

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Friday 4th December 2020

A SPECIAL MESSAGE FROM FATHER CHRISTMAS!



Hello children,

Ho, Ho, Ho! Merry Christmas! Santa here, writing to you all from the North Pole. The elves are very busy getting everything together for the big day coming soon.

Normally, I would be preparing for my visit to St Joseph's. However, I have decided to stay safe in the North Pole, so I am healthy and well to travel on Christmas Eve. I was thinking about how I could bring a little Christmas magic to your Christmas Parties, so I am sending Miss Choma and Miss Wilkinson a festive costume to wear, and a little treat for you all.

Well, I need to get back to my work now. Remember to work hard and be kind; I am looking forward to visiting you all at Christmas.

Merry Christmas
From

Santa Claus



DATES FOR THE DIARY

- 7th December— KS1 Christmas Production—to be filmed in school
- 9th December - LSMA Virtual Concert
- 10th December—Christmas Dinner Day— children encouraged to wear Christmas jumpers and hats
- 10th December—KS1 Christmas Games Afternoon
- 11th December— KS2 Christmas Games Afternoon
- 11th December - Whole School Santa Dash
- 15th December— KS1 Christmas Party Afternoon
- 16th December— Y3 and Y4 Christmas Party Afternoon
- 16th December - Artforms Virtual Pantomime
- 17th December—Y5 and Y6 Christmas Party Afternoon



SANTA DASH

On Friday 11th December, we will join thousands of young people from around the country as we take part in the National School Games Virtual Santa Dash 2020.

Entry to the fun run is free but we are hoping to raise lots of money for St Joseph's.

Your child may come to school in non-uniform, but it must be Christmas related and warm – Christmas jumpers and jogging trousers, Christmas onesies, Christmas PJs, fleeces etc. Children can run or walk the course, and all children will receive a participation certificate.

Please send a pair of trainers that you don't mind getting dirty as the weather is rather unpredictable!



APPLYING FOR A SCHOOL PLACE FOR RECEPTION SEPTEMBER 2021



To apply for a place at this school a standard application form, known as the Common Preference Form must be completed and returned to the Local Authority Leeds City Council 15 January 2021.

If parents/carers feel that they should be in a specific category i.e. Baptised Catholic, then they are required to complete a Supplementary Information Form and provide the required evidence to school as soon as possible.

Please note: it is the responsibility of the parent/carer to complete all forms and supply evidence – reminders will not be sent.

Please visit our school website for more information - [click here](#)

FOSJ BULB PLANTING

Thank you to all those who have donated money towards our daffodil and tulip bulb planting. You have been very generous!

On Friday, KS1 and Y3 joined our parent volunteers in a covid-friendly planting session. The children had lots of fun even if it was a little bit wet!

UPDATE SEND LOCAL OFFER

There is a new Facebook group for parents of children with special educational needs and disabilities.

Local Offer website updates and developments

Leeds Local Offer Facebook Group

The Leeds Local Offer has developed a facebook group for parents and carer of children with special educational needs and disabilities.

The facebook group is platform for us to share with families key service updates, events, consultations and much more.

Please promote the facebook group to families you work with
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/leedslocaloffer>

CHRISTMAS GAMES AFTERNOON

- 10th December—KS1 Christmas Games Afternoon.
- 11th December— KS2 Christmas Games Afternoon



Staff will be hosting a fun-filled afternoon of classic fete games. Each game will cost 20p a go and there will be potential to win lots of prizes. Please note, the maximum amount a child can spend is £3.

CHRISTMAS PARTY

- 15th December— KS1 Christmas Party Afternoon
- 16th December— Y3 and Y4 Christmas Party Afternoon
- 17th December—Y5 and Y6 Christmas Party Afternoon



Despite Covid-19, we are excited to announce that we will be doing our Christmas Parties this year - just within our bubbles! Children will have a party in their classrooms, followed by a party in the hall.

FOOD

In order to facilitate this, we ask for parents and carers to contribute to the food for this event. We will send out letters on Monday 7th December detailing what we would like the children to bring.

WHAT TO WEAR

Children are invited to wear their best party clothes for the day! We would also like children to bring a festive hat if possible. Please sure that footwear is appropriate, and that children bring a jumper and coat for playtimes.



REVERSE ADVENT APPEAL

As Advent approaches, we are thinking about people who do not have food to eat and toys to give. We want to do our bit to support our local community.

Thank you to those who have already donated, we are overwhelmed by your generosity.

Between 30th November and 11th December, we would like children to bring in an item to donate to the food hamper, and a **new toy**, so that by the end of Advent each class has a magnificent hamper and a selection of new toys that can be given to people in need.



KS1 PERFORMANCE—LIGHTS, CAMEL, ACTION!

As you are aware, due to Covid-19 restrictions, we cannot put on a performance in school for parents to attend.

