

St Joseph's Catholic Primary School: Newsletter 08.12.23

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: As we fast approach the second Sunday of Advent, we pray for peace. Peace in the world, and for ourselves. There has never been a more important time to pray for peace with the conflict that is found in our world today. As a school we have looked at CAFOD resources to help us pray for peace in our world and remind ourselves that Advent is the season of hope. We have talked about how the excitement of Christmas is wonderful but how we should find a little time each day for calm and to remember our prayers. Preparing for Jesus' coming is a reminder that there is always hope. Our wonderful younger children reminded us of the true meaning of Christmas as they told this story beautifully this week in their Nativity production. It was a simple, yet powerful retelling of the Christmas story. They were amazing and remembered all their lines, actions and songs. Well done to all of the staff involved. Their hard work really paid off and I was so proud of all of the children.



Award Winners



CI R/1:

Dojo Champion: **Darcy**

School Values/Mission: **Freddie** for friendship

"Spotted": **Mattie** for demonstrating resilience

Dojo Champion: **Tiffany**

School Values/Mission: **Thea** for friendship & compassion

"Spotted": **Joseph** for producing a fantastic, informative booklet about reindeers

Dojo Champion: **Eliza**

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

"Spotted": **Charlie** for putting 100% effort into all he does and being a great role model

Dojo Champion: **Halle**

School Values/Mission: **Heidi** for creativity

"Spotted" by staff: **Sebby** for applying absolutely amazing handwriting into his information sheet



This week spotted:

Ollie

For cheering people up and being helpful

Sunday Gospel: The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. It is written in the book of the prophet Isaiah: "Look! I am sending my messenger ahead—he will prepare your way. A voice cries out in the wilderness 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.'" And so it was that John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. People from the land of Judea and the city of Jerusalem came to him and, as they were baptised by him in the river Jordan, they confessed their sins. But John said, "There is someone else to come—someone who is more powerful than I am, I have baptised you with water, but he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit,"
Mark 1: 1-8

Recent Correspondence

Please find below a list of information that has recently been sent out:
School Meals w/c 11/12
Year 6 Information
Rock Steady Concert: 13/12
Wednesday Word
Christmas Lunch: 18/12
Academic Year dates 2024 2025
Class 2/3 and Class 6 Information

Can you help? Don't forget, there is a box in the school entrance for donations for the Gregson Green 5 Gold G's Appeal. If you are able to make a donation, please refer to the list on page 4 of this newsletter for some ideas. Thank you.

Classroom Catch Up: Wow! We are so proud of Class R/1 this week, especially of their amazing performances during the Nativity. They have worked incredibly hard over the past few weeks learning the songs, actions and their lines. It really was a "Twinkly Nativity" - we hope that we brought some twinkle to your toes! We continued the Christmas celebrations this week by making some Christmas cards to deliver to the local community. We are looking forward to making some more Christmas crafts next week during the Class R/1 Festive Stay and Craft session next Friday, 15th December from 2pm to 3pm.

Excitement is mounting in Year 2/3 as we get closer to Christmas. Our R.E. lessons this week have looked at the events leading up to Jesus' birth, including the annunciation and the shepherds' visitation and the children have produced some lovely work. We had the privilege of watching the CI R/Y1 Nativity this week and we all thought it was spectacular and the acting and singing was fabulous. In geography this week, we have focused on the oceans of the world and found out some fascinating facts. This led to the children producing some amazing and very informative work. We have a new class reading book, called "The Dog that Saved Christmas" and we are using this great story to inspire our own writing.

We have had a lovely week in Class 4/5. On Monday, some residents and staff from Stanley Grange came to visit and we enjoyed a craft session with them. We each made a 'Santa Stone' to be placed in our gardens. In science, we have been exploring water resistance and completed an experiment linked with this. We discovered that honey created more resistance than water. In R.E., we have been looking at the Advent wreath and the meaning behind each section of it. Finally, we have been full steam ahead with our assessments and the children have done an amazing job – I am incredibly proud of them!

In CI 6 this week, we have been finishing our assessments for the Autumn term. Although it is only a couple of weeks until Christmas, and festive cheer is clearly in the air, the class have got their heads down, and given everything - this is reflected in their fantastic results! In maths, we have started our final unit of the term 'converting measurements' where Year 6 are applying their knowledge of multiplication and division by a power of ten. In English, we are ready to start our final unit - discussion text and speech - linking to our geography topic on climate change.

Children's Liturgy: Sunday is the 2nd Sunday of Advent. We will hear about John the Baptist and how he was a messenger for God, preparing people for the coming of Jesus.

