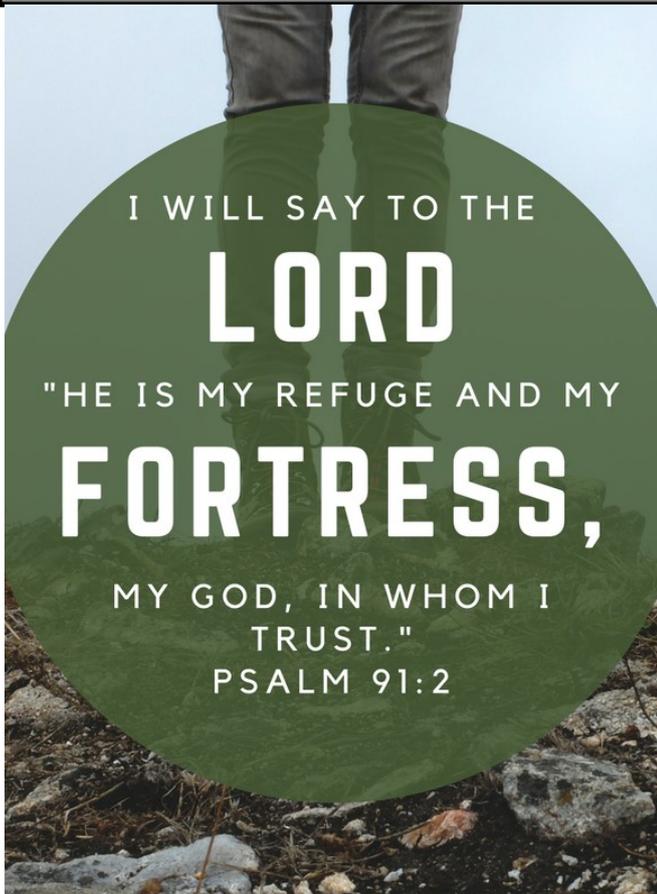


Headteacher's Newsletter

8 November 2019

Christian Value for this half term:

Trust



Dear parents/carers,

Welcome to the November newsletter!

Half term seemed to go in a flash and we've returned for the second half of the autumn term determined to pack in as much as possible.

Year 6 pupils have been helping to sell poppies and other Royal British Legion items in the build

up to Remembrance Day on Monday next week. Jo Haslam from the Children Changing Places project will be leading us in worship on that day, including a minute's silence at 11.00am.

Jo Haslam has been working with our Year 2 class to develop ideas on how we can enhance the Hobbit Hole to be a reflective space for our infants to use at break times. The children have come up with some fabulous ideas and I've seen lots of creativity going on in their classroom. We're really looking forward to the official opening of the Hobbit Hole later this term.

Our Open Afternoon took place yesterday and it was lovely to see many new faces. Choosing a school for your child is a huge decision and it is wonderful that our reputation in the community is so positive. Our best advertising is our current parents. Thank you for spreading the word!

Teaching staff have reviewed after school clubs that are being offered at no cost. Teachers have volunteered their time to deliver a range of clubs after school throughout the year and hopefully you will have seen some of what we are offering already. This half term there is junior choir (lunchtime), dance, Christmas crafts, football and watercolour painting.

The enrichment opportunities have been reviewed in light of the feedback to parental questionnaires in the summer. We are also investigating external providers of clubs too. There will be a cost to this but we feel it's worth trying it to see what the take up will be.

Best wishes,

Mrs Graham

Headteacher



CONTACT DETAILS

St. Catherine's CE Primary School

Greenstone Avenue

Horwich

Bolton

BL6 5SJ

01204 332636

office@st-catherines.bolton.sch.uk

Local Governing Body in School



Some of our Governors will be in school on Monday to spend the day reviewing the work of the school. They will be visiting lots of classes to see first hand how the curriculum is being delivered, they will meet groups of pupils and have lunch with a selection too. In this way Governors will be able to report back to the Local Governing Body on what's working well and with any suggestions of 'even better ifs...'

Our Local Governing Body has a range of parents, carers and community members on it. We are always on the look out for more people to join who can add further value to our work. If this is something you would be interested in please contact school to speak to Mrs Graham or Revd Berend for an informal chat. We'd love to hear from you.

PTA



We are still on the look out for someone to be Chair of PTA. Without this there isn't anyone to co-ordinate fundraising and other social events.

We are really keen to get this up and running again. If you feel this is something you could

take on, even in the short term, please get in contact with Mrs Graham in school and we can organise an informal chat to get the ball rolling.

St. Catherine's Church Christmas Market



Thank you so much for the fantastic support for St. Catherine's Church Christmas Market. Families donated so many items for the market on our non uniform day last Friday. These have been collected by volunteers from Church and they have asked that we pass on their heartfelt thanks for your support in this. These items will make a massive difference to the success of their Christmas Market.

The event is on Saturday 16th November 12.00—3.00pm and there will be a wealth of stall and activities for families. There will be a selection of seasonal goods on offer including speciality cakes, jewellery and crafts plus lots of fun for the kids with crafting, sand art, games, tombola and voucher tree. Plus it's been confirmed that Santa will be paying a special visit too!

School Admissions

The primary school admissions portals are still open on Bolton Council's website. If you have a child due to start reception in September, you will need to start the application process if you haven't already done so. The portal is on Bolton Council's website .

www.bolton.gov.uk/admissions

If you have any questions please don't hesitate to contact the school office. Mrs Platt is more than happy to help.

Harvest

Thank you for your support at our Harvest celebration in church in October. We had generous donations of money and flowers from many families. Our Seeds and Gardeners delivered the flowers on the way back from church in the pouring rain! These were received by residents of the sheltered housing, whose faces lit up when they got the knock on the door. Thank you!

We have passed on the money donations to World Vision. They have written to inform us that the child we used to sponsor has now moved away from the area. We will now be sponsoring a child named Rahul who is 7 and from the Patna area of India.

World Vision will write to us with more details of Rahul soon. We'll update you when we know more.



Christmas Season



The Christmas season has started at St. Catherine's with preparations for nativities underway. It is a very busy time of

the year so please look out for updates which outline events in school and ticket sales. The planned nativities etc are in the forthcoming events section below so please make a note of them!

Christmas dinner day in on Tuesday 10th December. Children (and staff!) can also wear a Christmas jumper that day instead of their usual school jumper or cardigan (the rest of uniform still applies). Your child may also want to bring in a Christmas Cracker to have with their school

dinner or packed lunch (no massive ones please and also it's worth checking what's inside it first!)

Shoe Boxes

Thank you to those families who have donated filled shoe boxes. The deadline is the morning of Thursday 14th November.

Thank you for your continued support.

Forthcoming events

11 Nov	Governors in school day
12 Nov	Bolton school hockey games
14 Nov	Shoe box deadline
21 Nov	Sports Hall taster day
25 Nov	Sports Hall athletics competition
2 Dec	Testing week
6 Dec	Y6 to Mayor of Bolton Christmas Concert
10 Dec	Christmas dinner day
11 Dec	Nursery and Reception nativity Am and PM
12 Dec	Year 1 and 2 nativity (AM and PM) Christmas Bingo
16 Dec	Junior Christmas show—Treasure Island Infant parties
17 Dec	Junior parties
18 Dec	Nursery parties
19 Dec	Infant panto in school Front Row Music Christmas concert
20 Dec	Christmas service in church led by Y5



MULBERRY tree
CHURCH OF ENGLAND TRUST