

St Joseph's Catholic Primary School: Newsletter 03.11.23

Mission
Together we love, learn, follow Jesus
Vision
At St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, through an open and generous heart, we learn together as a family in faith, following the gospel values of love.
Values
Hope Thankfulness Collaboration Compassion Friendship Resilience Empathy Creativity Justice Respect



A Message from Miss Dewhurst: This week in school we have had many opportunities to learn about seasonal and historical celebrations.

Many children were excited for Halloween on Tuesday. I explained to the children that Halloween actually has significant Catholic roots. The root word of Halloween is Hallow which means "holy" and the suffix "een" is an abbreviation for evening. The name itself being a contraction for All Hallows' Eve. This is the vigil of All Hallows Day, more traditionally known as All Saints Day. The day following this being All Souls day. It is a very important time for Catholics to remember the saints who set a wonderful example to all of us in different ways. We were very grateful to Father Raphael who came into school to celebrate and share Mass with us on Wednesday, led wonderfully by our Year Six children. As November is the month of remembrance, we have in our prayers, as part of Catholic tradition, remembered any of our loved ones and all those who have sadly passed away. In school, we have discussed with children, how, if they would like to, they can write a prayer and place it on our Collective Worship tree for us to remember and prayer as a school family.



Award Winners

CI R/1:

Dojo Champion: **Cal**

School Values/Mission: **Alice** for resilience

"Spotted": **Oscar** for consistently using his excellent manners at all times

CI 2/3:

Dojo Champion: **Rory**

School Values/Mission: **Hektor** for resilience and respect

"Spotted": **Isabella** for focus in all lessons and enthusiasm when learning about our world

CI 4/5:

Dojo Champion: **Charlotte**

School Values/Mission: **Arthur C** for resilience

"Spotted": **Dexter** for being very kind to a classmate when he had hurt himself

CI 6:

Dojo Champion: **Lois**

School Values/Mission: **Lois** for collaboration & friendship

"Spotted": **James** for being the "tank" who can run through an opposing rugby team



Sunday Gospel: One day, Jesus said to the crowds and his disciples, "The teachers of the law and the Pharisees are experts in the law of Moses. So, you should do what they tell you to do and listen to what they say. But do not copy what they do, because they do not practise what they preach; they don't do what they teach other people to do. They love to have people pay special attention to them and to be called 'teacher'. But do not copy them. Do not call each other teacher. You are all like brothers and sisters and there is only one teacher, the Christ. The one who is greatest among you should be the servant of others. If you put yourself above others, you will be humbled, but if you humble yourself, god will make you great." Matthew 23: 1-12

This week spotted:

Darcie: for always being kind and caring

Oscar A: for being a good and kind friend



Happy Birthday

Layla & Isaac

Classroom Catch Up: Since returning to school after the October half term, the children in Class R/1 have continued to impress me with their enthusiasm towards their learning. We have got stuck into our new topics this week. In English, the children have



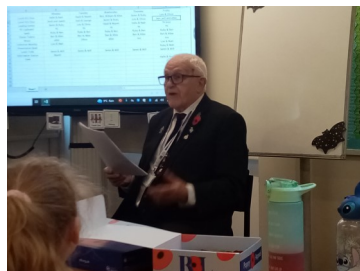
enjoyed exploring the story of 'Goldilocks and The Three Crocodiles'. They have had lots of fun making predictions, inferring character thoughts and feelings and sequencing events from the book. Maths wise, Reception have been busy mastering one more and one less, while Year One have been working on addition within 10. On Tuesday, we took our science learning outdoors and investigated how and why puddles change over time.



Our R.E. work this week has focused on mothers and what makes them special as an introduction to our Prophecy and Promise unit.

Our first week back after half term and Class 2/3 are all rested and raring to go. We had a lovely Mass this week and Father Raphael shared his thoughts on the importance of 'All Saints Day'. With this in mind, in our R.E. lessons, we discussed St Joseph and the important role he played as Jesus' stepfather. Our new geography topic started this week and we are learning about the seven continents and surrounding oceans. We had great fun singing the 'continent song' and I'm sure the children will share this with you. In our English lessons, we have started a fantastic new book called, 'Sona Sharm - Looking After Planet Earth' - which links very nicely with our geography. We have had a very productive first week back in Class 4/5. In English, we have been finishing off our text from last half term 'Street Child' and completed a book review to end our unit – the text was very highly rated! In R.E., we have been looking at 'vocation' and exploring the fact that although we are united through faith, we each have our own vocation in life. We also finished our history unit on the Victorians this week. We had a brilliant afternoon showcasing our knowledge by playing a whole-class game of Kahoot and answering our enquiry question – the children did incredibly well with this and have thoroughly enjoyed the topic.

