

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Friday 10th December 2021

A MESSAGE FROM MISS CHOMA

Hi everyone,

Thank you for a lovely week in school – there has been lots of festive activities. The week started with a wonderful concert from our singing club led by Miss Wilkinson (MD). We had a mixture of carols and songs from the musicals Matilda and Lion King. The singing was beautiful. I was so proud of the children – they oozed confidence and joy! A big well done to the children who performed solos.

Yesterday was Christmas Dinner Day! The staff and children had a lovely time. We were joined by Father Lawrie who thoroughly enjoyed his dinner. Thank you, Mrs Robinson and her staff, for preparing a delicious meal.

Preparation for our Reception and Year 1/Year 2 productions are in full swing. I think I know all the words now! You are in for a treat.

Reindeer Dash – the children have all completed their run now. Thank you for your support and generosity. Hospices are struggling financially as many funds are raised through charitable donations/events which haven't been able to take place due to Covid. The money raised is for Wheatfields. They hold a special place in my heart as my brother spent his last few weeks in Wheatfields Hospice. The care and support they provide is priceless. It is wonderful that we can support them.

Covid cases – we only have a few cases now in school; thank you to the parent/carers for their quick responses by keeping children at home and booking PCR tests. However, if in doubt, to protect others, do a lateral flow and book a PCR.

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

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

DATES FOR THE DIARY

December

Please note, for all indoor school activities, adults must wear a mask unless they are medically exempt.

11th - LSAA Cross Country League
14th - Y1 and Y2 Nativity at 1.30pm - Year 1 Showing
15th - Y1 and Y2 Nativity at 9.00am - Year 2 Showing
15th - Reception Nativity at 1.30pm
16th - KS1 and KS2 Christmas Parties
16th - Whole School Mass - Children Only

END OF TERM

We return to school on
Wednesday 5th January 2022

CAN YOU HELP?

We are currently looking for parent volunteers to assist with Y4 swimming on a Friday morning. Y4 walk up to swimming at approximately 10am and return to school about 11.30am.

All we require is that you are DBS checked and would be willing to give up the occasional Friday morning to help us attend our wonderful swimming session.

Additionally, if you are not currently DBS checked but you are interested in becoming a parent volunteer for swimming then please speak to a member of our office staff about how to apply for your DBS.



KEY INFORMATION

REINDEER RUN

Well done to all the children who took part in the Reindeer Run this week on Monday and Thursday. The children had great fun and looked very festive. They all showed lots of enthusiasm and determination.

Despite lots of rain throughout the week, we all managed to take part in the Reindeer Run.

Thank you to Mrs Harvey and Miss Chappel for creating an interesting course, and organising the event.

Thank you for all of the sponsorship money which will go to the Wheatfield Hospice. We have raised over £300 so far. Please bring all sponsorship money by Friday 17th December.



CROSS COUNTRY



Good luck to all of the children who are taking part in the next cross country race tomorrow which is at Leeds Grammar School meeting at 12:45.



AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS REVIEW - SINGING CLUB AND GAMES CLUB

On Monday, the KS1 and KS2 Singing Club held 'A Musical Extravaganza' for parents. The children sang a variety of songs with a number of children bravely choosing to sing solos in front of an eager audience!

Miss Wilkinson was incredibly proud of all the children who have worked hard increasing their confidence and technical skill whilst having lots of fun.



Children attending Games Club have had a lot of fun on Monday afternoons learning lots of new games including Pass the Bomb, Build a Beetle and Monopoly Deal. The children have also learnt some card games such as: 99, sevens, Old Maid and 9's which is a game you play on your own. Hopefully, over the Christmas holidays the children might be able to teach these games to people at home.



FOSJ UPDATE

There is still time to join the raffle - BUY YOUR TICKETS NOW!
<https://www.bigptaraffle.co.uk/support/st-josephs-catholic-primary-school-otley-ls21>



CHRISTMAS DATES FOR THE DIARY



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

Tuesday 14th December - 1.30pm	Year 1 and Year 2 Performance
Wednesday 15th December - 9.00am	Year 1 and Year 2 Performance
Wednesday 15th December - 1.30pm	Year Reception Performance
Thursday 16th December	Christmas Party Day
Thursday 16th December	School Disco



CHRISTMAS DINNER

Thank you to the fabulous catering team for a wonderful Christmas Dinner on Thursday. The children enjoyed a Turkey or Vegetarian Sausage meal with all the trimmings followed by a delicious ice-cream!

