

St Joseph's Catholic Primary School: Newsletter 01.12.23

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: We had a lovely start to our week in school where our children experienced a resilience workshop and assembly. It is so important to encourage and develop growth mindsets both in our children and in us as adults in order for us to do our best and be the best we can be in life! We had some wonderful feedback from the man delivering the workshop, describing our children as "outstanding" and "exemplary". We have shared the letter with our school community and we are so very proud of our children and our school!



We ended the week in school with our wonderful Year Six children leading our Advent Mass to our school community. Thank you to Father Raphael for coming into school to share this with us and thank you to all the parents who came to Mass also. It is suddenly beginning to feel a lot like Christmas ...



Award Winners

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| ★ | | ★ |
| ★ | CI R/1: | ★ |
| ★ | Dojo Champion: Reuben | ★ |
| ★ | School Values/Mission: Willow H for creativity | ★ |
| ★ | "Spotted": Ginny for showing empathy and thinking of others | ★ |
| ★ | CI 2/3: | ★ |
| ★ | Dojo Champion: Tiffany | ★ |
| ★ | School Values/Mission: Sam for collaboration | ★ |
| ★ | "Spotted": Violet for her determination to improve | ★ |
| ★ | CI 4/5: | ★ |
| ★ | Dojo Champion: Arthur C | ★ |
| ★ | School Values/Mission: James for respect | ★ |
| ★ | "Spotted": Ollie for being a great role model to his peers | ★ |
| ★ | CI 6: | ★ |
| ★ | Dojo Champion: Ruby | ★ |
| ★ | School Values/Mission: Savannah for resilience | ★ |
| ★ | "Spotted" by staff: Niamh for taking such pride in her work, perfectly drawing and annotating a heart and its four chambers | ★ |
| ★ | | ★ |

Sunday Gospel: Jesus said to his disciples, "Be on your guard, because you do not know when the end time will come. It is like a man travelling abroad; he leaves his house and puts his servants in charge, each with his own task, and orders the doorkeeper to stay awake. So, stay awake—because you do not know when the Master of the house is coming; it may be evening or midnight, cockcrow or dawn. If he comes unexpectedly, he may find you still sleeping. What I am saying to you now, I say to everyone: 'Stay awake!'"
Mark 13: 33-27

This week spotted:
Halle
For putting others first, as well as being kind and caring

Recent Correspondence

Please find below a list of information that has recently been sent out:

- School Meals: Week Commencing 04.12.23
- Friday reminders
- BSM Christmas Fair
- Twinkly Nativity reminder
- Wednesday Word
- Resilience Workshop
- Online Safety Newsletter: December

Classroom Catch Up: We have had a fabulous week in Class R/1! In R.E., we have been exploring the Advent wreath and the meanings of the different coloured candles. In English, we have moved onto a non-fiction unit inspired by the story 'Martha Maps It Out'. As part of our 'People who are special to us' topic in PSHE, the children enjoyed creating a 'Friendship Flower' in which they drew themselves and things that make them a good friend to others. To end the week, the children were so excited to try on their costumes for the Twinkly Nativity. We had one last practise before the dress rehearsal to the whole school on Monday!



Well, the cold has really set in now and Class 2/3 are all getting excited for Christmas. In our R.E. lessons this week we have continued with our Advent topic and created a class 'Jesse tree' which represents Jesus' family tree and retells the stories from the Bible leading up to his birth. Our Collective Worship looked at the gospel of Mark and we discussed the first Advent candle which will be lit this

Sunday - the candle of 'Hope'. The children have finally finished their persuasive letters which highlight the plight of the Leatherback Turtle. It has been assessment week and the children have showcased all they have been learning in the Autumn term with true determination and grit. Our PSHE lessons continue to look at friendship and how we can maintain, repair and improve friendships.