As always, the first week back can be slightly hectic. However, Class 6 are settling back into the school routine; we are starting new units; and crucially, we are taking the ever important steps towards SATs preparation. In maths, we have been looking at adding and subtracting fractions with a different denominator, building on the knowledge of lowest common multiples from before half term. In English, we have started our new topic of 'Mystery Stories', with our grammatical focus being 'semi colons' and 'dashes to interrupt a main clause'. Year 6 are very interested to know if their predication and inferences of the characters are correct - they will find out next week!



Remembrance: Year 6 would like to say a huge thank you to Michael Turner, a volunteer from the British Legion Trust. He came in to school and told us how it felt during the war, watching as his own father was called into service. He also told us about his own conscription call up, and the pride he felt to represent his country.

From Monday, pupils will be able to buy poppies and other items from the Royal British Legion.



Stanley Grange: As well as harvesting and tasting the sweetcorn grown on our plot, this week's group

put the finishing touches to their carved pumpkins. Due to staff holidays, there will be no visit to Stanley Grange on Thursday for pupils in Group Two. The following week (November 16th), Group Three will go. Throughout the year, we will make sure every group is able to attend as often as possible.



Pope Francis: *Tears do not last forever. With the Lord they come to an end. As Scripture prophesies,, He is the God who will "eliminate death" and "dry the tears from all faces" (Is 25:8). He has made our tears his own to take them away.(Taken from X)*



Children's Liturgy: This Sunday is the 31st Sunday of the year. In the Gospel, Jesus warns us to be careful when we are deciding what sort of people we want to be. We are asked not to be too proud but to help one another. Jesus is talking about people who seem to know a lot and think they are very important. Jesus warns his friends that there are some people who always tell others what to do but never listen to their own advice. Their words and their actions are not the same. So, Jesus tells his friends, that they can listen, but that they are not to copy what these people do. These people say one thing, but do another, while also telling everyone else how they must behave. And, more importantly, they never do anything to help others. Jesus tells us that we must always listen to God first. Jesus does not show off or act like a king. He acts like a servant, because we should all be like servants – loving and caring for each other. We can follow Jesus' words, but we can also follow his actions. What Jesus does is always filled with love for other people. How can you serve others and help each other this week? How can you behave in a way that would show our love for others this week? We do hope you can join us at 9:30am Mass - it would be lovely to see you .

School Attendance: Here are our weekly attendance figures for this week

Week commencing 30.10.23

	This Week	School Year
Yr R	99.2%	97.2%
Yr 1	100%	99.6%
Yr 2	95.6%	97.4%
Yr 3	92.7%	96.1%
Yr 4	95.95	95%
Yr 5	93.3%	98.2%
Yr 6	92.7%	95.5%
Total	95.5%	96.9%



AGM

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING



The Oak, Hoghton Lane



7:30pm, Tuesday 7th November

EVERYONE WELCOME!

Cool Milk: We have now started providing milk for pupils to drink in school every morning. If you have not yet registered, you must do so before 5pm on Tuesday and if your child is over the age of 5, make a payment via your online Cool Milk account. For example, if you register by Tuesday, 7th November and makes a payment 5pm, your child will show on the drinking list from the following Monday (13/11/23). If a payment is made after 5pm, your child will show on the drinking list from the week after. You will not pay for the missed week as Cool Milk works out the start date at the time of payment and amends the amount accordingly.

Cool Milk

Class R/1: Don't forget, parents and carers of pupils in Class R/1 are invited to join a Forest School session on Tuesday (November 7th) from 2.15pm to 3.15pm. Please come dressed for the outdoors!

Photos: Please remember, the photographers from Tempest will be in school on **Monday afternoon** to take individual and family picture. **All pupils should come to school in their full uniform, not PE or**



Forest School kit. If you have completed the form on School Spider, and are bringing a sibling who is not currently a pupil here, please arrive at the main pedestrian gate at 1pm.

Parents Evening: Staff will be available after school on Tuesday, 14th November. You can reserve your appointment time by booking via the School Spider app. If you are unable to make this date, please speak to Mrs Cox and we will make an alternative appointment for you.

Extra curricular activities: There are two opportunities for pupils in Year 3, Year 4, Year 5 & Year 6 to take part in after school clubs this half term. Details have been sent home about Monday's multi-sport club which will be run by Prime Sport, as well as the Stop Motion Club which is being run by Jam Coding. If you would like your child to attend either club, please liaise directly with the organisers.

Twinkly Nativity: In early December, Class R/1 and children from Nursery, will be performing the "Twinkly Nativity". If you can help us create any of the following, please speak to Miss Ollerton:

- Simple dark coloured backdrop with stars
- 3x telescopes
- 5x signs for the innkeepers
- 7x signs for the angels

Nasal Flu Vaccine: If your child did not have the nasal flu vaccine, the team from Intrahealth will be returning to school to do a "catch-up" session. On Monday, pupils who have not already had the vaccination will be given a named consent form for you to complete. This must be returned to the school office.

Aladdin:

Actors from M&M Productions will be in school on Monday, 13th November to perform



"Aladdin" for all pupils. Many thanks to those parents who have already paid their contribution via School Spider, or in cash to the school office. School is subsidising the cost of this performance, but we are asking for a voluntary contribution of £8 per child.