We listened to festive music and wore our Christmas jumpers and hats. It was a lovely celebration, and we were honoured to be joined by Fr Lawrie. Thank you to all the staff in school for their help serving and cleaning.



YEAR REC AND KS1 NATIVITY PERFORMANCES

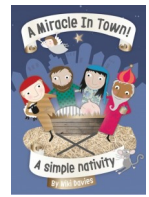
Reception present... "Wiggly Nativity"

On Wednesday 15th December at 1:30pm in the School Hall

Year 1 & Year 2 present... "A Miracle in Town!"

Year 1 Parent Performance on Tuesday 14th December at 1:30pm in the School Hall

Year 2 Parent Performance on Wednesday 15th December at 9.00am in the School Hall



Adults must wear a mask at all times unless they are medically exempt.



SCHOOL DISCO - THURSDAY 16TH DECEMBER 2021

DISCO TIMES : REC & KS1 3.30PM – 4.30PM. KS2 4.40PM – 5.40PM

The disco will run in two parts; Reception and KS1 together followed by a KS2 disco.



A £3.00 charge is payable on entry to the disco: Reception and KS1 children should have this in a sealed, labelled envelope to prevent it being lost. Their class teacher will collect the money from them on the morning of the disco. The £3.00 charge will include entry, a drink, a bag of crisps, a bag of sweets and a glow stick.

- When parents collect their YRec and KS1 children please ensure that you "check out" with the staff on the desk.
- At the start of the KS2 disco, children should come to the main entrance and "check in" with staff and pay at this time.
- When you collect your KS2 child, please ensure that they "check out" with the staff on the desk.

PLEASE NOTE KS2 CHILDREN MAY NOT ATTEND THE KS1 DISCO AND SIMILARLY KS1 CHILDREN MAY NOT STAY FOR THE KS2 DISCO.



CATHOLIC LIFE OF THE SCHOOL

A PRAYER FOR THE WEEK

This Sunday, is the third Sunday of Advent which is the pink candle and the week of joy.

Heavenly Father,
Thank You for the joy that entered the world when
Jesus was born.

Thank you for becoming God with us.
As we fix our eyes and hearts on You, fill our souls
with renewed strength, courage, and hope.
Jesus, our friend, help us to see the joy in the world.
May we bring joy to others.
Amen

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, the children have continued to focus on the virtue of patience. This week, we listened to the Gospel of Matthew telling us about John the Baptist telling people to turn away from their sins and change as the Kingdom of heaven is near. The children reflected on how some changes take time and how we should be patient with each other and ourselves as we try to change into better people.

On Friday, Year 4 led the Whole School Collective Worship with the theme of Hannukah. They talked about the history of the Jewish festival and how Jewish people celebrate it. Like Christmas and Diwali, light is an important symbol of Hanukkah and they light the Menorah candle during the celebrations.

RECONCILIATION

On Thursday, children in Year 4, 5 and 6 went across to Church to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation as part of our Advent preparation for Christmas. Thank you to Father Lawrie, Father Tom and Father Michael for doing this for us.

CONFIRMATION

On Sunday, our Confirmation candidates led the Mass for the parishioners and brought food items to donate to the SVP as a sign that they are now confirmed members of the Church and are ready to carry out Jesus' work. They also received their Confirmation certificates. Congratulations to all of them.

RECONCILIATION AND FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

Information about these Sacraments will be confirmed after Christmas. Children in Year 3 will be invited to participate in preparation classes and then receive the sacrament of Reconciliation in Lent. Children in Year 4 will receive the Sacrament of First Holy Communion in the summer term.

