

St Joseph's Catholic Primary School: Newsletter 05.05.23

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



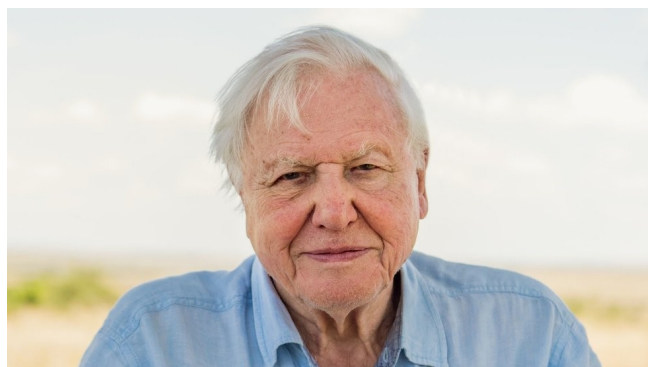
A Message from Miss Dewhurst:

"Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God and trust in me." This is the message from this Sunday's Gospel.

There are many things for us to worry about and we must follow and trust in God. This is especially poignant currently in school as I am sure we will have some nervous Year Six children this weekend as next week brings the start of the Key Stage 2 SATs. All of our Year Six children, along with Mr Astle, should be extremely proud of the hard work and commitment they have given this year. This is now their time to shine! Do your best and whatever happens now, know how extremely proud I am of you all!

I have told them, however, there are to be no dangerous games or sports this weekend - we cannot have injuries! If you are celebrating the coronation and, of course the long weekend, I hope you all have a wonderful time and let's pray that the weather is kind to us!

On a final note, I'd like to give a special mention to Isla and Charlotte who wrote to David Attenborough after we celebrated Earth Day. I had goose bumps yesterday, as they came to show me the hand written letter, alongside a signed autograph, they got back from him! How thoughtful of him and so very exciting! This shows you should always give things a go - you never know what might happen!



Mindfulness Matters

When life seems hard, the courageous do not lie down and accept defeat; instead, they are all the more determined to struggle for a better future.

HM Queen Elizabeth II



Pope Francis: *St Joseph teaches us that, in the midst of life's tempests, we must never be afraid to let the Lord steer our course.*

Award Winners

CI R/1:

Writer of the Week: **Tommy**
 Mathematician of the Week: **Mary**
 Reader of the Week: **Denis**
 Citizen of the Week: **Esmail**
 Dojo Champion: **Rory**

CI 2/3:

Writer of the Week: **Harriet**
 Mathematician of the Week: **Oscar**
 Reader of the Week: **Hektor**
 Citizen of the Week: **Ava**
 Dojo Champion: **Eliza**

CI 4/5:

Writer of the Week: **Heidi**
 Mathematician of the Week: **Lois**
 Reader of the Week: **Ben**
 Citizen of the Week: **Flynn**
 Dojo Champion: **Darcie**

CI 6:

Mathematician of the Week: **Emily**
 Reader of the Week: **Alice**
 Citizen of the Week: **Harry**
 Dojo Champion: **Destiny**

This week's winners of our "Spotted" Award is:

Peggy

For being a loyal friend and being kind

Classroom Catch Up: We have had a busy four-day week in Class R/1! In Collective Worship our theme was Mary (Our Lady) and we looked at why she is so special to us. The children came up with some lovely words to describe her such as “beautiful”, “kind”, “astonishing” and “extraordinary”. In R.E., our topic is “Good News” and we learnt all about Pentecost and the coming of the Holy Spirit. The children are loving our history and science topics which are all about space! We are learning about Neil Armstrong and why he is a significant part of history! The Year 1 children have started practising for their phonics screening test and they are doing well! We are so proud of all of them!

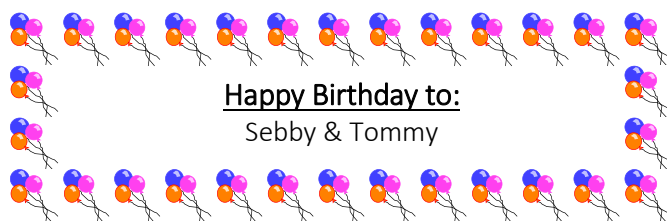
In Maths, Class 2/3 have moved on to fractions. We have been looking at equal and unequal parts, understanding the numerator and denominator, as well as comparing and ordering different fractions. In English, the children have been busy planning and writing a report on the story of the Windrush. They have enjoyed learning about the lives of Dame Floella Benjamin and Sam King MBE. Our current topic of “Animations” in computing, makes it a popular lesson of the week! It's lovely to see the children support each other and work in teams to debug and overcome any technological difficulties they may face. Well done Class 2/3!

