

St Joseph's Catholic Primary School: Newsletter 02.02.24

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, as part of our R.E. curriculum in Year 6 we studied the Bible and looked at how it is like a library with many books inside it. We looked at the letters from St Paul and also Acts. We then discussed how we could be like St Paul and write letters to the younger children in school, teaching them how to be a good Christian and follow the teachings of Jesus.

As always, our children had wonderful ideas such as being kind; putting yourself in others shoes; helping others and treating people how you would like to be treated. We then went to Class 2/3 and read our letters to them and discussed our ideas together.

We are constantly teaching our children Gospel Values in order to prepare them for a successful and compassionate lifelong journey, reminding them that God is always by our side in all we do.



Award Winners



CI R/1:



Dojo Champion: **Eve**



School Values/Mission: **Jacob** -collaboration



"Spotted": **Riley** for putting 100% effort into his writing and showing resilience when it was difficult



CI 2/3:



Dojo Champion: **Sam**



School Values/Mission: **Thea**—compassion



"Spotted": **Emily** for using her writing skills in her own time to write a fantastic story



CI 4/5:



Dojo Champion: **Charlie**



School Values/Mission: **Lavinia**—kindness & justice



"Spotted": **Flynn** for sharing well thought out ideas in class discussions this week



CI 6:



Dojo Champion: **Halle**



School Values/Mission: **George**-resilience



"Spotted": **Lois** for showing fantastic support for other children in the class



PTFA Disco: Tickets for the disco on Thursday (February 8th) are now on sale from the school office! The disco starts at 6pm until 7.30pm.

This week spotted: Willow R

For being a kind friend

Sunday Gospel: On leaving the synagogue, Jesus went with James and John straight to the house of Simon and Andrew. Now Simon's mother-in-law had gone to bed with fever, and they told him about her straightaway. He went to her, took her by the hand and helped her up. And the fever left her and she began to wait on them. That evening, after sunset, they brought to him all who were sick. The whole town came, crowding round the door, and he cured many who were suffering from diseases of one kind or another; he also cast out many evil spirits, but he would not allow them to speak because they knew who he was. In the morning, long before dawn, he got up and left the house and went off to a lonely place and prayed there. Mark 1: 29-39 (Wednesday Word)

Number Day: Don't forget, Monday is number day!

For a donation, pupils can come to school dressed in something related to maths, number or calculations. Donations will be split between the NSPCC and to buy new maths resources for school. Activities in class will link to number and calculation, and then we will be having a St Joseph's TTRockstars battle!

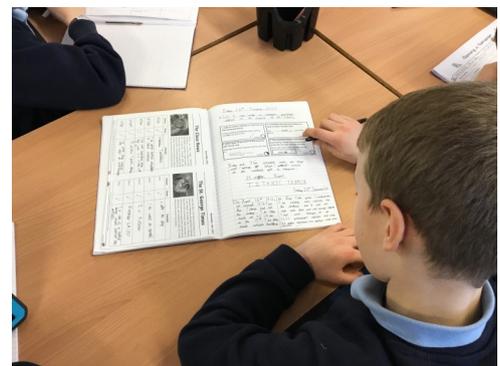


Classroom Catch Up: In Class R/1 this week, the children have enjoyed learning about the celebrations that take place during Chinese New Year as part of our exploration of different cultures in RE. They enjoyed making a red lantern, decorating it with good luck messages and dragon designs to represent the year of the dragon. In English, Year 1 have completed their independent write. Inspired by the story 'There's No Such Thing As Dragons', the children have worked incredibly hard to write a new version- 'There's No Such Thing As Aliens' which includes the skill of including a repeating refrain in a story. Maths wise, Year 1 have completed their unit of 'Place Value within 20' and are moving on to 'Addition and Subtraction within 20'. Reception have been busy continuing to explore mass and capacity.



In Maths this week, Year 2 have started their unit on multiplication, looking at equal groups of numbers. Year 3 are also on multiplication, but are looking at partitioning a 2-digit number before multiplying. In English, we have been looking at putting words into sentences, and sentences into paragraphs, before adding a variety of conjunctions to help the writing flow. We had a joint Collective Worship with Year 6 this week too, using the Scripture from the book of Mark to understand how to spread the Word of God.

We've had a productive week in Class 4/5. In English, we have started to plan our newspaper reports which we will be writing next week. The focus of our reports will be the sinking of the Titanic as this links with what we have been covering in history. In maths, both Year 4 and Year 5 have been looking at division. Year 5 have been using the short method, whilst Year 4 have been using equipment to help them share amounts into groups. In RE, we have been looking at Jesus' apostles and their mission. We looked at the way in which they were united as one despite approaching their mission in different ways. I cannot believe we are approaching the last week of half term already – the weeks really do flyby!



