



WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Friday 4th March 2022

A MESSAGE FROM MISS CHOMA

Hi everyone

We have had a very busy and fun start to the half-term. It is an action packed 5 weeks with quizzes, bun sales, toast, a games afternoon, Easter Egg raffle and lots more!

We had a great World Book Day yesterday – there were some amazing costumes and some very difficult words! Cameron and Connor introduced us to a new word 'drookit' – Scottish for getting absolutely drenched, very apt at the moment. Being able to read is so important and days like World Book Day show that books and reading are fun; with a book you can dive into an imaginary world or be part of a great adventure. Always put aside time to share a book and enjoy quality reading time with your child.

I was teaching a phonics group in Y1 this week and I was amazed at their knowledge of vocabulary and great reading. William R could explain the definition of relief and denied and read some very tricky sentences – well done William!

Ash Wednesday Mass – the children's behaviour and participation in the mass are to be commended. They sang beautifully and all children participated in the responses during the mass. Reception children were superstars. Thank you to Year 4 for leading Mass at the start of our Lenten journey. When thinking about your Lenten Promise – remember to think about the three elements of fasting, prayer and charity.

Well done to all the children this week for their hard work, for making us smile and great behaviour.

Have a wonderful weekend; have fun and enjoy your time together.

From all the staff - be safe; be kind and be happy. God Bless

SPORT UPDATE

Good luck to all the children who are taking part in the last League Cross Country race tomorrow at Middleton Park. I have had a message from the organisers to ask that we park in the John Charles Centre overflow or Bowls and Athletics car park and not the car park in front of the main stadium and Aquatics Centre.

Good luck also to Alice and Ian who will be representing Leeds next week in the West Yorkshire Cross Country Finals.

On Monday 7th March, children from Year 5 and Year 6 will be playing our first football League match at Bramhope School. This is the re-arranged match from before half term, hopefully the weather will be better on Monday. Letters were sent out yesterday.



DATES FOR THE DIARY

- 8th March - Toast Tuesday
- 8th March - Y6 Mass
- 10th March - Y3 Mass
- 11th March - Y5 Assembly
- 11th March - CAFOD Fasting Day
- 15th March - Toast Tuesday
- 16th March - Climate Talk Assembly
- 17th March - Y1 St Patrick Feast Day
- 18th March - St Joseph's Day
- 18th March - KS1 Bun Sale
- 21st March - Climate Action Week



KEY INFORMATION

WORLD BOOK DAY!

Thank you for all the effort that went into the amazing "word" costumes - the children looked brilliant. Well done to all the winners of our competition. Children will be able to choose a book from a selection of texts from the Scholastic Book Fair on 18th March.

We welcomed local author, and St Joseph's mum, Elisabeth Riley to share her beautiful book 'The Saltwater Fairies' with each class. The children asked lots of thought-provoking questions and thought about how they would re-write the story. Elisabeth commented, "I thought the children were all absolutely fantastic. They were so well behaved, polite and attentive and I was so impressed with their thoughtful questions. It was so nice to chat to them all." Remember, you can purchase a signed copy of the book from the office for just £12.99.

On Friday, Miss Wilkinson hosted a quiz for KS1 and KS2. The children worked in teams to solve the answers whilst enjoying their buns from the charity bun sale. It was a lovely end to a busy week!



AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS

We still have some spaces available on our fabulous after school clubs.

You can sign up by contacting a member of the Office Staff who will be happy to help.

Please email office@stjosephsotley.org for more information.



LEEDS LOCAL OFFER

Leeds Local Offer Live
Tuesday 15th March 2022 - 10am till 2pm (drop in)
Banqueting Hall, Leeds Civic Hall

Leeds Local Offer Live is a market place event that provides families with the opportunity to learn about services available to them. The Leeds Local Offer provides information for children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) and their families in a single place. It shows families what they can expect from a range of local agencies including education, health and social care.

The Leeds Local Offer can be found at www.leedslocaloffer.org.uk
So we can keep a track on numbers let us know if you plan to attend: www.tinyurl.com/LLOLive22

CATHOLIC LIFE OF THE SCHOOL

A PRAYER FOR THE WEEK

A Prayer by Pope Francis for Lent

We pray, fast, and perform the works of mercy
in this time of grace,
so that the Lord might find our hearts ready
and fill them with the victory of his love.

