM>

<https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/f3iCte2C/K69f5E7K>

<https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/1IUxvOqH/llWpa6pu>

<https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/s4RsBwD2/qV8YYv7A>

Red group - 'c' 'k'

<https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/FSfMTolP/AX4cK6eE>

<https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/iNHXul6g/xDGvnXtW>

<https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/6A7p1v0w/7HWr0d7O>

<https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/j1awbYCz/zequfgGi>

Green group- 'oy'

<https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/XU4GFoMT/Tb3enG1R>

Yellow group - 'igh'

<https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/gpM02oV8/iyfQI3sL>

Blue group - 'ay' 'a-e'

<https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/4ofm4DAB/ghWLBjLu>

<https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/2hHRCwnn/Ks7wQUje>

Grey group - 'ou' 'ow'

<https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/YIwMYEvu/exHNdTqH>

<https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/6ys25SWd/PVio58yk>

## Advert for Catering Assistant

Please see the attached advert from Miquill Catering Company.

God bless,

Mr Porter  
Executive Principal

Mrs Noble-Barton  
Acting Head of School

Miss Ramsden  
Acting Vice Principal