

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Friday 7th January 2022

A MESSAGE FROM MISS CHOMA

Hi everyone,

It was lovely to welcome all the children back after the Christmas holiday. Speaking to the children, they have obviously had a wonderful holiday and received some lovely gifts. The staff would like to say thank you for all the cards and generous gifts received.

In true St Joseph's action-packed style, we have had a busy start to the new year! We celebrated our first whole school mass, The Epiphany, in two years - the children were wonderful. I was so proud of Reception Class who were very reverent and listened carefully to the mass. Thank you to Fr Lawrie for all his hard work supporting school and sometimes, accommodating some very last-minute changes.

We ended the week with a great afternoon at the theatre to watch Aladdin - 'Oh no we didn't' - 'Oh yes we did!' Sorry folks - couldn't resist!

Covid cases – at present we only have a couple of covid cases. Numbers in the country are rapidly rising and we could potentially have more cases. We are keeping classrooms well ventilated and maintaining high levels of hygiene. However, if in doubt, to protect others, do a lateral flow test and book a PCR.

Have a wonderful weekend; have fun and enjoy time together. We may even have some snow!

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



TWITTER

Don't forget to check our Twitter feed for class updates and information about the school.

<https://twitter.com/stjosephsotley>

DATES FOR THE DIARY

<u>January</u>	<u>February</u>
Please note, for all indoor school activities, adults must wear a mask unless they are medically exempt.	
19th January - Whole Class Photographs	1st February - Y4 St Brigid Feast Day 4th February - NSPCC Number Day 5th February - LSAA Cross Country Event 14th February - Y6 Bikeability 18th February - Y3 St Bernadette Feast Day <u>HALF TERM</u>

KEY INFORMATION

VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTION SCHEME



Our building is in need of repair and development. Without your support it will be impossible to continue to develop the school environment for the benefit of our students. This scheme has enabled the school to contribute towards the cost of building works and other improvements to the school.



WE NEED YOUR HELP!

We are inviting parents to join our highly successful Voluntary Contributions Scheme.

In line with other schools in the Bishop Wheeler Trust, most families contribute to the scheme by monthly, quarterly or yearly direct debit of £5, £10 or £15 per family.

Without the commitment and regular income from VCS we will struggle, in future years, to maintain and improve the facilities of our school. We therefore appeal to you to set up a regular donation to the VCS fund. Any contribution, however big or small, will be gratefully received. Although the contribution is voluntary it is essential to the future of the school.

For more information, then please speak to Miss Wilkinson in the Office. Thank you.



CLASS PHOTOS

Class photos will be taken on Thursday 19th January. Full school uniform please.

We ask all children to bring a pair of silly socks to wear for their photo. If your child has any fancy hairbands then bring them along too.



UNIFORM

Please ensure that ALL uniform is labelled as otherwise it is very hard to ensure that clothes are returned to the rightful owners. We do not have a central lost property. Please check your child's cloakroom for missing items.

WINTER UNIFORM

Please also ensure that your child has a coat with them during the winter months. All children should be wearing winter uniform, and please ensure that PE kit is available on the days required. In the winter months, please ensure your child is wearing the green PE jogging bottoms. The children should not just wear the green PE shorts as the weather is too cold.

Thank you for your co-operation.

THANK YOU FROM MISS HULBERT

Miss Hulbert would like to thank everyone who kindly made donations for the Bramham Christmas Community Charity Event.

