



St John Fisher News

12 February 2021

No. 454 (Lockdown Edition)

Half Term

Today is the last day of this half term and we break up at 3.15pm this afternoon for one week. Staff and students have been working very hard over the past few weeks and this is a well-deserved break for everyone. We will continue remote learning from Monday, 22 February. As soon as we have any further information about reopening or the exams consultation we will let you know.

Lent

After half term, it will be the season of Lent, which hardly seems possible. Lent is the forty days that lead up to Easter and it starts on Ash Wednesday, which is next week. Mrs Goodfellow has written in this newsletter about its significance. For Christians, Lent is a time of Fasting, Prayer, Reconciliation and Almsgiving and an opportunity to reflect on ways we can give more of ourselves to others. One way we can help each other is by being more eco-friendly. We have included an article this week from our student eco group who, inspired by Greta Thunberg and working with Ms Moins, have put plans and actions together to improve the environmental footprint of our school. Well done to all involved.

COVID testing

This is just a reminder that testing at school for students who are currently attending will start after half term. We have sent information out about the details of this separately along with a link to a consent form to fill in online. Testing is not mandatory but we hope that as many as possible will get a test when they are on site.

Kate Pereira

Mental Health

On Wednesday, members of the Mental Health Support Team attended the Peterborough Citizen's Delegates Assembly. Over eighty delegates from all sections of the community discussed the most pressing issues facing Peterborough and voted to focus on Mental Health and Safety in the City. Our next move is to attend a meeting with candidates for the position of Mayor on 26 April to share our concerns. If anyone wants more information about the campaign that the Assembly will be running, email Ms Roberts and she will pass your questions on to Tonyo, Elicia and Erin. A big thank you to them for attending this event!

Ms Roberts

Ash Wednesday

Ash Wednesday falls in half term this year, however, to mark this special time in the Christian Calendar, we have an extended Thought reflection today and this can be found in TEAMS. The ashes are made by burning the dried palm leaves saved from last year's Palm Sunday service and are marked on the forehead in the shape of a cross as a sign of repentance. This date marks the start of Lent, which is 40 days of preparation of praying, fasting and giving to others. These things help us to be ready for the most important Christian festival – the death and resurrection of Jesus. Some may be able to go to Church and others may watch their Parish service and we are all invited to **come together through prayer** to begin our journey **from darkness to light** and from **despair to hope**.

Mrs Goodfellow, Lay Chaplain



Eco-Reps News

The Eco-Reps are a team of students from different year groups that want to focus on saving the planet. At the moment we are busy at work on an entry for a competition titled: "The Edit Project". The main objective is to create a 120 second video about global warming, air pollution, and sea pollution. We have been given access to Adobe Spark, a video editing software, and video footage from Sky. We are determined to win, and so are working hard on it! We have also been working on another project which involves crisp packets. We are really pleased that the recycling bins for this project have arrived recently at school! So, when we're all back at school, please remember to throw any crisp packets into the new bins. We have also been asking our forms what their opinion on the environmental status of the earth is. The feedback indicates that people feel that the world is treating saving the earth as a trend and people say they want to help save the earth but this is not reflected in their actions. As a group we hope to turn our school into a more environmentally-friendly place. If we all work together, our small difference can have a **BIG** impact.

Glow event by IGNITE



IGNITE will be providing an online version of the Glow event on Saturday, 27 February. It will be an afternoon with workshops, music and fun exploring how faith can bring light to our lives. All aged 13-19 are warmly invited and encouraged to bring a friend or two!

EU Settlement Scheme (EUSS)

If you are an EU, EEA or Swiss citizen, you and your family members may be eligible to apply to the [EU Settlement Scheme \(EUSS\)](#). The application deadline, for those who were living in the UK by the end of the transition period at 23:00 GMT on 31 December 2020, is 30 June 2021.

Children and young people require their own immigration status and are not covered by a parent's application to the EUSS. An application must be made for every eligible child within a family. A parent or guardian can apply on behalf of a child and link it to their own application (if applicable), or they can apply in their own right. There's lots [more information on this here on GOV.UK](#).

Applications to the EUSS are free and can be made online on [GOV.UK](#). Information on what is needed to apply can also be found on [GOV.UK](#). Successful applicants get either [settled status or pre-settled status](#) ensuring they can continue to live and work in the UK after 30 June 2021, whilst remaining eligible to access the benefits and services they could before the UK left the EU.

For questions about applications, please call 0300 123 7379 or +44 (0) 20 3080 0010 from outside the UK (Monday to Friday, 8am to 8pm and Saturday to Sunday, 9.30am to 4.30pm). [Find out about call charges](#).

Year 9 Options - Deadline

Please note the deadline for Year 9 students to complete the options process is today, Friday, 12 February.

Calling all Former Students

If you're a former student of St John Fisher Catholic High School, we want to hear from you!

Your experiences since leaving could help to motivate and inspire our current students to feel more confident in making decisions about their future. We'd love you to join our alumni network and stay connected with the school.

We've partnered with the national education charity Future First, who specialise in helping schools like ours to stay connected with their former students.



You can choose how and when you help – perhaps you can act as a career and education role model, provide virtual work experience, become a mentor in person or online, or help with donations and fundraising.

It doesn't matter when you left us, whether you're in further education or employment, whether you still live nearby or have moved further away, there are still ways you can help. We see it as a wonderful way of extending our community and adding to our 'one family' ethos.

In order to sign up, just follow this link and fill in the online form – we promise it will only take a couple of minutes.

<https://networks.futurefirst.org.uk/signup/sjfishigh>

