

1.4.2022

Dear families of St. Kentigern's,

Vote for St. Kentigern's!

An exciting virtual art gallery will open at 12 noon today and you can view and vote for your favourite Year 5 entry by scanning the QR code on the poster. This will take you to the ArtBytes webpage where you can search for our school logo and access the wonderful artwork produced by Year 5 pupils from our school! Once you have viewed the entries for St Kentigern's, decide on your favourite. You can only vote for one!

An online public vote of the top three from each school will take place and when the voting closes the artist with the most votes wins a place in the annual ArtBytes Virtual Exhibition which launches in July. They could be in with a chance of being one of ArtBytes' regional or national winners!



Haircuts

As you are aware, haircuts should not be shorter than a number 3. There should be no lines or etching cut into your child's hair and fades should not be any shorter than a number 3 cut. Any child who has had their hair cut shorter, now has the opportunity to grow it out over the next few weeks. A further copy of the uniform policy will be sent out to all families again today.

Parking and Road Safety

You will all have noticed our new traffic calming measures. Hopefully, this will help to keep our children and families safe. Please remember, your children should be escorted into school by an adult.



Chester approves of our new traffic measures.

Poppy Playtime

It has been brought to our attention by parents of children in our Nursery, Reception and Key 1 that some children in these classes are regular viewers of Poppy Playtime. Whilst the title sounds child friendly, the site is described as follows:

Poppy Playtime is a survival horror video game developed and published by indie developer MOB Games. You must stay alive in this horror/puzzle adventure. Try to survive the vengeful toys waiting for you in the abandoned toy factory.

The game has a minimum age rating of 12 years old. Some children have been upset in class when their friends tell them what happens in the game. As you

can imagine, a horror video game developed for children aged 12 years and older is in no way suitable for children aged 3-6 years old. Can I please ask that, if your child is accessing this game, you review your decision? Thank you for your support in this matter.

Parents' Evening

Parents' Evening will take place on <u>Thursday 28th April 2022</u>. Opportunities to sign up for time slots will be made available nearer the time. The meetings will take place in school and there will also be an opportunity for you to look through your child's/children's books.

Easter Bonnet Parade

Our Nursery, Reception and Key Stage 1 children will take part in the Easter Bonnet Parade on the morning of <u>Tuesday 12th April</u>. Further information will be provided by the class teachers via Seesaw.

Year 1 have a special visitor

Year one had a brilliant morning learning all about castles! They were joined by Sir Jay who taught them lots about the different parts of the castle and why castles were built. The children used their reasoning to design the best helmet for a knight in battle and had great fun trying on parts of (very heavy!) medieval armour. Sir Jay brought lots of exciting artefacts for us to explore, including shields and swords, which the children had lots of fun handling.



Y3 visit Fletcher Moss Botanical Gardens

Year 3 visited Fletcher Moss Botanical Gardens this week and studied the plants and trees like a botanist (plant scientist!)

They identified flowering plants and trees using an app on their iPads, took photographs and had many mindful moments with the chime bar, surrounded by nature, with the sun on their faces. The children also used their zig zag sketchbook with a fun 'I spy with my botanist eye' treasure hunt.

This beautiful garden is on our doorstep- it is well worth a visit with your families.







Y5 met an astronaut!

This week, Year 5 had a Zoom meeting with Richard Garriott. Richard is an intrepid explorer who has travelled to space, living on the International Space Station for twelve days. Did you know that it only takes 30 minutes in a space rocket to reach the space station? Richard has also explored deep waters and has been part of an expedition that reached the depths of the Mariana Trench which is the deepest oceanic trench on Earth. And if that wasn't enough, he has also travelled to the North Pole! What a wonderful role model for our children. Perhaps, like Richard, they might grow up to be a renowned explorer.

Y2 visit the RHS Garden, Bridgewater

What a wonderful day Year 2 had at RHS Garden, Bridgewater! Despite the snow flurries, the children had a great time exploring all the different types of vegetation, building dens, sketching flowers and playing in the adventure playground. Staff were stopped on several occasions by members of the public who commented on their excellent behaviour, beautiful manners and their artistic talent - well done, Year 2!







Loreto High School CAFOD walk

Well done to the pupils of Loreto High School on completing their CAFOD sponsored walk accompanied by a representative of CAFOD. The children of St. Kentigern's were there to welcome and encourage them as they walked past our school.









A Message from Fr. Michael

Hello and I hope everyone is well and caring for each other. Today is the great day of "April Fool!" The real sign of Spring (and a time of fun). Going back 500 years or so, the church changed the beginning of the year from 1st April to 1st January, so those who missed the celebration of the new year were "April fools" and it became a day of fun and pranks! As we approach Holy Week next weekend, we bless and give the palms; wouldn't it be great to see so many homes in our parish having the "palm" branch. We need to keep alive a sense of splendour, especially in these difficult times. Splendour in the way we celebrate our Faith, in the way we share kindness in this world. May whatever you are doing for lent, whatever prayer you are praying, keep up the good work. Let us more than ever keep on praying for peace in our times and for peace in Europe! Have a lovely weekend. St. Kentigern pray for us.

FREE Holiday Activities in Wythenshaw

The following information has been emailed to school which might be of interest to you:

Half term activities are available for any child eligible for free school meals. The activities taking place will compromise of a swimming lesson, indoor sports, arts & crafts and a free hot lunch. The activities will take place 09.00 - 13.00 on Monday 4th April - Thursday 7th April & Monday 11th April - Thursday 14th April.

To book your space please visit:

https://www.eventbrite.com/e/300756991257

You will need a passcode to book tickets to each day which is WFHAF2022.

With continued best wishes,

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Mrs Muldoon

Headteacher