

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Friday 2nd December 2022

A MESSAGE FROM MISS CHOMA

Hi everyone,

It's now 23 days to Christmas! Life is very busy in school and is definitely beginning to have a festive feel with the singing of carols, Christmas decorations and the arrival of the Christmas tree. There are lots of lovely events planned for the last few weeks of term – wreath making; Winter Wonderland; discos; school leading mass at OLAS and lots more. It will be lovely to see you at all or some of the events. The events run by FOSJ have been a great success. Thank you to the team for their time and energy in helping to raise money for school.

General behaviour

Can parents and children who enter school by the Clitherow entrance be mindful that people do live in the surrounding area. The children should not be running around, shouting, be on the embankment, or the steps leading to the retired priests flats. The children should be waiting quietly and sensibly with their adult to come into school. Please note, parents picking up children from the KS2 playground must wait on the playground near the railings.

Can you please have a general chat to your child/ren about being considerate to others and that how we behave has an impact on the feelings of those around us. The expectation of school is that all children are polite, well behaved and respectful in and around school.

Games/films/videos

We have had a number of children talking about inappropriate game/film/video content for their age – Momo, Pennywise etc. Some children have been scared by some of the stories told by their peers. It is important that you check you have the correct parental controls on the devices used by the children. I know sometimes these can crop up in trailers/maybe discussed by older siblings. The children need to be made aware that these are not for topics of conversation at school.

Upcoming events: please see the newsletter for all the upcoming events. There is something for everyone.

Have a wonderful weekend; the time we spend with people who are close to us is precious so enjoy quality time with family and friends.

COUNSELLING SERVICE - Catholic Care are offering a free and confidential counselling service to members of our Catholic community. If you feel that you, a family member or friend might benefit from counselling support please contact us on 0113 3885400, 07739975008 or email counselling@catholic-care.org.uk

DATES FOR THE DIARY

- 4th December - Victorian Fayre
- 6th December - Reading Breakfast
- 7th December - EYFS/KS1 Christmas Performance
- 7th December - Y6 Benchball Festival
- 8th December - Y3/Y5 Christmas Tree Festival
- 8th December - Y5 Badminton Festival
- 8th December - Christmas Dinner Day
- 8th December - YR/Y6 Christmas Tree Festival
- 8th December - Christmas Disco
- 9th December - Y1/Y2/Y4 Christmas Tree Festival
- 10th December - Winter Wonderland
- 12th-16th December - Y4 Swimming
- 14th December - Y5/Y6 Netball Tournament

SCHOOL NEWS

FRIENDS OF ST JOSEPHS

❁ FOSJ Winter Wonderland Christmas Raffle ❁

This afternoon you should find a book of 5 raffle tickets in your child's book bag. The tickets are £1 each, if you would like to purchase please fill in the white stub section and return the completed section along with cash in an envelope back to school by Friday 9th Dec. (Tear off and keep the other part of the ticket)

As always there is no pressure to purchase tickets, please return any unused tickets. If you require extra tickets that family and friends would like to purchase more are available from the school office.

We have some amazing prizes available!!! A fabulous window decoration bundle from Lights4fun, Boden voucher, afternoon tea voucher just to name a very few! The raffle will be drawn at our fabulous Winter Wonderland on Saturday 10th Dec at 3:30pm. Winners can collect prizes on the day or from the school office from Monday 12th Dec. All funds raised will be going towards a new playground for our children.

Laura



BOOK FAIRS

This year, we are excited to be hosting a book fair in the lead up to Christmas. Children will be invited to peruse the books during the school day, which will then be available for parents to purchase with their children after school in the school hall on the 5th, 6th and 8th of December between 3.15pm - 3.30pm. Alternatively, you will receive a link so you can look together/order online too.

Reading Breakfast

On Tuesday 6th December, we welcome you to join us early to enjoy a reading breakfast with your child. You will be welcomed in to school from 8:15 - 8.40am to enjoy a light breakfast and a drink for a small donation and to take the opportunity to visit the school library or the book fair to choose a book to read with your child. Your child can share with you their favourite books at school, how they change their reading books and take the opportunity to have a relaxed start to the morning reading for fun.



REMINDERS

- **IMPORTANT:** Children MUST bring a water bottle to school each day as school does not have any spare
- All children need to bring a coat to school with them
- No nuts allowed
- Hair must be tied back
- Jewellery should not be worn—this includes chains/bracelets and earrings other than studs.
- Children **MUST** wear the correct P.E Uniform. In particular, sports leggings are not allowed.
- If you have any spare, clean underwear, please bring into school for accidents. **ALL YEAR GROUPS!**



ADVENT APPEAL

As Advent approaches we are thinking about people who do not have food to eat and toys to give, so as a school we would like to participate in the Reverse Advent Calendar Appeal. We will be having our annual toy collection.