We've had a brilliant week in Class 4/5. We have started to plan our own Viking sagas which are based on a familiar plot. The children really enjoy completing their own fictional pieces of writing and I cannot wait to see what they produce next week. We have started a new unit of decimals in maths for Year 5 and fractions in Year 4 – the children have been working incredibly hard with this. In history, we explored the Viking attack on Lindisfarne which confirmed the accurate title for our topic of ‘Vicious Vikings’.

Our final preparations for SATs are now complete in Class 6. Maths has finished with coordinate grids - we have looked at translation, reflection and the x and y axis in all four quadrants. In English, we have been looking at the difference between simple past, past progressive and past perfect tense, before converting them into simple present, present progressive and present perfect. It isn't easy, but as usual, Year 6 have given everything.

Sunday Gospel: On the night before he died, Jesus spoke to his friends, the disciples. “Do not let your hearts be troubled,” he said. “Trust in God and trust in me. There are many rooms in my Father’s house, and I am going now to prepare a place for you. I will come again and take you with me so that where I am, you may be too. You know the way to the place where I am going.” Then Thomas, a disciple, said, “Lord, we do not know where you are going: how can we know the way?” Jesus said, “I am the Way, the Truth and the Life. No one can come to the Father except through me. If you know me, you know my Father too. You must believe me when I say that I am in the Father and the Father is in me. I tell you most solemnly, whoever believes in me will perform the same works as I do myself; they will perform even greater works, because I am going to the Father.”

John 14 :1-12



Happy Birthday to:
Sebby & Tommy

Walk to school day: On the next page, please find attached a letter to advertise the 'Lancashire Walks to School' day which is coming up on Friday, 19th May. We are getting involved to commemorate the coronation and to promote the active travel choices among our families.

Every child who walks to school on that day will receive a special mention and certificate. Please join in and help us to maximise the number of participants!



Dates for your diary: Summer Term

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|-----------------------|--|
| * Monday, 8th May | Coronation Bank Holiday |
| * Tuesday, 9th May | Yr 6 SATs start |
| * Wednesday, 10th May | Swimming starts for Yr 3 |
| * Wednesday, 17th May | Collective Worship for Cl 4/5 |
| * Thursday, 18th May | Cl R/1 Trip to Smithills Farm |
| * Friday, 19th May | Cl 2/3 leading Mass in school at 10.30am |



Message from County Councillor Jayne Rear

Lancashire County Council is inviting all schools across the county to take part in 'Lancashire Walks to School Day' on Friday 19 May to commemorate the Coronation of His Majesty King Charles III and Her Majesty The Queen Consort, and to promote the benefits of choosing active travel options such as walking and cycling whenever possible.

This is important to us, combining our commitment to the priority of protecting the environment, with coming together as a county to celebrate the historic Coronation of our new Monarch in a way that helps us to make Lancashire a greener, safer and healthier place to live.

I know how hard every school in Lancashire works all year round, and how many schools are already promoting active travel; whether this be the use of public transport or cycling and walking to school to help protect our local environment. Lancashire Walks to School Day is taking place during Living Streets National Walking Month and we would love it if every school in Lancashire could get involved in some way.

I know that many schools have participated in walk to school days. We want to make this the biggest Walk to School event Lancashire has ever done! Take a look at the information below to find ideas on how your school can get involved and how you can register your involvement.

I also look forward to hearing about how schools have celebrated with us on this momentous occasion.

Many thanks

CC Jayne Rear, Cabinet Member for Education and Skills

School Attendance: Here are our weekly attendance figures.

Week commencing 02/05/23	
Yr R	92%
Yr 1	100%
Yr 2	100%
Yr 3	99%
Yr 4	98.3%
Yr 5	97.1%
Yr 6	96.7%
TOTAL	97.5%

School Spider: Please remember, all communication is now sent out only via School Spider. As with Parent-mail, it would be helpful if you could book your child's lunches. The forms are sent out two weeks in advance, to be completed no later than 9am on a Monday morning for the following week. However, if you miss the deadline, your child can still have a school meal as staff check the dinner register every morning.

