

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Friday 9th February 2024

A MESSAGE FROM MR GILHOOLY

Dear parents/carers and friends of the school,

Can you believe it? We are halfway through the academic year - that's 100 days of school for the children! We are so proud of how they are progressing in school.

A big shout out this week to Year 5. We were contacted by another school in our cluster to say how well behaved, how polite and how happy our Year 5 children were at their recent sports festival at PHGS. It makes us so proud when we hear good news like this - well done!

We have a busy half term ahead of us, so please make sure you rest up and are ready and raring to go as we begin our approach towards Easter.

May you all have a restful break spent with those you love.

Best regards, God bless and happy half term,

Mr G



DATES FOR THE DIARY

DATES FOR THE 2024 DIARY

Return to School 19th February

19th Feb - Young Voices
20th Feb - Toast Tuesday
22nd Feb - Girlguiding Thinking Day
22nd Feb - Safer Internet Day
23rd Feb - Faith Lunch
27th Feb - Toast Tuesdays

2nd March - KS2 Cross Country
5th March - Toast Tuesdays
7th March - World Book Day
8th March - FOSJ Mothers Day Stall
8th March - Skipping Festival
8th March - Sing and Swing Event
12th March - Toast Tuesday
15th March - Sponsored Walk—PJ Day
19th March - Feast of St Joseph

SPORTS - UPCOMING DATES

20th Feb - U11 Boys Football at Weetwood
29th Feb - U11 Boys Football at Ireland Wood
2nd March - Cross Country at Woodhouse Grove
4th March - U11 Girls Football at SSPP
7th March - U10 Boys Football at Immaculate Heart of Mary
11th March - Y2 Girls Football at SSPP
12th March - Y6 Basketball at PHGS
14th March - U11 Football at St Joseph's Otley

SPORT

Year 2 Football League

Well done to the Year 2 football team who took part in their next round of league matches on Monday. They played brilliantly and won their first two matches 5-0 and 2-1. Unfortunately, we lost our last match but all the children persevered and showed great skill. The next set of matches will take place on Monday 25th March.

Leeds Cross Country Finals

Unfortunately, this was cancelled due to the weather on Thursday.

Football Kit

Please can all school football kits be returned including shorts, socks, shin pads and football boots. If you have any old shin pads or football boots that you would like to donate, please give them to the office after half term.



CATHOLIC LIFE OF THE SCHOOL

FOSJ UPDATE

Rainbow Raffle

A big thank you to those of you that donated to the Rainbow Raffle and bought tickets, we managed to raise an amazing **£500!** And congratulations to those lucky winners, if you haven't already, please go into school to pick up your prize.



Disco

A huge thank you to our Disco team of parent volunteers who arranged a fantastic silent disco which banished the January blues! I have heard from many children that it was a huge success, and they are looking forward to next years disco!

A big thank you must go out as well to **Simon and Becky**, our fantastic local grocers, who donated a super fruit buffet to the disco free of charge.



If you haven't already please could you send in the £3 for the disco in a name labelled envelope.

Unfortunately, we have had to cancel the cocktail making evening that was planned for Friday the 9th. We are unable to make these fantastic events happen without volunteers!



Sooo..... if you fancy joining us, our next meeting is 6:30 on the 21st February at the Horse and Farrier. Come, volunteer, join in, give your ideas or just have a drink with us!

CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH WEEK

During the week, we looked at the importance of 'My Voice Matters' and who we can talk to when we need some support. People we can talk to include our friends, family, teachers and people like Gemma from Catholic Care. It is so important to talk about our feelings.

When we feel empowered, there's a positive impact on our wellbeing. Children who feel that their voices are heard and can make a difference have a greater sense of community and self-esteem.

As a family, take time over the holidays to really talk about how you are feeling. Visit <https://www.childrensmentalhealthweek.org.uk/families/> for more information.