If you are able to, please donate a new toy to school by Friday 9th December which we will then pass onto the SVP group and Catholic Care so that they can be donated to children who otherwise may not receive any gifts at Christmas.



We will also be purchasing food items to create hampers for those in need. If you have not made a donation yet, there is still time to do so.

Thank you in advance for your generosity.

SCHOOL NEWS

SPORT

Y5 Football

On Thursday, Y5 played football against some tough opponents. Despite pushing forward, attempts at goal and some great saves, they were just up against some formidable opposition and were unlucky with a goal being disallowed. Congratulations to the teams that have qualified for the final being played at Elland Road. Mr Voller said that the children behaved impeccably and were great ambassadors for St Joseph's!



Letters have been sent out about the following events:

KS2 Cross Country at Cardinal Heenan - Saturday 10th December

Y5/6 Netball Festival at St Mary's Menston - Wednesday 14th December

Good luck to Year 5 and Year 6 who are both taking part in sports festivals at Prince Henry's Grammar School next week.

Letters have been emailed to Year 4 parents about the swimming lessons in the least week of term. The children have also been given a letter for parents to return by next Friday about their child's swimming experience.

LOURDES PILGRIMAGE

The Otley 198 group of HCPT are looking for helpers to accompany them on a pilgrimage to Lourdes at Easter 2023. We could especially benefit from a [nurse](#) or someone medically trained but would welcome any suitable adults. We are a friendly group who are very excited to be travelling again following the break during Covid.

If anyone knows any young people who may benefit from travelling as a sponsored child with the group, please feel free to nominate them too. More details about the pilgrimage can be found here <https://www.hcpt.org.uk/easter>.

Please contact the group leader, Jake at group198@hcpt.org.uk if you wish to travel with us or would like to nominate a child to be sponsored.

CHRISTMAS DATES FOR THE DIARY

Who would believe that is **just 1 week** until Christmas Dinner day! We will be donning our Christmas jumpers and hats once more as we celebrate together. If you are normally on packed lunches and would like a Christmas Dinner on this day (priced £2.45) then please let the school office know as soon as possible.

Please note that these events are subject to change and we will keep you updated as the weeks go on.

Wednesday 7th December	KS1 Nativity Performance
Thursday 8th December	Y3 & Y5 Christmas Tree Festival
Thursday 8th December	YR & Y6 Christmas Tree Festival
Thursday 8th December	Christmas Dinner
Thursday 8th December	School Disco
Friday 9th December	Y1, Y2 & Y4 Christmas Tree Festival
Saturday 10th December	Winter Wonderland
Thursday 15th December	Christmas Party Day
Friday 16th December	Christmas Carol Service

CATHOLIC LIFE OF THE SCHOOL

A PRAYER FOR THE WEEK

Christ our Light,
Shine in our lives with hope and promise.
Give us right vision so that we remain attentive to
this holy season.
Remind us to look for you in small acts of kind-
ness and love.
We await your coming with wonder.
Amen

OUR LADY & ALL SAINTS CHURCH

MASS TIMES

Saturday Morning: 10am
Saturday Evening Vigil: 6:30pm
Sunday Morning: 9:30am & 11:15am

For updates, please check the weekly bulletin for
up-to-date Mass times.

[http://www.olasotley.org/
bulletin.html](http://www.olasotley.org/bulletin.html)



CAFOD ASSEMBLY

On Thursday, we watched the Advent CAFOD national assembly for our Collective Worship. The assembly started with these words from John 1: 5 "*The light shines in the darkness.*" It talked about how the charity Caritas is trying to help the people in Ukraine by providing shelter, food and education. At the end, it reminded us that Christmas is about bringing hope, sharing joy and spreading peace and asked the children to think about how they can do these in Advent.



CONFIRMATION GO FORTH MASS

Well done to all the Confirmation candidates who were able to attend the Go Forth Mass on Sunday at Church, all the children led the Mass beautifully and they also donated items to the SVP group as a sign that being Confirmed is the start of their faith journey where we are called to "Love our neighbour" by Jesus. Thank you to all of the candidate's families, sponsors and friends for their support in preparing the children for this sacrament. Thank you to Father Lawrie for helping the children in their spiritual development, we are truly blessed to have him as our Parish priest. Thank you to Miss Earley who gave up her free time to write the certificates so beautifully and to Miss Dowd and Miss Choma for coming to the Mass on Sunday morning. A final and massive thank you to Mrs Russell and Rita who gave up lots of their time not only helping at meetings but also preparing resources beforehand.