Following the success of last year, we have sourced Josh Wilson Motion, a local professional filming company, to film the 'Lights, Camel, Action' Year R and KS1 performance.

This could make an excellent Christmas present for a family member, a keepsake for yourself, or maybe something you could show at your child's 18th birthday!

You can purchase a physical copy of the DVDs for £7.00 each, or a digital copy for £4.50. The digital copy can be downloaded to one device.

Please complete the following form to pre-order your copies today - https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=WVuoLV48_E27KDU1qUKnx4iicaLIQd9lpZBKEaOKpvxUNkFGMkhIVERZUVRGMIRGM1hRTEQ1OVA3Uy4u



CATHOLIC LIFE OF THE SCHOOL

PRAYER FOR SUNDAY TO CELEBRATE THE FEAST OF SAINT NICHOLAS

Loving God, we thank you for the example of St Nicholas, who fed the hungry, brought hope to the imprisoned, gave comfort to the lost, and taught the truth to all.

May we try to be like him by putting you first in all we do.

Give us the courage, love and strength of St Nicholas, so that, like him, we may serve you through loving our brothers and sisters.

In loving the poor, he showed us your kindness; in caring for your children, he revealed your love.

Make us thoughtful of others needs so that we, too, may be good followers of Jesus.

Amen.

OUR LADY & ALL SAINTS CHURCH

MASS TIMES

Mass will be celebrated:

Wednesdays 10.00am

Saturday 6.30pm

Sunday 9.30am

Please see bulletin for changes to Mass times for week beginning Monday 31st August.

The daily Mass schedule will resume on 21st September 2020

Please book a place for Saturday evening or Sunday morning Mass - [book here](#)

COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

On Thursday, the theme of collective worship in school was "Peace" which will be the focus in Church this weekend as we light the 2nd Advent Candle. 'Prince of Peace, Bring Peace to our world, So that we are all united in friendship. Amen'



This week, we also started our new virtue of Patience in our class collective worships.

As we look at this statement with the children, we try to encourage them reflect on the following things:

- I can wait.
- I can do something now that will help me in the future.
- I can accept things I cannot change with humour and grace.
- I use strategies to keep myself calm.
- I am patient with myself when I make mistakes.
- I am patient with others when they make mistakes.

MINI VINNIES WANT YOUR USED STAMPS

The Mini Vinnies have decided that a way we can help charities at no cost to us is by collecting our used stamps. Often at this time of year, we receive more post with stamps on so the Mini Vinnies would like to collect them in school so we can send them to raise money for charities.



The Year 5 Mini Vinnies chose the "Kickscount" Charity which supports pregnant women and the Year 6 Mini Vinnies chose "Macmillan".

Please send your used stamps into school with your child and they can be collected in each classroom so we can see which class collects the most stamps. Please try to ensure your used stamps have a 2cm border around them.

Thank you in advance, The Mini Vinnie Team

RECONCILIATION

Letters have been given to the Year 3 children today about receiving the Sacrament of Reconciliation in the new year. If you would like your child to prepare for this sacrament, please return the form to school by FRIDAY 11th DECEMBER. Thank you.





CLASS NEWS



YEAR R NEWS

This week, we have had a very festive week in Reception! On Tuesday, we found an elf in our classroom! He is called Eddy and has been sent by Santa Claus to see what super things we get up to whilst at school. The children have enjoyed a Christmassy craft-filled week and lots of nativity practice. The children have worked so hard on remembering their lines, songs and dances. We are very proud of them and can't wait for you all to see it!



In English this week, we have been writing our letters to Santa. The children have been thinking about what they would like to ask for this Christmas. They have used their phonics knowledge and their knowledge of tricky words to support themselves and have done a great job. Next week, we will be going to the post box to send off our letters, please remember to bring a 2nd class stamp in by Tuesday.

In Maths this week, we have been learning about the number four. We have been creating our own concept boards to represent four and exploring the different ways we can make four using part-whole models, addition and various objects.

YEAR 1 NEWS

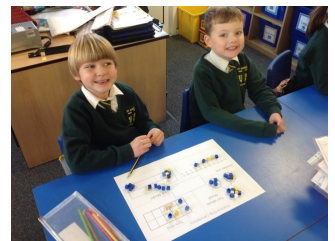
In RE this week, we have been thinking about our Advent angels. Not only is Advent a time for spiritual preparation but it's also a time for acts of kindness after all the true meaning of Christmas, the birth of Jesus, is God giving us his son and his love so we too should give ourselves to others. With this in mind, we thought about how we could show kindness to our chosen (secret) person.

In Science we have been identifying the properties of various materials. We carried out an investigation to find out which materials were bendy? These included: an eraser, a paper clip, some gloves, a spoon and a table.

We enjoyed watching the virtual video of St Joseph's to help us with our non-chronological report writing in English this week. We wrote about what makes St Joseph's a fantastic school. We tried to include subheadings and to write in the present tense.