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)



COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

To tie in with our fundraising efforts during Lent, our virtue is Charity. This week, the children learnt about the Parable of the Good Samaritan from Luke's Gospel and thought about who their neighbour is as Jesus taught us that we should love our neighbours as we love ourselves.

ASH WEDNESDAY MASS

Thank you to Year 4 and Father Lawrie for starting our Lenten journey with Mass on Ash Wednesday. Thank you to all of the family and friends who were also able to join us for this important occasion. We were really impressed with the reverence of all the children and how well they joined in all of the responses.

Pope Francis asked that Ash Wednesday to be a special day of prayer for peace in the Ukraine. Here is the prayer we said:

Caring God, we pray for people whose communities which have been affected by fighting and war. We pray especially for the people in Ukraine that a peaceful resolution may end the conflict in this region quickly.

*Lord in your mercy. **Hear our prayer.***

LENT FUNDRAISING

Today, saw our first fundraising event for Lent as we all got to eat buns during our World Book Day Quiz. Thank you to everyone who donated buns and who brought in money for the buns.

Next week, our Toast Tuesdays will start and we will have our Faith Lunch on Friday.



As a family with God in our hearts, we love, laugh and learn.

CLASS NEWS

YEAR R NEWS

On Monday, we started our new topic of 'People that Help Us.' We enjoyed listening to the story 'A Superhero Like You.' We thought about real-life superheroes such as doctors, nurses, teachers and firefighters.

In Maths, we have been learning about height and length. We enjoyed comparing the height of each other. We also compared the length of different classroom objects. We used cubes to help us identify which items were the longest and which were the shortest.

On Tuesday, it was our Class Saints Feast day. We learnt about St David, and how Welsh people celebrate the day. Miss Wilkinson came and taught us some Welsh phrases and numbers. In the afternoon, we made daffodils as an important symbol of St David's day.

The children all looked super in their costumes for World Book Day. We had a wonderful day that began with a vocabulary parade in the hall before listening to an author, Elizabeth Riley read her book, 'The Saltwater Fairies.' We also enjoyed a visit from our buddies. We read our reading books to them and then they shared a story of their choice.



YEAR 1 NEWS

This week in English, we read the book *Iggy Peck, Architect*. Iggy makes lots of interesting structures out of all sorts of things. Thank you for all the recycling that was sent in. We designed and built our own creations and wrote about them.

In Maths this week, we have started a new unit and have been learning about position, direction and movement, including whole, half, quarter and three-quarter turns. We practised moving in quarter turns to help with our understanding.

On Shrove Tuesday, we tried some delicious pancakes and discussed the reason behind this custom. We discussed the importance of Ash Wednesday and how it marks the beginning of 40 days of reflection and preparation. We wrote Lenten prayers to help us feel closer to God.

Year 1's World Book Day celebrations were enjoyed by everyone on Thursday. We talked about why we had chosen our particular word and costume and wrote about these choices. We enjoyed lots of fun activities, a scavenger hunt, The Masked Reader Quiz, and a story from Mrs Riley who came to read the book she has written and illustrated - *The Saltwater Fairies*. She answered lots of our questions. Well done to all of Year 1 for your fabulous costumes.



YEAR 2 NEWS

In English this week, we have been learning about how to write instructions. We looked carefully at different sets of instructions. We found out that there are lots of different features of instructions such as numbered points, time conjunctions and imperative verbs.

We practised using imperative verbs and Mrs Holmes was being very bossy telling us to do lots of things. We then wrote our own set of instructions of how to make a cheese and cucumber sandwich.

In Maths, we have continued to learn how to share and divide numbers. Miss Casserly even brought in some sweets for us to divide equally! We then practised dividing by 2. We found out that we can use our multiples of 2 to help us. We also found that we needed our knowledge of odd and even numbers to help us.

We all enjoyed World Book Day on Thursday. We had some amazing outfits and interesting words. We researched the definitions of our words and used thesauruses to find synonyms and antonyms of our words. We all enjoyed writing our very own World Book Day class poem.



YEAR 3 NEWS

In Maths this week, we have been celebrating our Battle of the Bands TTRockstars win! This week, we started our new topic of Money by looking at different denominations of coins. We named and described them as well as discussing their shapes, colours and values.