BEDTIME STORY NIGHT

On Wednesday, we welcomed Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 for an evening of bedtime stories, hot chocolate and biscuits. We dressed in our comfiest pj's and brought a lovely teddy to cuddle too. Thank you to the EYFS and KS1 Team for a great event.



CATHOLIC LIFE OF THE SCHOOL

PRAYER OF THE WEEK

I said a Valentine prayer for You and asked the Lord above to fill your heart and bless your soul with the precious gift of love.

I asked Him for sincere love the kind that's meant to stay just like the generous love You give to those You touch each day.

I prayed for love from family and from every cherished friend then I asked the Lord to give you His love that knows no end.

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>



COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

On Tuesday this week, our Collective Worship was linked to the theme of the day for Children's Mental Health Week which was Thoughtfulness. The children reflected on the meaning of thoughtfulness and listened to some of Paul's First Letter to the Thessalonians which gave examples of how we can be thoughtful towards other people. The children said the words:

I am thoughtful.

I am kind.

I am caring.

I am helpful.

I am generous.

This week was our final week at looking at the virtue of simplicity. Our focus in our worship was how we can live more simple lives so that we can help others. We said this prayer together:

*We pray for those people around the world who do not have a safe home to live in; food to eat or clean water to drink.
We pray that our world leaders work together to make the world a fairer place to live.*

Amen

FRIDAY ASSEMBLY

Well done to Year 1 who led our Collective Worship this morning all about belonging to communities and our school Mission Statement. They told us the reasons they are all special; how we belong to God's family through Baptism; the different communities we belong to and sang a song about being stronger when we work together.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Well done to all the children who attended the first Reconciliation class this week. The Catechists were very impressed with the children. The next meeting will be the Wednesday after half term.

SACRAMENT OF FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

*There will be a meeting for parents of children hoping to prepare for the Sacrament of First Holy Communion on **20th March at 7pm in Church.***

Children in Year 4 upwards are invited to receive First Holy communion for the first time.

This will take place on **Saturday 8th June** at 10am in our Church. The children will be presented with their certificates in Mass on the following day on Sunday 9th June. After this, they will be invited to their Communion Breakfast.

PRAYER OF THE WEEK

Our Morning Prayer

Oh my God you love me,
You're with me night and day.

I want to love you always
In all I do and say.

I'll try to please you Father,
Bless me through the day.

Amen



CLASS PAGES

YEAR R NEWS

What a busy but wonderful week in Reception. We have enjoyed learning all about Chinese New Year. We learnt about why each year is named after an animal and enjoyed learning about which animal represents the year we were born. We made Chinese lanterns to decorate our classroom.

In Literacy, we focused on the story 'Peace at Last'. We enjoyed creating some super pictures to represent the setting of the story and thought about a new place for Daddy Bear to try and get some sleep.

In Maths, we have been exploring capacity. We explored different sized containers and identified which held the most/ least. We identified that taller containers didn't always hold the most water.

It was lovely to see so many children come back to school on Wednesday evening for the Bedtime story session. We had a lovely cosy evening, enjoying hot chocolate and some of our favourite stories.

Many thanks to all the parents/ grandparents that have attended Stay and Play this half term. It has been lovely to see the children showing you around their classroom and engaging in lots of play! We plan to offer this again next half term. More information to follow!

YEAR 1 NEWS

This week in English, the children have continued to practise their writing. This week, they have been thinking about what a thoughtful toy bus might do to help around school. The children have been trying to remember to use capital letters, full stops and finger spaces.

In Maths, the children have looked at ordering numbers to 20 using cubes to help them. After half term, the children will be using their knowledge of numbers of 20 to complete adding and subtracting questions.

In RE, the children have continued to learn about the signs used in Baptism and the children have also learnt about how new life is celebrated in Judaism.

The children loved using the apparatus in PE this week as part of our gymnastics work. They have been practising their jumping, balancing, moving and agility skills.