In Year 6 maths, we have finished our unit on ratio and proportion, by looking at reducing and increasing quantities of ingredients. We have now started our unit on algebra. Despite the worldwide misconception that algebra is impossible, when applied to real-life situations, it becomes relatively simple - Year 6 have suggested it is almost easy! In English, we have finished our modelled write, which will be used next week to write an independent story. In science, pupils completed a booklet about the eye!

Wrap around Provision: Further to the letter sent out yesterday regarding before and after school club provision, Mrs Wilson has now confirmed that BGL will accept childcare vouchers towards payment for sessions.

School Attendance:

Here are our attendance figures for this week and last week

	w/c 22.01.24	This Week	This Year
Yr R	96.7%	91.7%	96.1%
Yr 1	98.3%	95%	98.3%
Yr 2	86.7%	93.3%	94.2%
Yr 3	87.3%	97.3%	95.9%
Yr 4	95.9%	80%	94.5%
Yr 5	98.6%	99.3%	98.4%
Yr 6	100%	92%	95.9%
Total	95.4%	92%	96.2%

Year 6 PE: Due to a number of themed days and therefore timetable changes next week, Class 6 will be having P.E. on **Wednesday and Thursday** and **not on Tuesday**.

Access to school: Work on the footpaths around school will start from Monday. As the paths through Forest School will be closed, access will only be via the Nursery entrance and gate for drop offs and pick ups. We will inform you when the usual one-way system will re-open. As the path will be busy at the start and end of the day, could we ask for your patience at these times. Would you also make sure that adults and pupils keep to the path and don't go through the nursery garden as the activities are often set up in advance of the day ahead.

Children's Liturgy: Sunday is 5th Sunday of Ordinary time. In the Gospel we hear about how Jesus healed people who were sick. People who were ill came to the place where Jesus was. Some of them may have travelled a long way. Jesus helped them all, curing them and making them feel better. What do you think this story tells us about Jesus?

Jesus cared for people and wanted to help them. He was able to make people well again because he is God's son. When people saw what he could do, they believed in him. When was the last time that you were sick? How did you feel? Who helped you and made you feel better? What did they do to make you feel better? Sometimes when we are sick we have to see a doctor or go to the hospital. Not everyone in the world is able to do this and we should try to help in every way we can so that everyone can see a doctor when they need to. We can also show people here who are ill that we care about them by looking after them, taking them some food or drink, by sending them a card or letter in the post, by phoning them or perhaps by going to the shops for them if they can't get out. What will you do to show someone who is sick that you care this week? We do hope you can join us at 9:30am Mass - it would be lovely to see you.



Pope Francis: In this #YearOfPrayer, we are invited to make room for prayer that flows from the Holy Spirit. He knows how to place in our hearts and on our lips the right words in order to be heard by the Father.
(Taken from X)

Safer Internet Day: We will be marking this on Tuesday in school. Every teacher will focus on a different core element of online safety: content, contact, conduct and commerce. During the day, pupils will move round school taking part in different workshops. A link to a themed Online Safety Newsletter will be sent via School Spider.

Safer Internet Day 2024 | **Tuesday**
6 February

Coordinated by the UK Safer Internet Centre



Individual Liberty

We can choose what clothes we wear and what we do with them when we no longer want or need them. It is important to remember our actions have consequences, which can affect the environment.



Forest School: In Forest School this week, Year 4 expressed an interest in using some hand tools. A fallen tree on the playground was a perfect opportunity for them to practise using a bow saw to cut wood. The children shared many fond memories of the tree and sharing stories underneath it. They demonstrated great enthusiasm for finding new uses for the wood cut. It was fantastic to see the children supporting and praising each other for their efforts as many of the children commented that sawing wood is a lot harder than it looks! Well done, Y4!



Recent Correspondence

Please find below a list of information that has been sent out this week. Remember to check School Spider for all communication from school:

Wednesday Word

School Meals: week commencing 05.02.24

First Communion Class: Change of Date

Athletics Event: New Date

Reminders for 05.02.24

Wraparound Provision

Fitness Friday

Swimming Lessons

Facebook: Don't forget, we share news and photographs on our School Facebook page every day. Please like, comment and share!

Half Term: School closes at the usual time, 3.20pm next Friday (February 9th) and will re-open on Monday, 19th February at 8.50am.