We've had a fabulous week in Class 4/5! In science, we have been exploring friction. From our experiment, we discovered that different surfaces generate different amounts of friction. In R.E., we have started our new unit (Advent). We will be looking at the importance of waiting and how, as Christians, we wait hopefully for the return of Jesus to Earth. On Monday, the children had a special visitor, Mr Doodlebug. He spoke to the children about resilience and the importance of having a growth mindset. The children completed a drawing activity with him linked to this and thoroughly enjoyed their session.



In English this week, Class 6 have planned, written, edited and improved a fully independent piece of work! I have seen semi-colons, parenthesis, dashes, hyphens and inverted commas used to absolute perfection! Linking science and P.E. together, we have been using athletics - particularly running for stamina - to increase our heart rate. We then compared results and put them into a graph, noticing the correlation between exercise and our pulse. We then took our learning further, studying the four chambers of the heart, and how oxygenated and deoxygenated blood is transferred around the body.



Christmas Cards: If you would like to order copies of your child's unique cards, the early bird discount has been extended for another week!

Happy Birthday

Alice & Viola

Drama Club Show: What an amazing end of session show we enjoyed by pupils who had been involved in the after school Drama Club. The children took part in 10 sessions, and having worked on other things along the way... Ella said she was blown away by the talent and team work that was shown.

Sessions start again on Thursday, 11th January and will run until Thursday, 21st March for those pupils who have signed up.



Pope Francis: *Let us ask the Holy Spirit to enlighten us so that we may be able to give an account of our faith and hope to today's world with words and, above all, with the testimony of our lives.*
(Taken from X)



Individual Liberty

I am responsible for my actions. It is important to remember they can have an impact on people, places and things. We can choose actions that can help preserve and protect Antarctica.

© Picture News 2023



Christmas appeals: There is a box in the main entrance for items in support of the Gregson Green 5 Gold G's Appeal. A list of suitable items can be found on the next page including canned veg, dried pasta, long life milk, biscuits and toiletries. We would be grateful for any donations you feel able to make. Our Christmas jumper day is taking place on Monday, 18th December. Pupils are encouraged to bring in an item which will then be donated to the Foxtan Centre in Preston. Items including rice, cereal bars, tins and toiletries will be very welcome. More details can be found later in the newsletter. Items will be delivered to the centre by Niamh and her family before Christmas.

School Attendance: Here are our attendance figures for this week

Week commencing 01.12.23

	This Week	School Year
Yr R	95.8%	97.5%
Yr 1	100%	98.8%
Yr 2	88.9%	96%
Yr 3	90%	95.7%
Yr 4	97.6%	96.3%
Yr 5	100%	98.4%
Yr 6	98.7%	96%
Total	96.5%	97%



Stanley Grange: The last group finished painting their carved pumpkins this week! We are looking forward to welcoming some of the Stanley Grange residents to school on Monday to watch our Nativity dress rehearsal and work with Class 4/5.

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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.

Christmas

time: On Thursday morning, our Year 6 pupils decorated our school Christmas tree. They worked as a team to transform the tree and did a fantastic job!



**St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School
Autumn Diary Dates**



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December	
1 st	Non-uniform day – coloured items for the PTFA Christmas hampers (more details to follow) Class 6 Advent Mass at 10.45am
4 th	Class R/1 Nativity dress rehearsal at 2.30pm
6 th	Nasal flu vaccine catch-up Class R/1 Nativity performance at 2.30pm
13 th	Rock Steady concert at 10am
15 th	Whole school Christmas film – come in your PJs for the day & bring a donation for Cafod
18 th	PTFA Santa Dash – more details to follow Christmas Jumpers Day – donations for the Foxton Centre Christmas Lunch
19 th	Class Christmas parties – non-uniform day
20 th	A celebration of Christmas in school at 10.45am School closes at 1.15pm
January	
8 th	School re-opens at 8.50am

**Please note, these dates may be subject to change with as much notice given as possible*

**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**

Sponsored Bog-Eyed SANTA DASH

MONDAY 18th DEC



Join us at 9am for a
festive fun run with a
special guest!