How do you prepare during Advent? We put up a Christmas tree and decorate it. We buy presents for other people and we wrap them up.

When John the Baptist began to prepare the way for Jesus, it wasn't just for his friends and family. His message was for everyone who would listen.

Prayer is a way that we can prepare for Jesus too. We can also try to be kind and generous to other people and say sorry for all the things that we've done wrong. We can say sorry in prayer to God, and also we can say sorry to the people we have hurt by our actions.

Can you think of other ways we can prepare for the coming of Jesus?

We do hope you can join us at 9:30am Mass - it would be lovely to see you.



Diary Dates

Wednesday, 13th	Rock Steady Concert at 10am
Friday, 15th	Weekly mile PJ day for Cafod
Monday, 18th	PTFA Santa Dash Christmas jumper day* Christmas lunch
Tuesday, 19th	Class parties (non-uniform)
Wednesday, 20th	Christmas celebration at 10.45am School closes at 1.15pm
<i>*donations for the Foxton Centre please</i>	
Monday, 8th January	School re-opens at 8.50am

Christmas Events: Don't forget, next Friday is our PJ day for CAFOD. After our weekly mile, pupils will be enjoying a festive film and treats provided by the PTFA. Pupils can come to school in their PJs or loungewear—but remember they will also need their trainers to run in too—in exchange, we would be grateful for donations for CAFOD.

You can now also order your child's Christmas lunch using the booking form on School Spider. Our cook Lynne, will be serving a traditional turkey dinner—or vegetarian option—on Monday, 18th December.

Pope Francis: God chose poverty when He took on our human condition. We too are called to return to what is essential in our lives, to discard all that is superfluous and can become an obstacle on the path to holiness
(Taken from X)



Rule of Law

Sometimes rules, such as not allowing people to stay in their homes, may be introduced in response to an event. They are put in place to help protect people and keep them safe.

PTFA Raffle: Many thanks to everyone who donated towards the rainbow raffle and bottles! The hampers are now ready to be won. Please return tickets and money to school by next Friday. If you have any tickets that have not been sold, please also return those to school. Extra tickets can be bought from the school office. The raffle will be drawn on Monday, 18th December.



Class R/1 Activities: Weather dependent, CI R/1 will be walking to the Gregson Lane playground on Tuesday morning. This is part of their geography work on our local area. On Friday afternoon, you are invited to take part in a festive stay and play from 2pm. We look forward to seeing you in school for an hour of craft.

School Attendance: Here are our attendance figures for this week
 Week Commencing: 04.12.23

	This Week	This Year
Yr R	97.5%	97.5%
Yr 1	99.2%	98.8%
Yr 2	95.6%	95.9%
Yr 3	99.1%	95.9%
Yr 4	90.6%	95.8%
Yr 5	99.3%	98.5%
Yr 6	97.3%	96.1%
Total	96.7%	97%

Stanley Grange: As well as welcoming staff and residents from Stanley Grange to school this week, to watch our Nativity and enjoy a craft activity with Class 4/5, Group 3 also went to visit our allotment. They helped to add Christmas touches to the workshop, decorating the windows!





Our Santa's Sleigh donation boxes are ready in the community and awaiting your kind donations.... If you can't make the Santa's Sleigh event on the 16th December but would like to support families of Home-Start Central Lancashire with a few donations this Christmas, here's a few places you can drop off your kind donations:

- Brindle Gregson Lane Primary School
- Brindle St Joseph's Primary School
- Coupe Green Primary School
- Old Oak Garage
- Many Brooks Residential Home
- Community Centre, Gregson Lane
- Spar, Alder Drive
- Londis, Hoghton Lane

Suggested Donations:

- Canned vegetables
- Canned fruit
- Dried Pasta
- Jars of sauces
- Long life milk
- Cordials
- Baked beans / Tinned spaghetti
- Ketchup / Brown sauce etc
- Biscuits
- Selection boxes
- Chocolates
- Toiletries
- Nappies
- Baby wipes
- Tissues
- Toilet rolls
- Kitchen rolls

The list is endless, all we ask is that whatever you donate, it has a decent shelf life. Thanks as always for your support, especially this year when we know the cost of living crisis is affecting many families.