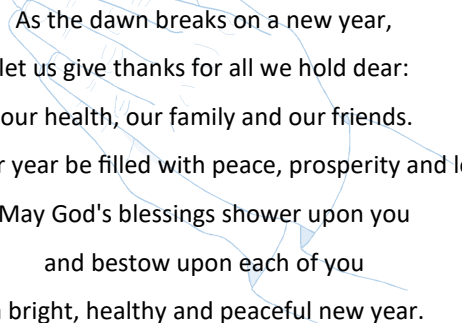
Everyone who attended was extremely grateful to spend Christmas together and for their Christmas dinner and hamper. Thank you so much for your support



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

CATHOLIC LIFE OF THE SCHOOL

A PRAYER FOR THE WEEK



As the dawn breaks on a new year,
let us give thanks for all we hold dear:
our health, our family and our friends.
May your year be filled with peace, prosperity and love.
May God's blessings shower upon you
and bestow upon each of you
a bright, healthy and peaceful new year.

OUR LADY & ALL SAINTS CHURCH

MASS TIMES

Due to Covid-19 Restrictions, Mass times have changed for Our Lady and All Saints Otley.

Please see bulletin for changes to Mass times

[Click here](#)

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

COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

In our Collective Worship, we thought about the British Value 'Individual Liberty' and what that means. Some of these include: **the freedom to vote for whoever we like**, the right to be able believe in what we choose and to love who we want, the right to free speech, and the ability to spend time with anyone we choose. Mrs Harvey explained that every person should be treated equally and with respect.



We listened to a passage from Galatians 5:
Freedom is what we have from God.
You were called to be free but make sure you use this freedom carefully.
Use it to help and love one another."
The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Agnes said, "It is important to treat each other equally because you should treat others how you would like to be treated yourself."



*Dear Lord,
You created us all equally and in your image.
May we respect all people, no matter if they are a boy or a girl, where they are from or what religion they follow.
We pray for people around the world who are not free.
Please help our world to be a better place for everyone. Amen*

Today and over the weekend, love and help one another using our freedom to be kind to one another.



EPHAPHANY MASS

On Thursday, we celebrated the feast of the Epiphany all together in church. The Mass was led by Year 5 who read and sang beautifully. This was a very special occasion as it was the first time our Reception & Year One children had attended a whole school Mass and they behaved brilliantly. One Reception child was heard to say afterwards, "I loved it!"

In the Mass, we thought about the bravery of the Wise Men. They left their homes and their families without being sure of the way. They put all their trust in the star, and in God's promise that he would send a Saviour, the Messiah, to the people.



VIRTUE - FAITH

For the next few weeks, the children will be thinking about the virtue of Faith.

The children will be thinking about:

- Faith being a gift from God;
- That faith helps us grow in friendship with Jesus;
- That we can show our faith by living our lives filled with faith and love.



CLASS NEWS



YEAR R NEWS

We hope you and your families had a lovely Christmas. Thank you very much for your kind gifts. We have had a very busy few days back in Reception this week.

We have written all about our holiday news and in Literacy we have been reading 'Whatever Next' by Jill Murphy. We have been thinking about where we would like to go in a rocket. Lucas wrote he would like to go to the moon and meet an alien. While he was there he would like to play snakes and ladders!

In RE, we have been thinking about how we can show our love for Jesus. On Thursday morning we attended our first Mass in church.

In PE, we have been listening to different pieces of music and thought about how they make us feel before moving in different ways.



YEAR 1 NEWS

What a fantastic start to the new term we have had this week. Y1 have returned with renewed vigour and a wonderful attitude to learning.

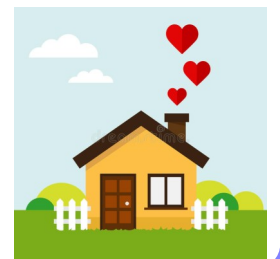
This week in Maths, we have been consolidating our understanding of fact families. During our time in Y1 we have been working hard to secure our understanding of addition and subtraction. We are beginning to see the relationship between the two and to understand how they are related.

In English, we have been writing a chronological account of our Christmas holidays. We used time adverbials to structure our writing. We enjoyed sharing all of our exciting holiday news including what we received from Father Christmas.

In RE, we have been reflecting on the notion of belonging and what it feels like to belong to our family and how special that makes us feel. We reflected on our own family and who we live with at home. We thought about the important qualities of belonging within our school community.

