

## Forthcoming Events

### Monday 20<sup>th</sup> May:

- Ursuline Eurovision - the Results Show!

### Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> May:

- Y1 Phonics Check parents' meeting (6-7pm)
- Meeting for parents of children starting school in September 2019 (7pm)

### Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> May:

- 'Show Racism the Red Card' Theme Day

### Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> May:

- May Procession (2pm)

### Friday 24<sup>th</sup> May:

- KS1 SATs finish
- Y5 Cricket Tournament



# Newsletter

**Current rate of attendance for the school year: 97% (Target: 98%)**

17<sup>th</sup> May 2019

## 'BELIEVE, ACHIEVE, SERVE'

Dear Parent/Carer,

Well done to our Y6 pupils who sat their national tests this week (SATs). These are statutory and we have a legal obligation to administer them. I would like to thank Miss Jones, Miss Kelly and all of the staff who supervised the children over the four days of tests. We have ensured that the children have enjoyed the wider curriculum throughout the year, including educational visits and off-site learning. The skills required for SATs have been taught through classroom activities and no additional testing has been carried out. All assessments have been in line with the rest of the school. Throughout the year the children have been reassured that SATs do not measure the whole person and that they all have talents that can't be tested. We have celebrated these through sport, performance and day-to-day school life. During SATs week the children were invited into school from 8.20am. They enjoyed toast and juice and time with their friends. This led to an extremely relaxed start to each day. Before each test the children were reminded that their best was all we asked of them, that the test was only a snapshot in time and that they will not be defined by the outcome. Much fun has also been had with extra playtime, rounders, football, Eurovision practice and outdoor abstract art! As one of the staff who supervised a group I can honestly say I have never seen our Y6 pupils so calm and confident as they were during this week's tests. Special thanks to Miss Jones, Miss Kelly, Mrs McEvoy, Mrs Ashcroft and Miss Grierson for all their efforts all year round to make all this happen. At Ursuline we prepare children for the tests of life, not a life of tests.

Mr Ben Dolan will be leaving us at the end of term. He has been with us for 5 years and has taken us to new heights musically. He has also produced some unforgettable Easter Passion Plays. We will say a fuller goodbye at the end of term, but I would like to take this opportunity to thank him on behalf of the whole school community for all he has done for Ursuline.

This afternoon Ursuline did Eurovision! It was an extravaganza of past songs, winners and non-winners. Every child in the school took part and sang their hearts out. Thanks to the staff who have really entered into the spirit and to Mr and Mrs Weissensteiner for the idea in the first place and for their generosity with their time this week to support rehearsals. We look forward to the results show on Monday!

Congratulations to our Y2 football team who went to Finch Farm on 8<sup>th</sup> May to compete in a Merseyside wide tournament, which they qualified for by winning the Crosby & District Tournament on 29<sup>th</sup> March. The fantastic news is that they won this as well! They won all five matches. They are clearly a hugely talented group of players and we should all be very excited for the future. Thanks to Mr Hudson and Mrs Walmsley for looking after them so well on the day.

Some of our Y5 pupils (and those who attend our Children's Opera after school club) were invited to sing at the start of last Friday's CLAPPERBOARD UK's 2019 awards ceremony at Hope University's Capstone Theatre. This high profile event is where CLAPPERBOARD premieres short films made by young people with learning difficulties or special needs. It is an opportunity for their friends, families, funders, board members, patrons and press to celebrate their achievements. Our children performed "The Prayer" and "That's Amore", which they learned and performed to a very high standard during last year's Opera Project with Mr and Mrs Weissensteiner from Absolute Children's Opera. They brought the house down. It's the first time I have ever seen a standing ovation at the start of a show! Thanks to Mr and Mrs Weissensteiner for getting such a brilliant performance out of the children and to Mr Dolan and Mr and Mrs Walmsley for helping to look after them on the night.

Mrs McIver organised today's cake sale, which is to raise funds for the repairs needed to our Willow Dome after the recent storms. We will also have a 'wear something green to school' day on Friday. So far we have raised £145. Thanks to everyone who supported us.

Please see attached details for Walk to School Week, which starts on Monday. We are only too glad to play our part in reducing our carbon footprint in the battle against global warming.

Reception had the second Tournament Day of the summer term. They did Athletics and the result was:

1 <sup>st</sup>	Inveralt (10 House Points)
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Overdale (8 House Points)
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Seathwaite (6 House Points)
4 <sup>th</sup>	St Olave's (4 House Points)

Well done to everyone for such an enjoyable and competitive event.

Our 'Hot Chocolate with the Head' sessions continue for those children who have gone over and above the call of duty during the week. It can't tell you how enjoyable it is to do this – a real privilege to share the company of such wonderful children.

Our visits to local care homes continue. This is such an important part of our children's social and moral development. They interact with the elderly so naturally and show personal qualities we would otherwise be unaware of.

Our Mindfulness Champions have been appointed in all KS2 classes. This will help us to embed the children's learning in their Paws b lessons and help them to apply it to their everyday lives.

House Teams overall current standings are:

Position	House Team	Points
1 <sup>st</sup>	Inveralt (Red)	223
2 <sup>nd</sup>	St Olave's (Blue)	217
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Overdale (Green)	186
4 <sup>th</sup>	Seathwaite (Yellow)	185

**YOU MAY HAVE NOTICED FROM THE TOP OF THE NEWSLETTER THAT OUR RATE OF ATTENDANCE FOR THE SCHOOL YEAR IS NOW 97%. WELL DONE EVERYONE FOR THIS 1% IMPROVEMENT. LET'S ALL WORK TOGETHER, DURING THIS FINAL TERM OF THE SCHOOL YEAR, TO REACH OUR TARGET OF 98%.**

Thank you for your continuing support.

#### REMINDERS

- Set off a bit earlier in the morning to ensure your child arrives before the gates are locked at 8.55am.
- There is no entitlement to take holidays during term time. I can only approve these in exceptional circumstances. **Applications should include a written description of the circumstances.** Being taken out of school at any time is an obstacle to children making progress and should be avoided.
- Please do not park on or stop at the yellow zig-zags during the times stated on the road side sign. It is both dangerous and irresponsible.

Thank you for your ongoing support.



**Mark McQueen**  
Head Teacher