JOSEPH & NIAMH'S CHRISTMAS APPEAL FOR THE FOXTON CENTRE - PLEASE HELP THE HOMELESS & FAMILIES IN NEED

WE ARE COLLECTING FOR THE FOXTON CENTRE AGAIN THIS CHRISTMAS - PLEASE HELP:

- TINNED FOOD
- WARM CLOTHES (clean/used)
- TOYS AND GIFTS
- TOILETRIES
- LONG LIFE MILK & JUICE
- RICE & PASTA
- CEREAL BARS



**Claire - 07968 254860
29 Bank Head Lane**

Made with PosterMyWall.com



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 DISNEY+

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

The Walt Disney Company's streaming service, Disney+ combines entertainment from the famous animation studio itself with Pixar, Star and National Geographic, plus the Marvel and Star Wars franchises. With access to the latest releases, Disney classics and original series, there's plenty of content to explore. While parents may have noted that adverts have now been introduced on some versions of the service, the platform is – unsurprisingly for a Disney product – designed to be appropriate for the whole family.

LESS SUITABLE CONTENT

While Disney+ is predominantly family friendly, there are some movies and shows in its library which are aimed at an older audience: these may scare younger ones or contain themes or language that you'd rather your child wasn't exposed to. You could avoid such situations by enabling Junior Mode (see 'Adjust content settings', below) or specifying a content age rating for your child's profile.

BINGE WATCHING

With the option to view content on any internet-enabled device and a growing catalogue of movies, cartoons and documentaries, Disney+ can make managing screen time difficult. This could result in children binge watching content, distracting them from activities like homework or socialising. Too much screen time has also been shown to negatively impact mood, sleep patterns and weight.

PHISHING EMAILS

Be especially cautious if you receive emails or text messages purporting to be from Disney+. There have been numerous reports of online scammers impersonating Disney+ staff in an attempt to gain access to subscribers' personal information. Disney+ states it will never email or call customers asking for their payment details, their private information or their password.

ENCROACHING ADVERTS

Disney+ has introduced a new subscription package – Disney+ Standard with Ads – which plays commercials before movies and during shows (like many TV channels). There are no adverts in Junior Mode, but profiles with a content rating of 6+ years will see ads appropriate for that age category. Adults who give consent will see personalised adverts based on their location and viewing history.

ACCESSING ADULTS' PROFILES

If adults don't set a PIN for their profile, children could access it and encounter content which isn't age appropriate. In the settings, Junior Mode has a toggle titled 'Kid-Proof Exit' which requires the user to read four words (numbers, spelled out) and enter them to switch profiles. For older children who can read, though, this isn't secure enough – so using a PIN for adult profiles is recommended.

Advice for Parents & Carers

ADJUST CONTENT SETTINGS

When setting up an account, there's an option to create profiles in what's called Junior Mode. This generally covers material that's suitable for children up to age 6 and is therefore fairly limited. You can give older children a wider choice of viewing by building a standard profile, then going into the settings and choosing a content rating from one of the pre-set alternatives: 6+, 9+, 12+ or 14+.



ADD PIN PROTECTION

Disney+ enables you to effectively lock profiles behind a four-digit PIN. In particular, some of the shows on the platform's Star content hub are far more oriented to adults (including several hard-hitting dramas from US networks), so protecting parents' or older siblings' profiles with a PIN will help to prevent younger children stumbling across material which isn't intended for them.



TURN OFF AUTO-PLAY

When a cartoon, show or movie finishes, Disney+ uses algorithms to identify content with similar themes, which it thinks your child will also enjoy. This suggestion will then automatically begin to play by default. There's an option to turn off this auto-play function in the profile settings, which will encourage your child to take a break from the screen and move on to a different activity.



ENJOY AS A FAMILY

When your child watches a movie or show on Disney+ for the first time, you may want to sit with them to ensure it's suitable. You could do the same when introducing them to older films that you haven't seen for years: your perception of what's appropriate has very probably changed, and some of the language and attitudes in movies from your own childhood may seem quite shocking today.



Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian government comparing internet use and sexting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.



National
Online
Safety®

#WakeUpWednesday

Source: https://help.disneyplus.com/csp?id=csp_article_content&sys_kb_id=1f98cdd3b4c49880156c0319270711 https://help.disneyplus.com/csp?id=csp_article_content&sys_kb_id=153e61f1d6441d03af1e26c21981938 https://help.disneyplus.com/csp?id=csp_article_content&sys_kb_id=168126c1b1a0c80850d0d9910711 https://help.disneyplus.com/csp?id=csp_article_content&sys_kb_id=168126c1b1a0c80850d0d9910711

@natonlinesafety

/NationalOnlineSafety

@nationalonlinesafety

@national_online_safety

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 00.00.2023

**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



Lancashire
County
Council



© Crown 8/20