In Maths, we have been finding different ways of visually representing number calculations. Using the part whole model, bar model, ten frames and number lines. We have also been using comparative language such as tallest, shortest, bigger than and smaller than to compare the lengths and heights of ourselves and our hands and feet.

We finished the week with some fun, festive craft making. We made beautiful tree decorations and brightly coloured calendars.



YEAR 2 NEWS

In English, this week we have continued to look at the problems the animals faced in our book 'The Journey Home'. One problem was that the elephant was being hunted by poachers for his tusks. We decided to write wanted posters to capture these poachers to save our elephants. Our posters had to include a statement, command, question, and exclamation.

It has been a little like Santa's workshop in Year 2 this week, we have been busy making decorations for our classroom tree and the tree in the hall. The children have produced some fantastic lollipop Christmas trees and sewn some amazing reindeers which they can't wait to share with you at the end of term.

In Maths this week, we have been creating scaled pictograms. We were counting our pockets and showing the numbers using a scale of (1:2). We discussed how half a picture represents 1. We found out that most people in Year 2 had 3 or 4 pockets!

In RE we were reading the story of the Shepherds as part of the Christmas Story. We read the Gospel story together and then retold the story using simple words and actions.



YEAR 3 NEWS

This week in Maths, we have come to the end of our addition and subtraction topic. We practised finding and checking our answers by using different methods, including the column method and estimation.

In English, we have had a debate based around our class text 'The Tear Thief'. The children had to discuss what emotions you would feel in different situations and ordered them based on the strength and value of each emotion. They then wrote their argument, including different conjunctions and the possessive apostrophe.

In RE, we continued our topic by focusing on Advent. We talked about what Advent means, and then picked our Advent Angels. We have thought about what to do for our Angel during Advent, and already made them some beautiful cards.

In History, we used all of our knowledge and skills as historians to answer the enquiry 'Is Skara Brae significant?'. We looked at artefacts and text sources to find our answers and had a very deep discussion about what we had found. We will be writing our conclusions next week.



YEAR 4 NEWS

In English, we have been continuing our work on writing instructions. We thought about the different features and also looked for things which could be improved in the instructions. This gave us lots of great ideas to help us plan our own set of instructions about 'How to be a Roman Gladiator!'

In Maths, we have continued our work on Multiplication. We have been working hard to multiply multiples of 10 and 100. We have been thinking about how multiplication facts are commutative. Eva explained that in a times table if you swap the factors around, it will still make the same product!

As part of our History topic about the Romans, we have been making some fabulous Roman shields. We thought carefully about making our shields look authentic by using inspiration taken from shields found from that time.

In RE, we thought we have created our Advent promises. We are sure that our grown-ups will be really pleased to hear that lots of children are going to be helpful at home and are also kind to their brothers and sisters!



YEAR 5 NEWS

Year 5 started off the week by having fun carrying out a Science experiment to see which material was the best insulator.

In English, we have started reading our new book, "The Man Who Walked Between The Towers". Before we started reading the book, we found out a bit about the Twin Towers in New York. We wrote some fabulous letters offering advice to Philippe Petit, who was the man who walked between the Towers in 1974, suggesting ways to make his stunt safer. After that, we pretended we were journalists interviewing one of the eyewitnesses and finally we wrote a news report for TV - I think we have some future BBC News readers in our class!

In Maths, we have been continuing our work on multiplication and division. This week, we have been finding out about cube numbers using multilink to help us. We have also been multiplying and dividing by 10, 100 and 1000.

In RE, we looked at the questions: "Why was Moses a surprising person for God to choose to lead his people?" and "Why did God choose Moses?" As always, the children had some great ideas. They also started to look at the Incarnation, thinking of ways that Jesus was human and divine.

In History, our focus was on Alexander the Great. The children looked at sources to see what we could work out about him and then we read a secondary source which told us about some of his achievements.

YEAR 6 NEWS

In English, we have been learning how to use semi-colons and colons in our writing. We also continued reading our class book about endangered animals. Next week, we will be writing a persuasive speech about the endangered animal we've researched.

In Maths, we worked on comparing fractions through comparing numerators and denominators. We used paper strips and folded them into thirds, fifths and sixths to help us compare numerators. We know that when the numerators are the same that the greater the denominator, the smaller the fraction will be. We have also continued to work on developing our speed and accuracy in arithmetic tests.

During craft week, we made an origami Christmas tree; we had to really listen to each instruction. We were then able to decorate them and hang them on the tree.





AWARDS



SUNSHINE AWARDS

(YR), (Y1), (Y2),
(Y3), (Y4), (Y5), (Y6)



MATHS AWARDS

(YR), (Y1), (Y2),
(Y3), (Y4), (Y5), (Y6)

A PRAYER BY AMELIA (YR 4)

Dear God,
Please helps us to be like Mary.
Love us and encourage us.
Make us trust in you and listen to
you, just like Mary.
Amen