YEAR 2 NEWS

In Maths, we have started our new topic on money. We started off by counting money in pence, then pounds, then pounds and pence! We are all getting a good grasp of being able to make different amounts using both coins and notes.

In English, we have been focusing on using simple past tense verbs. We identified past tense verbs within a postcard text. We also spotted some irregular past tense verbs such as write becomes wrote and eat becomes ate. We then used our knowledge to write our own postcard home from the seaside!

As part of our Geography work about the coastline, we found out about coastal erosion. We learnt that it is caused when the waves hit the coastline and bits of rock crumble away until eventually it collapses. We built a cliff out of sand and made waves until it collapsed. We then built another cliff and created a sea defence around it using pebbles. The sea defence protected the cliff well.

In RE, we thought about how Jesus was a 'Good News' person and why. We then thought of ways that we could be 'Good News' people too and how sometimes this can be difficult.



YEAR 3 NEWS

In English, we drafted and published our newspaper reports. Mr Gilhooly visited the classroom during publishing and was very impressed by the care the children were taking. The children also worked as teams to edit others' work, checking for spelling and grammar mistakes and helping each other improve.

In Maths, we learnt to multiply a 2-digit number by a 1-digit number. We used lots of practical apparatus to support us in visualising it, partitioning the numbers into tens and one to break it down into steps.

In RE, we thought about what it means to follow Jesus' teachings. We reflected on the Good News, and how we would feel in heaven. We also discussed the joys and challenges of following Jesus, and how to act out his message.

In Geography, we learned about different types of volcanoes and their features. We created models of the extinct volcano Arthur's Seat in Edinburgh, and the active volcano Eyjafjallajökull in Iceland.

In Science, we presented our findings from our science investigation, exploring which surface is the most slippery by measuring frictional forces. We produced bar charts before analysing our findings.

YEAR 4 NEWS

In English, we wrote non-chronological reports about rivers. We prepared by making notes and doing research before compiling all we had found in to our reports.

In Maths, we continued to work on multiplying and dividing 3 digit numbers by 1 digit numbers. In Year 4, we use informal methods and so have been using part- part- whole models to help us with our calculations.

In PE, we enjoyed using the apparatus to practise the skills we have been learning over the past few weeks. This includes jumping, balancing, moving and sequencing a gymnastics routine.

On Friday, we celebrated the feast of St Brigid. We learned about her life, made crosses, reflected on her life and said prayers to her whilst tying ribbons to our prayer tree. We then designed a section of a cloak which we are going to sew together to make a large cloak like St Brigid's. We enjoyed wearing our own clothes for our class' special day too.

YEAR 5 NEWS

In English, we have been focusing on sequencing events, from the 'Freedom Bird' book, as well as inserting verbs ending -ing at the beginning of their sentences. The children identified the different verbs within a passage from the book and were able to recognise how we can manipulate these verbs to end with -ing. They then used these verbs at the beginning of their sentences to create fronted adverbials.

In Geography, we have been looking at the year of a farmer. We discussed how a farmer's year never stops and they have certain tasks they need to complete throughout the different seasons. The children were able to debate which season would be the hardest for a farmer to work through and they explained challenges faced by farmers throughout their year.

In PE, the children had the opportunity to go to Prince Henry's and take part in a World & Inclusive Sports festival. The children took part in mini games of sports against Otley All Saints, which they have learned throughout this half-term. The children had a fantastic time and showed great teamwork and sportsmanship.

YEAR 6 NEWS

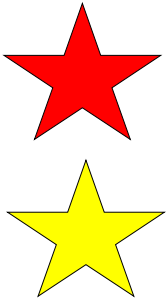
In Maths, we looked at scaling shapes by reducing and enlarging by different scale factors. We enjoyed drawing the new shapes out and worked out the perimeter and the area of shapes too. Additionally, we challenged ourselves to answer a range of reasoning questions - including SATs ones.