In R.E, we have been talking about the season of Lent. We discussed how during Lent we focus on three things: prayer, fasting, and almsgiving (giving to charity.) We remembered Jesus' most important commandment by making a special Lenten Promise. We also talked about The Stations of the Cross and particularly the 4th Station - Jesus meets his Mother. We thought about what Mary may have been thinking and feeling and made special prayers to display in the hall.

Thursday was an exciting day as it was World Book Day! Year 3 started the day doing a word study all about their chosen word. We then began our new English topic, looking at features of traditional tales. In the afternoon, we worked as a group to create our own traditional tales. We created a main character, villain, and a plot for our stories.

In PE we began our hockey unit. We learnt how to correctly hold a hockey and practised controlling a ball when dribbling.



YEAR 4 NEWS

At the beginning of the week, we created work for our RE display in preparation for Lent. We had a meditation on the Fifth Station of the Cross, when Simon of Cyrene helped Jesus carry the cross. The children used thesauruses to create a vocabulary display about the character of Simon, as well as their own prayers inspired by Simon's actions.

On Wednesday, we led the Ash Wednesday Mass. The children received lots of compliments on their beautiful readings, and how reverently they moved and behaved in Mass.

On Thursday, it was World Book Day! The children dressed in fantastic costumes, with a real focus on vocabulary. They wrote stories using as many of the words from the class as possible. The best part was the afternoon, when they were treated to a visit from Elizabeth Riley, the author of 'The Saltwater Fairies'. They asked lots of questions, and used her illustrations and knowledge of the sea to sketch different sea life.

We had a lovely assembly led by Year 1 on Friday, and then went swimming - it is amazing to see how much some children's swimming skills have improved since September. In the afternoon, we also had a bun sale and a quiz led by Miss Wilkinson.



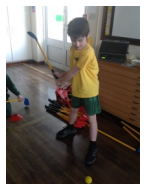
YEAR 5 NEWS

In Maths this week, we have continued our work on fractions and have started looking at adding fractions. We have found out that to add fractions we need to ensure that the denominators are the same first of all and have learnt that whatever we do to the denominator, we must do to the numerator. We have also looked at how we can simplify fractions.

In English, we have looked at retrieving information from explanation texts. Additionally, we looked at the layout and technical devices used in explanation texts.

In Geography, we have started our new topic which is earthquakes and volcanoes. This week, we learnt about the structure of the Earth including the Tectonic Plates and what causes earthquakes.

In PE, we continued our work on golf. This week, we practised our chipping - trying to get the ball in the air - as well as our putting.



YEAR 6 NEWS

In Maths, we have looked at equivalent fractions, decimals and fractions. We need to keep practising these so we know them off by heart. We also worked on finding a percentage of a number.

In English, we created a short non-chronological report about tigers. We began by using the method sage and scribe, where one of us read a text and wrote notes and then had to share it with our partner before writing a well-structured paragraph about tigers. We included a variety of conjunctive adverbs, sentence lengths and even tried to add a colon or semi colon.

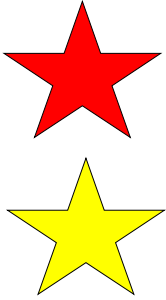
During our PE lesson, we recapped the skill of dribbling. We focused on controlling the ball and weaving between cones. We worked in groups to pass and stop the ball too.

On Thursday, as part of World Book Day, we listened to our buddies read and we read to them too - we love spending time with them!





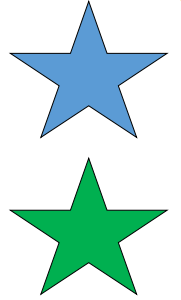
HOUSE OF THE WEEK



WELL DONE TO

FOUNTAINS

FOR EARNING THE MOST HOUSE POINTS THIS WEEK



SUNSHINE AWARD

THEO (YR), ROSE (Y1), CORBEN (Y2),
ALICE (Y3), SKYLA (Y4), CHARLIE (Y5), JOSEPH (Y6)



ENGLISH AWARD

MAISY (YR), WILLIAM R (Y1), HARRISON (Y2),
WILLIAM (Y3), JOSEPH B (Y4), NIAMH (Y5), WILLIAM (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