Breakfast for all the children after the run.

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 Schools Need to Know about THE ONLINE SAFETY ACT

The Online Safety Act was passed into UK law in October 2023, with the aim of establishing major new layers of protection for children when they're online. The government has pledged "a zero-tolerance approach to protecting children from online harm" – and the act certainly includes more powerful legislation which should help to safeguard young people in the digital world. Our guide summarises the key points for schools ...

WHAT THE ACT WILL DO

HARMFUL CONTENT

Social media sites must rapidly remove illegal and/or harmful content such as bullying or harassing comments, pornography, and content that supports extremist activity or encourages or depicts violence, suicide, self-harm or eating disorders. If they fail to do so, they can be fined up to 10% of their global revenue while their executives may even face jail time.

ANIMAL CRUELTY

Content featuring cruelty to animals is now prohibited, even if it originates from abroad (where the law may be different). Again, it is the platform's responsibility to remove this.

MORE TRANSPARENCY

Sites must be transparent about the hazards that any children using them could encounter – by publishing risk assessments for their platforms, for instance.

HOSTING MISLEADING ADVERTS

Scams and fraudulent adverts must be blocked or removed, or the hosting companies are liable to be fined.

NON-CONSENSUAL SHARING

It's now easier to convict online abusers or people who share intimate images without consent, while legislation on the criminality of deepfakes has been clarified. The new laws also relate to any individuals who even threaten to share such images. This should help to protect women and girls in particular online.

REPORTING AND FILTERING

Sites should have easy reporting mechanisms for children (or their parents and carers) to flag up problems quickly. They must also provide options to filter out unwanted content.

AGE-RESTRICTED MATERIAL

Sites must prevent children from accessing age-inappropriate material. This includes enforcing age limits and implementing robust age verification.

What this means for you

The act has some specific implications for schools: it's essential that leaders understand the new legislation's scope and limitations. The act is certainly a positive step, but as artificial intelligence and other advances in tech continue to produce new challenges, schools will still need to remain extremely vigilant.

KNOW WHERE TO GET HELP

Look out for the Code of Conduct that Ofcom is creating in response to the Online Safety Act. Note that the new legislation doesn't mean an instant change: many of its elements will only come into force at the end of 2023. An Ofcom consultation on 'protecting people from illegal harms online' will be running until February 2024.

REMEMBER THE ESSENTIALS

Remain mindful of your organisation's own online activities: the legal duty for schools to maintain appropriate software monitoring and filtering, for example, will not change.

WATCH FOR FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS

There are some issues on which the legislation remains less clear for now: whether it's possible for Ofcom to scan encrypted private messages (such as on WhatsApp) has yet to be resolved, for instance – making this an area where, for the moment, young people have less legal protection.

UNDERSTAND AND EXPLAIN

Staff should learn how to raise concerns with tech companies whose platforms contain anything upsetting or unpleasant. Students also need to be made aware of the newly strengthened laws relating to cyber-bullying, sexting or posting inappropriate content. Young people do make mistakes online – so the clearer their understanding of the possible consequences, the better.

ENGAGE WITH PARENTS

Schools should also explain to parents and carers the new possibilities that the Online Safety Act affords them in terms of protecting their children. Many parents may have previously felt that there was little they could do about changing online platforms' content; they now have a far greater level of support when complaining about a company or the behaviour of an individual.

Meet Our Expert

Luqe Ramadan is Senior Deputy Headmaster and Director of Safeguarding for the St Benedict's family of schools. He is a regular speaker at conferences and writes in the TES (among other journals) on school leadership, pastoral care and safeguarding. In 2022, he was named Pastoral Leader of the Year at the National Awards for Pastoral Care in Education.



NOS National Online Safety®
#WakeUpWednesday

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**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



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