Y5 ASSEMBLY

Thank you to Year 5 who led our Collective Worship this morning with the theme of Saint Andrew and Scotland. They taught us lots of interesting facts about Scotland and about the life of Saint Andrew. We hope all of our Scottish family and friends enjoyed their Feast Day on Wednesday.

SCHOOL LED MASS

On Sunday 11th December, children from the school will be leading the 9:30 Mass at Church, please let us know if your child would like a part in this Mass (reading, singing, bringing gifts). It would be lovely to see as many children there as possible. A letter has been emailed out with all of the information.

Y3 CLASS MASS

On Friday, Y3 celebrated Class Mass with Fr Lawrie and members of the Parish. The theme of the Mass was 'Mary'. We thought about how Mary said YES when she was asked to be the mother of Jesus and we pray through her for the safekeeping of all within our school communities, their families, friends and all whom they love.

St Andrew,

**First apostle of Jesus,
who remained faithful to him
throughout your life.**

**Help us to become closer to Him and
to learn the lesson of the Cross.**

**May we carry our daily crosses and
burdens without complaint.**

Amen.

Prayer to St Andrew, Patron Saint of Scotland and of Fishermen



CLASS PAGES

YEAR R NEWS

A fantastic week in Reception. We have been putting our phonics into action this week with lots of lovely activities around the classroom to complete. We have also written a very important letter to Father Christmas letting him know what we would like for Christmas. They will be posted to the North Pole today and we hope to get a letter back from him soon. There is an extra copy of the children's letters in their bags so you can see the fantastic progress the children have made with their writing and so you can see what they have asked Father Christmas for.

We had a special visitor this week; Eliza's Mummy came to talk to the children about being a postal worker. Our next book in Literacy is the 'Jolly Postman at Christmas' and we learned lots from Eliza's mummy about the important work they do. We have loved playing in our post office role play area; writing, posting and delivering letters.

Our Nativity is coming on brilliantly and we can't wait to show you all our hard work. Keep practicing your lines at home and remember to have costumes in school by Monday.

In RE, we have been learning about the story of the very first Christmas. We know all the people (and animals) who were at the birth of Jesus and have been using our class nativity set to act out the story.



YEAR 1 NEWS

In Maths, we have been measuring in centimetres (cm). We have been examining our class rulers and how we use them. We know that we have to begin our measuring by starting at 0. We enjoyed measuring small objects around the classroom.

In English, we have begun to write a letter about what we would like from Father Christmas this year. We're confident that he will be visiting us as we've been good! We thought about the structure of our letter: how to write our introduction then the main body of our letter and finally our ending. We will be posting these on Friday.

Our trip to Ledston Hall was a fantastic day out. We made clay baubles, Advent Calendars and bird feeder garlands. We learnt about the countryside code and all about the different types of British deer. The staff complimented Y1 on their wonderful behaviour and manners.

On Thursday, we had a visit from Police Community Officer Jacqui, who spoke to us about road safety and the importance of being seen in the dark. We talked about the emergency services and when to call.

In RE this week, we have been thinking about the different ways that we prepare for Christmas at home, school and in church.



YEAR 2 NEWS

Year 2 have been extremely busy during our assessment week. Mrs Holmes is extremely proud of everybody. We have shown lots of perseverance to complete each of the booklets.

In Maths, we have continued to develop our knowledge of subtraction and are gaining confidence in using base ten and recording pictorially our working to support our understanding further.

In RE, we have been reflecting on how the shepherds must have felt on the hillside when the angels appeared with their message. We all thought carefully about their feelings as they journeyed to Bethlehem and when they arrived and met the New-born King.

As part of our Science work about materials, we enjoyed investigating which materials can be stretched and squeezed to change an object shape. Not all materials can change shape. We found that some types of plastics can change shape and others cannot.

In Geography, we continued to learn about the Arctic. We found out about the physical features such as lakes, mountains and icebergs. We also discussed how different animals have adaptations to help them survive the cold weather.



YEAR 3 NEWS

Year 3 have had a very busy week completing assessments. Miss Chappel and Mrs Crosby are very proud of everybody for their hard work and determination to complete all of the booklets.

On Tuesday, we said goodbye to Miss Chappel as she begins her maternity leave. We presented her with a card made by the children. We wish her lots of happiness and love as she welcomes her beautiful baby girl into the world.