RECEPTION WELCOME SERVICE

On Wednesday, children in Reception were officially welcomed in the St Joseph's family with a welcome service led by Fr Lawrie. They were presented with a candle lit from the Parish Easter candle, and received a blessing from Fr Lawrie. They also received a certificate from Miss Choma.

ADVENT

This Sunday, is the third Sunday of Advent which is the pink candle and the week of joy. Christmas should be a time of joy. We know our true joy is in Jesus' birth, not the presents we get.

'No act of kindness, however small, is ever wasted.'

Aseop

Think about what kindness is and what acts of kindness you can do this week. If we want to experience the real joy that Jesus wants for us, then we must learn to share. By sharing what God has so generously given to us, we will receive an even greater gift - the gift of joy.



CLASS NEWS



YEAR R NEWS

In Literacy, we have been labelling the Christmas items. We used our phonics to see which sounds we could hear in each word. We are doing so well with our writing!

In Maths, we have been learning about the part-whole model on numbers to 5. We are getting very good at identifying which numbers we can add together to make an amount up to 5.

On Thursday, we enjoyed doing our reindeer run. We managed an amazing 15 laps around the large playground. All the children encouraged each other and did a super job! We also had a very yummy Christmas lunch!

We have done our first dress rehearsal for our Nativity. We all look really smart in our costumes. Thank you to parents.

We hope you enjoyed our Welcome Assembly. We are so proud of the children, and the way they have settled in so well to life at St Joseph's.



YEAR 1 NEWS

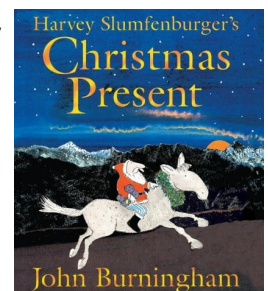
This week in Maths we have continued to look at different techniques for subtraction. We have now started to look at different representations of subtraction using ten frames, part whole models and the crossing out method.

In English this week, we reread the story, 'Harvey Slumfenburger's Christmas Present.' We thought about all the different ways that Father Christmas travelled to get to Harvey's house. We used our brilliant imaginations to come up with some of our own fantastic ways to travel using verbs, adverbs and adjectives.

In RE we have been learning about Mary and Joseph's journey to Bethlehem. We thought about why they had to travel such a long way and reflected on how they must have been feeling.

In Art & DT we have been putting the finishing touches on some of our Christmas crafts. We enjoyed putting our decorations on the tree in the hall they look beautiful.

Thank you for all of the fantastic costumes for our Christmas production. On Friday afternoon, we had a dress rehearsal. We are looking forward to showing our mums and dads and carers next week.



YEAR 2 NEWS

On Monday, we took part in the Reindeer Run for charity. The children really enjoyed running the course; it was a fantastic way to start our week.

In Maths, we have been adding three 1-digit numbers. We have been looking for number bonds to 10 and finding doubles to help us. We also found out that we can partition one of the numbers to make a bond to 10. We will be practising this in our homework this week.

As part of our English work, we have been editing and redrafting. We looked at a piece of writing and found that the writer had used 'and then' too many times! We Read through the piece together and thought carefully about how we could change it. Sometimes we just needed a full stop, other times we used an adverb such as 'suddenly'.

In RE, we used an app called i-Motion to animate the story of the Nativity. We had to think very carefully about the order of events and which characters were needed in each scene. Next week, we hope to add a narration to tell the story.

Finally, we finished making our chairs for baby Bear in DT. The children had lots of fun constructing the chairs and adding their own personal flair and design.



YEAR 3 NEWS

In English this week we have been sequencing the key parts of The First Drawing story using pictures and writing a summary of the main events using adverbials of time and place.

In Maths, we have been exploring multiplying and dividing by 3, and creating number stories and pictorial representations of our calculations. We have also been looking at subtracting 3-digit numbers with an exchange.

In History, we answered the question 'How much did life change for Stone Age man when he started to farm?' We compared images of Hunter-Gatherers and Neolithic farmers and thought about how important the changes would have been for them.

In our Collective Worship this week we have been reflecting on the virtue of Patience. We listened to bible readings about John the Baptist and talked about the value of having patience.