In RE, we looked at the Penitential Act where we discussed how we must say sorry before we take communion. We linked this to the parable of the Forgiving Father and how God is like the father and we are his children and he will always forgive us. After this, we looked at signs and actions that we do during mass and what they mean.

All the class enjoyed taking part in Bikeability this week where they learned to safely ride their bike. When they mastered this, they were able to use their skills on the road. Well done!

For Mental Health week, we created a wellbeing toolkit where we wrote about trusted adults, feelings, relaxation techniques, self care and things that make you happy. We wrote down ways that would help us and drew pictures. The toolkits look great!

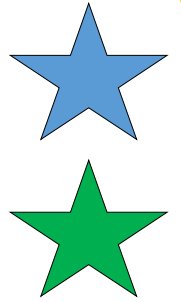
HOUSE OF THE WEEK



WELL DONE TO

EVERYONE

FOR EARNING HOUSE POINTS THIS WEEK



SUNSHINE AWARD

KATIE (YR), BEN (Y1), LILLIE-AVA (Y2),
JOANNA (Y3), BEN (Y4), EDWARD AND MAX (Y5), DANIEL(Y6)



MATHS AWARD

IVY (YR), WILLIAM S (Y1), HEIDI (Y2),
WILLIAM P (Y3), OLIVER (Y4), ALEX (Y5), SAMUEL H (Y6)



HEADTEACHER AWARD

AMELIE (Y5)



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

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

- ★ THURSDAY 14 SEPTEMBER - PARENT MEET AND GREET & AGM

- ★ WEDNESDAY 25 OCTOBER - CAKE SALE

- ★ FRIDAY 8 DECEMBER- FAMILY BINGO NIGHT

- ★ SATURDAY 16 DECEMBER - CHRISTMAS FAYRE

- ★ FRIDAY 2 FEBRUARY - SILENT DISCO

- ★ FRIDAY 2 FEBRUARY - RAINBOW RAFFLE

- ★ FRIDAY 9 FEBRUARY- COCKTAIL MAKING EVENING

- ★ FRIDAY 8 MARCH - MOTHER'S DAY

- ★ FRIDAY 26 APRIL - QUIZ NIGHT

- ★ FRIDAY 17 MAY- GOLDEN TICKET EVENT

- ★ FRIDAY 14 JUNE- FATHER'S DAY

- ★ FRIDAY 28 JUNE - CAMPING TRIP



OTLEY

COMMUNITY LARDER

Otley Social Club, Hollin Gate,
Otley LS21 2DP

NOW OPEN!

Come and find us:

TUESDAY 2.15pm – 3.15pm

THURSDAY 6.15pm – 7.15pm

SATURDAY coming soon

We distribute fresh foods which are close to, or just beyond their 'Best Before' date - reducing waste and providing nutritious foods to Otley people on a 'pay as you feel' basis.

No appointment or referral needed.

Our food is available to all.



www.otley2030.com/larder



OTLEY PARENT SUPPORT GROUP

**JOIN US FOR FRIENDLY AND INFORMAL
SUPPORT, ADVICE AND GUIDANCE**

EVERY TUESDAY (TERM-TIME)

9.30-11.00 am

**NEW VENUE FROM JANUARY 2024:
Cross Green Community Centre, LS21 1HD**

Parents and carers of school aged children very welcome

For more information contact Lisa on:

07510079959/mnl@princehenrys.co.uk

Otliensians Girls Rugby

OTLEY ZEBRAS



GIRLS IN YEAR 5 & 6 COME AND GIVE RUGBY A TRY

Starting

**WEDNESDAY 21st FEBRUARY
& every Wednesday for 6 weeks**

5.45pm - 6.45pm

Pool Road Pitches, Otley

Free to
participate

Free to
participate

**Make new friends, keep fit & have fun,
A sport with a place for everyone!**



**For more information contact Liz
on 07545 346100 or
Otliensiansgirlsrugby@gmail.com**

Teamwork * Respect * Enjoyment * Discipline * Sportmanship