On Thursday, we celebrated the Epiphany with a whole school mass in church. As always Y1's behaviour was exemplary and they sang beautifully.

We finished our busy week with a trip to The Carriageworks Theatre to see Aladdin. We had a fantastic time and thoroughly enjoyed the atmosphere and production.

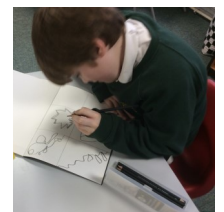


YEAR 2 NEWS

In English, we are enjoying our new text 'Orion and the Dark'. We started by looking at a word cloud with words taken from the blurb and made predictions about what we thought the book might be about. We then discovered Orion, the boy in the story, is scared of lots of different things. We used commas in a list when writing the different things, he was scared of.

In Maths, we have started our topic about money. We practised recognising coins and then counting different amounts in pounds and pence. We realised that our multiples of 2, 5 and 10 can help us when counting groups of coins.

We started our Art topic based on developing a variety of skills. This week we focused on developing our shading skills. We looked the artwork of Nancy McCroskey and created our own version of 'Suite in Black, White and Gray'.



YEAR 3 NEWS

In English, we have started to read a new book called *The Tear Thief*. We have found out about the author and the illustrator who created the beautiful pictures.



In Maths, we have been practising our division facts and dividing products by 4. We have used these numbers to solve problems.

In P.E, the children have started to learn the skills of Handball including ball control skills and working together as a team.

In R.E, we have been finding out more about The Epiphany and the symbolism of the gifts that the Wise Men brought for baby Jesus.

In History, we answered the question 'What can we learn about life in the Stone Age from Skara Brae?' We looked at different assumptions made from what has been discovered at Skara Brae and collected evidence to support them. We then wrote our own assumptions based on what we had learnt.

YEAR 4 NEWS

In English, we have consolidated our understanding of adjectives and verbs as well as learning about the role of determiners. The children used thesauruses and word banks to find powerful language and also put their knowledge of features of report writing to use in creating leaflets all about sound.



In Maths, we have been using the 6 and 9 times table to solve multiplication and division problems, as well as spotting patterns that can help us. Very few children have been on TT Rockstars this week at home - please encourage your children to log on often in preparation for their Times Table Check in the summer.

In RE, our new topic is 'Celebrating the Mass'. We discussed why Christians go to Mass, and the children shared their thoughts and emotions about why Mass is important to them. We also learned why Sunday is a special day for Christians.

In DT, the children explored frame structures with toothpicks and mini-marshmallows, which supported them in creating their own plans for their pavilions. It was wonderful to see the stable structures they came up with!

In Science, the children used all of their learned knowledge about sound to create leaflets, and experimented with different objects in the classroom in an enquiry about pitch. They used lots of specific vocabulary in their discussion and writing.

YEAR 5 NEWS

For the next couple of weeks in English, we are going to be looking at poetry and this week we started looking at the poem, "The Listeners" written by Walter de la Mere. It was written in 1912 so some of the vocabulary was unfamiliar to the children so we made predictions as to what they might mean using the text to help us, we then used dictionaries to see if our predictions were correct.



In Maths, we have been looking at finding the perimeter of different shapes and using a ruler to measure different lengths to the nearest mm. The children have been trying to apply their knowledge to solve reasoning questions.

Our focus in RE this half term is "Inspirational People". This week, the children talked about what they think makes someone inspirational and, thought about which virtues were most important for inspirational people to show.

In PE this half term, we will be doing Gymnastics. This week, the children practised the arch shape, dish shape, front support, side support & back support as well as performing counterbalances & trying to sequence them together.

YEAR 6 NEWS

In English, we have been analysing the features of a formal and informal letter: looking at the similarities and differences in both structure and language. We enjoyed completing a letter of complaint about a faulty car!