Diary Dates: We are just in the process of finalising all the events that will be taking place this half term and in the lead up to Christmas. The full list will be shared with you next week.

Laps to Lapland: Well what a fantastic start we had to our mission to make it the 2003 miles to Lapland!

All the children did brilliantly, some set off very quickly like Usain Bolt, while others took after Mo Farah and kept going and going!

Mrs Latham spoke to the children about our "magic miles" and said if they complete any sports or activities outside of school these miles can count towards the school's total; pupils should mention it to any teacher!

We are already looking forward to next Friday!

St Joseph's Christmas Art Competition

Let us spread the jolliness of Christmas through Art!

Children are invited to create a piece of artwork based on the theme 'An Eco-Friendly Christmas'.

This year's theme is inspired by the letter 'Laudato Si' by Pope Francis which remains a profound invitation for everyone on the planet to care for, respect and value our common home.

All entries must be handed into Miss Ollerton by Monday 18th December. Your child's name and class should be clearly labelled on their entry.

A **Bronze**, Silver and **Gold** prize will be awarded. All entries will receive a certificate of participation.



What Parents & Carers Need to Know about



AGE RESTRICTION
13+

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

In October 2022, the enormously popular social media network Twitter was purchased by tech tycoon Elon Musk. That sparked a host of changes to the platform – not all which have been received positively by its fans. The alterations have continued with each passing month, many of them raising online safety concerns among the 530 million users of Twitter (now rebranded as simply X). With further adjustments reportedly in the pipeline, X has attracted more than its usual share of controversy and caution in recent times.

A BLOCK ON BLOCKING

X has announced plans to remove its blocking feature. Previously, this stopped other users from viewing your profile or sending you direct messages, while also hiding their posts from your feed. Only this latter function will now remain. The decision has been criticised by some members, who feel that blocking (in its current form) protects them from X users who 'promote denial and hatred'.

AGE-INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Many of X's less age-appropriate posts can feature anything from extreme political views to pornography. While accounts marked as 18+ are restricted from non-members, it's still fairly easy to stumble across this material accidentally. X's new 'For You' page also shows content from accounts that a user doesn't already follow – meaning that almost anything could end up on a child's feed.

BLUE TICK SALE

PROTECT PRIVACY

Unsavory characters may try to gain access to a young person's X account – either to view their posts and gather information on them, or to completely take control of it. To minimise risk, ensure the account has a strong password and enable the 'Protect Your Posts' feature (via the account settings), so that strangers can't view your child's posts without first being approved as a follower.

DON'T RISE TO THE BAIT

To gain more views and followers, some X users post deliberately inflammatory comments on sensitive topics such as race, sexual orientation and gender issues. Many young people could find this upsetting. Emphasise that, if your child encounters someone spreading hate on X, it's best not to give that person what they want: an argument. Ignore them, mute their account and move on.

STAY ALERT FOR IMPOSTERS

Make sure your child understands that X's blue ticks no longer guarantee the identity of anyone on the platform. While it might be exciting if a celebrity liked your child's post, it could just as easily be an imposter with malicious intentions. If your child's not 100% sure that an X user actually is who they claim to be, advise them to err on the side of caution and avoid interacting with that account.

ONLY FOLLOW TRUSTED ACCOUNTS

Using the 'Following' tab on X helps to ensure that the only content your child sees has come from accounts they've chosen to follow: this should reduce the chance of them inadvertently being exposed to harmful, violent or explicit content. Show your child how to report another user's account if, say, they're behaving inappropriately by spreading misinformation or offensive opinions.

BE READY TO TAKE ACTION

If your child suffers harassment on the platform or becomes the target of a hack, you could consider deactivating their account entirely. Recently, X's safety features have been criticised for allegedly failing to protect users' wellbeing – so if your child is being subjected to abusive messages or similar mistreatment on the platform, it might be prudent to remove them from X altogether.

Meet Our Expert

Lloyd Coombes is Editor in Chief of gaming and esports site GCRecon and has worked in the gaming media for around four years. Always eager to test out the latest apps, games and online trends, he's also a parent who understands the importance of online safety. Writing mainly about tech and fitness, his articles have been published on influential sites including IGN and TechRadar.



NOS National Online Safety®
#WakeUpWednesday

**SCHOOL
ADMISSIONS
PRIMARY**

APPLY NOW!
at lancashire.gov.uk/schools

School and Academy places September 2024

You must apply if your child has a 4th birthday between 1 September 2023 and 31 August 2024.

You must apply even if an older brother or sister is already at the school, or the school is linked to your child's nursery.

If you're a non-Lancashire resident apply through your own local authority.

Please read the admission criteria for your chosen schools on the website or get a copy from them.

School transport

Need transport to school?
Please don't forget to check your eligibility for free transport.
Search 'school transport' at lancashire.gov.uk

**CLOSING DATE
15 JANUARY 2024**

lancashire.gov.uk



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