We have been thinking about 'change and continuity'. In English, we compared our lives with that of the Stone Age boy in our text. We identified things we had in common and also our differences. Then, using conjunctions, we turned these into sentences commenting on our similarities and differences. In history, we continued this theme by considering how life changed from the Palaeolithic Period to the Mesolithic Period and what stayed the same.

In RE, we looked at the story of Christmas. We studied a nativity scene and reflected on our own thoughts about the picture. "The star reminds me to bring light to others."



YEAR 4 NEWS

In RE this week, Year 4 read some of the nativity stories in Matthew's Gospel which tell us about Joseph's role in the early part of Jesus' life. We thought about the challenges that faced Joseph and how he showed trust in God. At the end of the lesson, the children enjoyed using microphones (glue sticks and rulers) to interview each other with some of them pretending to be Joseph.



This week in History, we learnt about how the Romans were successfully able to invade Britain in 43AD. We found out that they had a big army which was well-trained and well-equipped.

On Thursday, we focused on our DT work which is making our Christmas stocking decorations. The children demonstrated lots of the virtues - perseverance, resilience and patience - and are definitely becoming more confident with their sewing.

In Maths, we continued working on our times tables with a focus on the 11 and 12 times tables.

YEAR 5 NEWS

Year 5 have worked incredibly hard on their assessments and should be proud of themselves. The afternoons have been spent completing different Christmas Crafts, including some beautiful calendars which represent the different seasons. The children used a variety of techniques when painting, such as brush strokes and blending to create a multitone effect. They also have been busy crafting a decoration each to put on the school Christmas tree which look amazing!

In RE this week, the children have been looking at God's choice in people and how sometimes this choice can come as a surprise. They spent time identifying what type of person Moses is, his character and why God chose him to lead the Israelites out of Egypt. They all produced some lovely explanations.

In PE, the children have had one of their last sessions with Miss Jones from Prince Henry's before they go to the badminton festival next week. They were working on accuracy using the rackets with the shuttlecocks by working in small groups to hit the shuttlecock into a small hoop and competing against one another. Year 5 have really enjoyed these sessions and will be able to put all their new learned skills into practice next week!



YEAR 6 NEWS

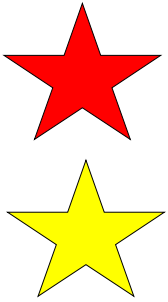
In Maths, we have worked on adding and subtracting fractions with different denominators. When calculating, we had to change the fractions to the same denominator to add or subtract them.

In RE, we discussed the refugee crisis in both Syria and Ukraine and what the UK is doing to help these people. In a deep discussion about some tweets regarding the crisis, we analysed whether we thought they were just or unjust and a reason why. Another activity we carried out was interviewing God about the refugee crisis. We thought of a few questions that we would ask God and some children pretended to be God and answered the questions in hot seating activity. After, we wrote down our interviews with God and tried to include evidence from the Bible and the Youcat.

For our Christmas decoration, we have designed and began to sew our very own material bauble. We have used different stitching techniques: running stitch, cross stitch and blanket stitch. We are looking forward to bringing them home to hang on our own tree.



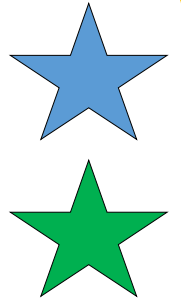
HOUSE OF THE WEEK



WELL DONE TO

ALL TEAMS

FOR EARNING HOUSE POINTS THIS WEEK



SUNSHINE AWARD

BELLA (YR), ALL (Y1), ISAAC L (Y2), JUDE (Y3),
HENRY C & FIN (Y4), OLIVIA C (Y5), EVIE (Y6)



ENGLISH AWARD

SOPHIE (YR), SAMMY (Y1), DECLAN (Y2), ANTHONY (Y3),
JAMES (Y4), REUBEN (Y5), BEN (Y6)



An Intercession to St Joseph

Dear St Joseph

Help us to love and care

To be gentle and fair

Help us to work and play together

Help us to live and grow together

To be always glad to help each other

Happy in your loving care

Amen

Are you interested in becoming a School
Crossing Patrol Warden in Leeds?

VACANCY

School Crossing Patrol Warden

Otley St Josephs Primary

5 hours a week

£9.90 hourly rate

39 Week Contract (Term Time Only)

Duties will include crossing pedestrians across the road safely

Full Uniform and PPE provided.

Full training given.

Option to join Local Government Pension Scheme

Subject to satisfactory Enhanced Disclosure Barring Services Request

INTERESTED?

Call 01133782337 (using option 4)