Our new topic in Maths is position and direction. This week, we have been learning about the four quadrants, as well as plotting coordinates and shapes within them.

Year 6 are now able to not only say what kind of house they live in, but also describe the rooms in their house in French following our lesson on Thursday.



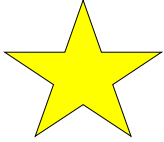
In R.E, we studied the life of Oscar Romero: considering how his brave actions to defend the poor in El Salvador link to our current topic of Justice and the ways in which his legacy is still felt today.



HOUSE OF THE WEEK



HOUSE POINT CHAMPIONS

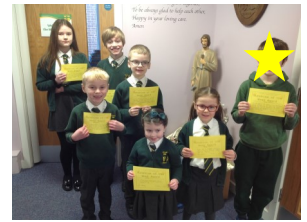


WILL RESUME NEXT WEEK



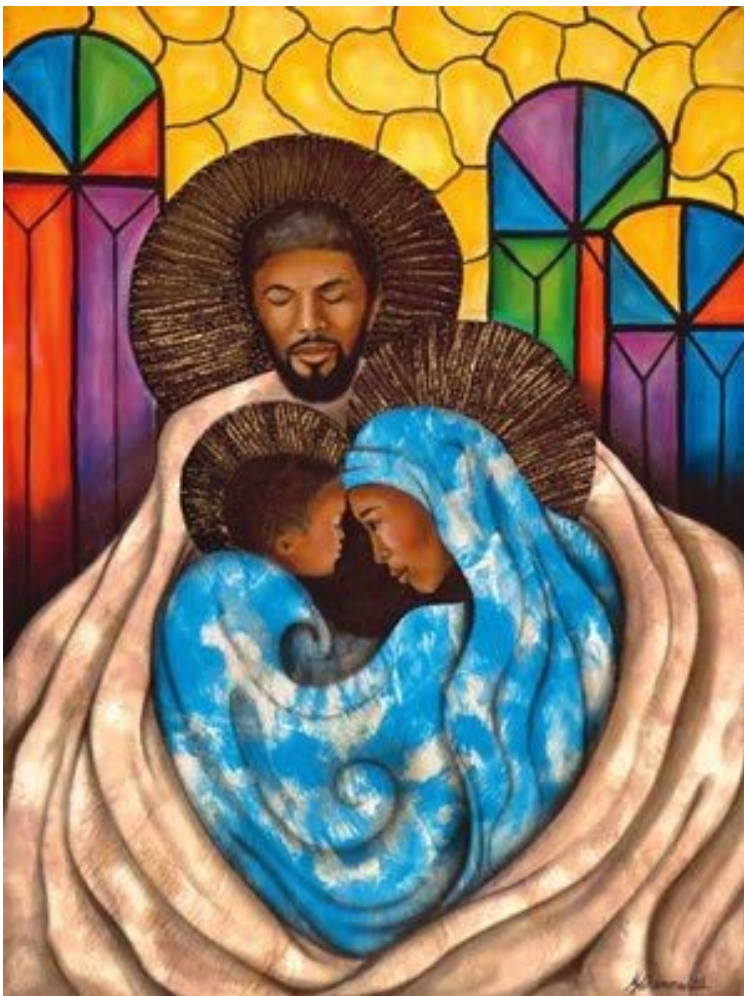
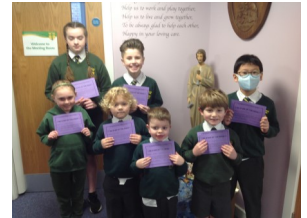
SUNSHINE AWARD

WINTER (YR), DARCEY (Y1), HARRISON (Y2),
LOUIS (Y3), HARRY (Y4), WILLIAM (Y5), ISABELLA (Y6)



RE AWARD

LUCAS (YR), JOSHUA (Y1), ALBERT (Y2),
CLOVIS (Y3), OLIVIA (Y4), ETHAN (Y5), TALLULAH (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