Children's Liturgy:

Sunday is 5th Sunday of Easter. Few of us would set off on a journey to a place we have not been to before without looking on the computer or phone on how to look at a map. Nobody would set off with no idea of how to get there, for then we would certainly get lost. In the Gospel Jesus tells his disciples that they already know the way to the place he is going, even though they have never been before. We will see how confused they become and how Jesus explained all that they needed to know. We must have faith in Jesus and follow him in everything we do. We would love to see you at Children's Liturgy at 9:30am Mass on Sunday.



Recent Correspondence: Please find below a list of information that has been sent out this week in addition to the Weekly School Newsletter:

Stanley Grange Dates
Rock Steady Tuition
Wednesday Word
Sacramental Preparation reminder
CI R/1 Forest School Sessions
Reminders for May 5th
Anderton Centre payments

Please ensure you read thoroughly all correspondence that is sent out from school.

Saving the planet: Year 4 pupils Isla and Charlotte were delighted this week to receive a letter from Sir David Attenborough. They had contacted the naturalist, sending him a poster they made in school on Earth Day which focussed on how they could look after our planet. They also sent him bookmarks.

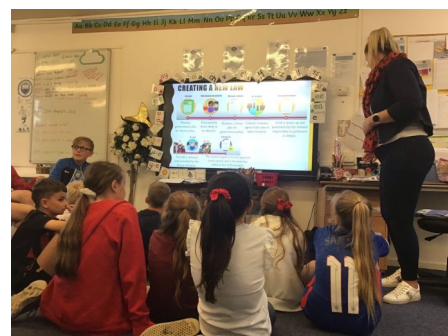
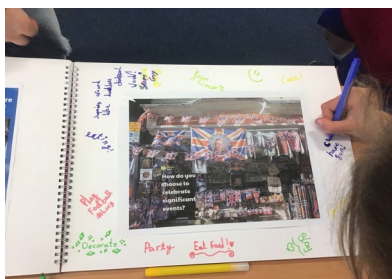
As well as sending the girls a picture with his autograph on it, in his hand written note, Sir David thanked them for telling him about their Earth Day activities and said "You are quite right. We must look after our planet".



Coronation Day events: Today in school, we celebrated the Coronation of King Charles III which is taking place tomorrow.

Miss Dewhurst started the day with an assembly which looked at Prince Charles and his life; London and some of the significant buildings which will feature in his Coronation, particularly Westminster Abbey, and ended with a reflection on this significant event as a key moment in our history. Pupils enjoyed a street party picnic lunch complete with community sing-a-long. As well as the National Anthem, the most popular choice was of course "Sweet Caroline".

During the afternoon staff led a carousel of activities for each class focussing on a different fundamental British Value. Miss Bottomley's activities related to individual liberty with pupils writing their own placards inspired by Emmeline Pankhurst and describing why they are each unique. In Miss Ollerton's classroom, pupils wrote acrostic poems, played games including a sorting activity to learn more about respect and tolerance. Democracy was Mr Astle's theme, with children asked to vote for the game they wanted to play with the majority winning! He also looked at the difference between elected and hereditary leaders. The rule of law was taught by Miss Collins, she played school rule bingo and asked pupils to come up with their own school rules which included driving themselves to St Joseph's and eating fast food every lunchtime! At the end of the afternoon, every child was presented with a bespoke commemorative book-mark and packet of seeds to sow as a reminder of this special occasion.





PTFA News:
Here is a round-up of all the fund-raising activities being organised by the PTFA over coming weeks.

Hey Recycler!
Below you'll find your monthly recycling report.

RECYCLE 4 SCHOOL

Our recycling total was	33869	kg of pre-loved clothing from landfill
You've raised	£11.40	in the process
Last month you saved	38.00 kg	last month

Book your next bag, box or bank collection at

Office@RobertsRecycling.co.uk

Follow us on social media

Happy Recycling!

If you are no longer the correct recipient for this email please let us know as soon as possible.

DO YOU DARE 2 BE DIFFERENT?