FRIENDSHIP

DISCO

THURSDAY 8TH FEBRUARY

SCHOOL HALL 6-7:30

£6 per child -

inc drinks, sweets & snack

TICKETS ON SALE MONDAY 29TH JAN

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about PERSUASIVE DESIGN ONLINE

'Persuasive design' refers to the techniques that companies employ to influence our thoughts and behaviours when we're on the internet. These approaches can be spotted on websites, in apps and even as part of some video games. Persuasive design means that this content has been deliberately presented in a way that's intended to encourage you to spend your time or money (or both). These methods often prove highly effective at keeping people engaged and invested for longer than we might expect.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

POTENTIAL ADDICTION

In the digital world, persuasive design can make certain activities more addictive and harder to walk away from: some people may begin to feel anxious or irritated without access to their device or their favourite app, for example. It can also often leave users feeling isolated, as - if they spend most of their time on social media - they may start to find it difficult to talk to other people in real life.

MENTAL HEALTH CONCERNS

Scrolling online or gaming without regular breaks is proven to be harmful to our mental health. The constant bombardment of news stories (many of them negative), images and influencers' posts can create sensations of unease, uncertainty and FOMO (fear of missing out). Young people can get so immersed in this environment that they become less likely to spot misleading posts.

PROLONGED SCROLLING

Social media can draw any of us - regardless of age - into a continuous pattern of refreshing our screen, following posts and links down rabbit holes or reading countless comments made by others. This aimless scrolling can eat up time which could have been spent on more productive activities. It could also lead younger users into areas of the online world which aren't age appropriate.

KEEP SCROLLING

SENSORY OVERLOAD

Repetitively scrolling, clicking on links or playing games can create an unending stream of new information and visual stimuli. Put it this way: social media isn't exactly renowned as a carefree, chilled-out environment. Such overstimulation can become too much for young people to handle, resulting in sensory overload and causing them to feel stressed, overwhelmed and exhausted.

COSTLY ADDITIONS

Video games sometimes display offers for downloadable content or loot boxes which can be bought with real money. While these 'microtransactions' temptingly promise to improve a player's gaming experience, most of the time they are money sinks. Young people in particular, excited by the chance of enhancing their game, could spend quite a sizeable sum very quickly indeed.

PHYSICAL CONSEQUENCES

Hours spent sitting and scrolling means far less time moving around and getting exercise: hardly ideal for a young person's physical health. Additionally, prolonged exposure to the light given off by a phone's screen can lead to eye fatigue and discomfort, especially if viewing it in the dark. Extended phone use before bed can also impact on sleep quality, affecting mood and energy levels over the following days.

Advice for Parents & Carers

ESTABLISH LIMITS

Talk to your child about setting some time limits on how long they can use their phone, tablet or console in the evenings or at weekends - or perhaps how often they can go on a specific app, game or website. You could also decide to involve the whole family in creating this shared screen time agreement, making things fair (and healthier) for everyone.



NIX NOTIFICATIONS

Stop knee-jerk responses at the source by turning off push notifications and alerts. Whether it's a gaming notification or a social media update, these not-so-gentle reminders are designed to catch our attention and lure us back to our device. Switching them off - or even deleting any particularly intrusive apps - can help prevent your child from being reeled back into the online world.



ENCOURAGE MINDFULNESS

Acknowledging any addiction is key in overcoming it - and compulsive scrolling is no different. If anything mentioned in this guide sounds familiar, it could help to have an honest, open chat with your child about how much time they spend online. Get them to think about how often they scroll through social media aimlessly or habitually open it up whenever they have a spare moment.



MAKE A CHECKLIST

Considering a list of relevant questions can be an effective way of helping children figure out why they're scrolling on certain sites or consuming particular pieces of content. A checklist can prompt young people to ask themselves if they're learning anything or benefiting from this activity - or if they're wasting their time. Taking a step back can sometimes help us to see things more clearly.



Meet Our Expert

Rebecca Jennings has more than 20 years' experience in the field of relationships, sex and health education (RSHE). As well as delivering workshops and training for young people, parents and schools, she is also a subject matter expert on RSHE for the Department of Education.



The National College



National Online Safety

#WakeUpWednesday

@natonlinesafety

/NationalOnlineSafety

@nationalonlinesafety

@national_online_safety

 Brindle
Players



BOOK NOW

JOIN OUR HEROIC KNIGHTS FOR A
FAMILY PANTOMIME ADVENTURE



by TLC Creative courtesy of Lazy Bee Scripts

9TH, 10TH, 11TH, 16TH & 17TH FEBRUARY

Matinees Saturday & Sunday at 2:30pm | Evening shows at 7:30pm

St Joseph's Parish Hall, Private Road, Hoghton, PR5 ODE

Tickets from £8 each - www.ticketsource.co.uk/brindle-players

For group bookings and enquiries call: 07711 848994