YEAR 4 NEWS

This week in English we have been working on developing the fluency and clarity of our reading. We have focused on the poem, 'Twas the Night Before Christmas', and each child has timed themselves reading then rereading the poem over several days. We already have 4 children in the class who have learned the first 6 verses by heart!

In Maths, we have consolidated our knowledge of multiplying and dividing by 10 and 100. We discussed the importance of place value, as this helps you see the pattern when using multiples of 10 and 100 as factors.

In RE, we reflected on how the birth of Jesus was the fulfilment of several promises God made. The children used Bible references to find promises that God made to Mary, Joseph, Zechariah and David, as well as prophecies from Isaiah. We also thought about Christian beliefs that come from the Nativity, and explained some of the titles we give Jesus.

We attended Reconciliation on Thursday, and it was lovely to see the children behave so reverently and feel so peaceful.

Thank you to all the parents who attended our class assembly. The children really worked to project their voices - we apologise for the audio difficulties during the assembly!



YEAR 5 NEWS

This half term, the children have enjoyed listening to The Odyssey by Homer retold by Gillian Cross. This week, we finished the book and found out how Odysseus finally got home after his epic 10 year journey from the Trojan War. We have used this story to inspire us to write newspaper articles about Odysseus' journey pretending we were a Greek reporter at the time.

Our focus in Maths this week has been cube numbers where we used blocks to help us calculate cube numbers. We have also been multiplying and dividing by 10, 100 & 1000 which the children did brilliantly at.

In ICT this week, the children enjoyed writing scripts for their videos that they are going to record about one of their interests/hobbies.

In DT, the children started to make a truss bridge using spaghetti and masking tape. First of all, the children had to make 6 bundles of 10 pieces of spaghetti and then tape these together. They then had to break these bundles into 3 equal pieces and use them to make triangles. Next week, we shall hopefully finish them off.



YEAR 6 NEWS

In English, we looked at the features of a discussion text. For our lesson, we thought about the positive and negative aspects of online learning. The children created a structured paragraph to form an argument of both points of view using formal language, rhetorical questions and emotive language.

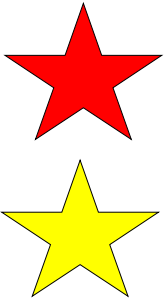
In Maths, we have looked at fractions on a number line - ranging from 0 to beyond 1. We also compared fractions with the same denominator and same numerator. We discussed the most efficient method when comparing and ordering fractions. Finally, we practised adding and subtracting fractions with different denominators.

In History, we looked at propaganda posters aimed at women on the Home Front. By analysing the posters, we looked at the persuasive features and impact they would have had for women during this time. We also looked at rationing and discovered the upper class continued to visit restaurants despite the limited food during these hard times. We discussed the injustice of food distribution during the war and how this relates to today.



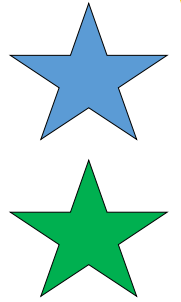


HOUSE OF THE WEEK



WELL DONE TO

WHITBY



FOR EARNING THE MOST HOUSE POINTS THIS WEEK

SUNSHINE AWARD

ZARA (YR), CLEO (Y1), JACK (Y2),
WILLIAM (Y3), EMME (Y4), LUCIUS (Y5), LILY-ROSE (Y6)

MATHS AWARD

NOAH (YR), SCARLETT (Y1), OLIVER (Y2),
KAITLYN (Y3), INDIA (Y4), CAMERON (Y5), ESTHER (Y6)

VIRTUE AWARD

EVIE (YR), SEB (Y1), CHARLOTTE (Y2),
ALEX (Y3), REUBEN (Y4), AMELIA (Y5), LEXIE (Y6)

ATTENDANCE AND PUNCTUALITY

Week Commencing
29.11.21 - 03.12.21

No of Lates	
Rec	0
Y1	3
Y2	4
Y3	2
Y4	1
Y5	0
Y6	0

% Attendance	
Rec	
Y1	
Y2	
Y3	
Y4	
Y5	
Y6	



Attendance Matters