50P EACH OR 5 FOR £2

1. UNHEALTHY SNACK FOR BREAK
2. JUICE IN YOUR WATER BOTTLE
3. HAVE MESSY/CRAZY HAIR
4. COME TO SCHOOL IN NON-UNIFORM
5. NAIL VARNISH
6. TEMPORARY TATTOOS

FRI 26TH MAY

Made with PosterMyWall.com

10 top tips for safely using SMARTWATCHES

Kids love gadgets, and smartwatches – available to buy from as little as £20 online – make a tempting gift. As with any type of mobile technology, though, smartwatches can pose risks to children unless they're used safely. Receiving unwanted calls, cyber-stalking and distracting a young person when they're crossing the road are all known risks associated with smartwatches. However, these devices can bring plenty of benefits for children and parents alike – so let's examine the pros and cons of smartwatches.

AVOID CHEAP OPTIONS

A quick search online yields a torrent of cheap smartwatches for kids, costing as little as £20. It's wise to avoid this bargain basement tech: it tends to deliver a poor experience with inferior battery life, and it's hard to have faith in the software's safety. There have been cases of smartwatches being hacked to track or contact children; stick to known brands who have a reputation to protect.

CONTROL CALLING

Many smartwatches have the facility to make or take calls. As with a phone, you may want to restrict who your child can call – or be called by. On Apple Watches, you can select trusted contacts who are allowed to ring your child, while other watches' controls vary hugely. Some need to connect to a linked phone for calls, so you may be able to block unknown contacts via that device instead.

BEWARE HIDDEN COSTS

For a smartwatch to allow calls independently (that is, without being connected to a phone via Bluetooth), it will need its own mobile data plan. This might take the form of a tiny SIM card that you slot into the watch – or an eSIM, where the physical card is replaced by software settings. Either way, this will incur an additional monthly cost that you'll need to factor into any buying decision.

ENABLE FAMILY SHARING

Apple Watches aren't cheap, but they do offer superb safety features – allowing parents to control calls, messages and emails on the device, as well as a location tracking system that can send alerts if kids wander beyond pre-set boundaries. Their SOS function enables children to contact emergency services instantly if they're in trouble, which simultaneously also alerts parents and carers.

MAKE THEM COOL FOR SCHOOL

Some schools have banned smartwatches, as pupils have been using them as substitute phones. If your child's school does permit them, some devices can be set to prevent distractions in class. For example, Apple's Schooltime feature turns their watches into ordinary time-keeping devices during school hours. The display changes in this mode, showing teachers that it isn't being used for other purposes.

TRACK ITS LOCATION

Both Apple and Android devices have apps which allow you to track a smartwatch's location. They can also initiate an audio alert – avoiding those cushion-hurling panics when a treasured device can't be found at home. If you're planning to track your child's location via their watch, make them aware of that in advance. You could even make it a condition of them getting the watch in the first place.

THINK 'SAFETY FIRST'

Smartwatches are often worth hundreds of pounds, which can make young people wearing one a target for thieves. Advise your child to keep the watch hidden in public (when possible) and not to resist if muggers demand their watch. If you manage to track a stolen device, pass that information to the police; location data isn't always accurate, so you could end up wrongly accusing someone.

STORE MEDICAL INFO

Devices including the Samsung Galaxy Watch and Apple Watch can store the owner's medical details (such as their blood group and any pre-existing medical conditions), potentially giving emergency services access to vital information in a crisis. These devices also have 'hard fall' detection, which sends a text message to selected contacts along with a map showing the wearer's location.

USE THEM AS MOTIVATION

If you're worried your child's spending too much time slumped on the sofa staring at screens, smartwatches are great fitness trackers and can be a powerful incentive to get moving. Some devices will alert the wearer if they've been inactive for a long time and encourage them to do some exercise. Many watches record the user's daily step count and measure other health metrics.

BE MINDFUL OF BEDTIME

Many smartwatches offer sleep tracking, which some (usually older) children use to justify wearing them to bed. However, that also presents a temptation to message friends or check social media late at night, even if their phone is downstairs. Unless there's a valid reason not to, you could encourage your child to remove the watch in the evenings and ensure the charger stays in a different room.

Meet Our Expert

Barry Collins has been a technology journalist and editor for more than 20 years, working for titles such as the *Sunday Times*, *Which?*, *PC Pro* and *Computeractive*. He's appeared regularly as a technology pundit on television and radio, including on *BBC Newsnight*, *Radio 5 Live* and the *ITV News at Ten*. He has two children and writes regularly about internet safety issues.



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