

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Friday 12th March 2021

A MESSAGE FROM MISS CHOMA

What a fabulous week in school – I cannot express in words how wonderful it was to welcome you all back to school on Monday. We have missed you so much. There has been such a lovely buzz of excitement around school.

We began the week celebrating International Women's Day – what a fitting start to the week because on Sunday we celebrate and say a big thank you to all the wonderful women in our lives – our Mums, our Carers, our Grandmas, our Aunts and anyone who is special to us.

This week in school has been Science Week – all the classes have learnt about some very interesting and pioneering female scientists. I will ask Mrs Harvey to put her PowerPoint on Google Classroom so you can all have a look at it again.

All the children have stepped into the role of being a scientist – creating a hypothesis, making predictions and carrying out an investigation to test their hypothesis. Continue reading the Weekly Newsletter to find out what the St Joseph's scientists have found out.

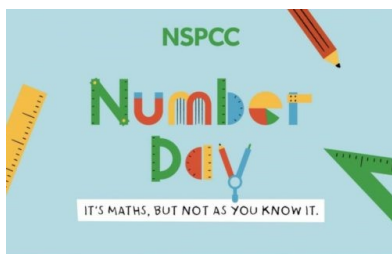
Next week is West Yorkshire School's Games Week so we will be even more active, and it is also Let's Count linked to the Census Day on Thursday. Yet another busy week in school. We are also very excited to celebrate St Joseph's Day on Friday!

I would like to thank all the children for their great attitude and behaviour this week. They have quickly stepped back into old and some new routines without any fuss – well done everyone. You deserve a well-earned rest this weekend – as long you remember Sunday is a special day. Mrs Harvey had some great ideas – make a card, breakfast in bed, say, "I love you.", ring someone you cannot be with.

Drop Off and Pick Up times: It is essential that families only arrive at the allotted time to ensure we can maintain social distancing to keep everyone as safe as possible.



NUMBER DAY



On Thursday 18th March, we will celebrate the Census by having a "Let's Count" day in school.

On this day, we are inviting children to come to school **wearing clothes with numbers on** rather than their school uniform.

If your child has PE on this day, please make sure that what they are wearing is suitable for PE.

MRS BRYLOV RETIREMENT

Sadly for us, Mrs Brylov, who is in charge of school dinners, is retiring at Easter. Mrs Brylov has worked at our school for over 37 years and has always been dedicated to provide the very best food she can for our children.

We would like to recognise all of her hard work by buying a special gift from the St. Joseph's community.

If you would like to donate to this, please send it to the school office in a sealed envelope with Mrs Brylov written on the front by Friday 19th March - thank you in advance.



UPCOMING INFORMATION

PARENTS EVENING

Parent Consultation Evenings will take place on Monday 29th March and Wednesday 31st March from 3:30pm to 6:30pm on both evenings.

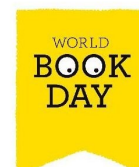
The system will open to book appointments on Monday 15th March. A letter has been emailed with more information.

WORLD BOOK DAY QUIZ WINNER

Well done to Emily (Y5) who won Miss Wilkinson's World Book Day Quiz with a whopping 38/40!

Thank you to everyone who took part. It was so wonderful to see so many families joining in.

Miss Wilkinson had lots of fun hosting, and hopes to see you all at the next zoom quiz!



BIG PEDAL 2021

This year the challenge will run from **19—30 April 2021**. Like previous years, **walking will be counted** alongside cycling and scooting. On each day of the challenge schools compete to see who can record the greatest number of pupils, staff and parents cycling, walking, scooting or using a wheelchair to school. A school's best five days will determine their final position and schools at the top of their leaderboards will receive an exclusive Sustrans Big Pedal Trophy.



We are holding a competition where children will receive a raffle ticket every time they walk, scoot or cycle to school. We are looking for local businesses to donate suitable bike related prizes (or potentially low cost gifts). Your business would be publicly thanked in our newsletter, website and twitter page.

LENT ACTIVITIES

During the season of Lent, we try to raise money for different charities. This year we are raising money for: the Good Shepherd Appeal, which help families in need of therapeutic family support work; CAFOD, who raise money to help alleviate poverty and suffering in developing countries and, Mission Together which is the the Catholic Church's official children's charity for overseas mission and aims to provide education, nutrition, medical care and shelter for children living in poverty around the world.

TOAST

As always we will also be selling toast again during Lent to raise funds for the Good Shepherd Appeal and Mission Together. Toast will be sold every Tuesday during Lent from **Tuesday 9th March** and will cost 30p per slice (just 1 slice per child).

FRUIT

As we continue our Lenten Fundraising, we shall also be holding two fruit pot sales. We shall invite children in Reception and Key Stage One to bring in fruit on **Wednesday 17th March**. The fruit will then be on sale for the children to buy their own fruit pot. Children in Key Stage Two will be invited to bring in fruit on **Wednesday 24th March**. If you would like your child to purchase a fruit pot during either or both of the days please send them in with 30p.

EASTER EGG RAFFLE

We will be holding another "egg-citing" Easter Egg raffle on **Thursday 1st April!** We would like children to bring in £1 which will buy them a raffle ticket. St Joseph's staff will be providing a selection of Easter Eggs, from big whopping super prizes to small chocolate eggs to ensure that every child wins something.

DONATIONS

We are also welcoming Easter Egg donations from local businesses and/or families so please spread the word and help this fantastic cause!

SCIENCE WEEK



5-14 March
British
Science
Week
2021



We have loved exploring different female scientists this week, and trying our own experiments.

Can you conduct your own investigations at home?

For some ideas, please visit -
<https://www.britishtscienceweek.org/>

CATHOLIC LIFE OF THE SCHOOL

PRAYER OF THE WEEK

Dear Jesus,

Thank you for all of the scientists who have used their knowledge to help us all.

We pray for women around the World that they may be treated fairly and equally so that they can develop their talents.

We thank you God for all of the special women in our lives and we pray especially for all mothers as we celebrate Mothering Sunday this week-end. We pray that they have a happy and restful day.

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

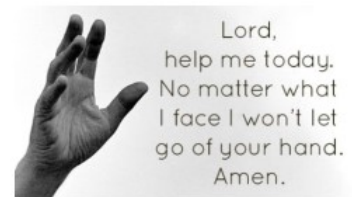
[Click here](#)

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

COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

This week was our final week looking at the Virtue of Charity. We are so proud of our children at St. Joseph's for their kind and caring attitude towards others and for the concern they show to those who are less fortunate than ourselves.

Our Statement of the Week was: **I try to keep going when things are difficult and not give up hope.** This seemed very appropriate at the moment! Although things have been difficult, hopefully there is a light at the end of the tunnel and soon things can start to get back to normal. During these strange times, it is important to remember that Jesus is with us every step of the way, always ready to help us.



RECONCILIATION

To help the children prepare for Easter, children in Years 4, 5 and 6 will be going to Church on Thursday morning to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

STAMPS

Just before Christmas, we announced that we would be collecting stamps to raise money for charity, we are still doing this so if you have any used stamps that you want to get rid off then please send them into school - thank you

FRUIT AND TOAST REMINDER

On Tuesday, we will be selling toast again for 30p. The children were very impressed with the quality of the toast this week - well done to Miss Choma and her team!!!

On Wednesday, we will also be selling fruit pots for 30p each. We would like KS1 Children to bring in fruit on Wednesday. We have sent a text to KS1 children about bringing fruit. The pots will be sold to both KS1 and KS2 children at breaktime.

ST PATRICKS DAY

Year 1 will be celebrating their class saints day, St Patrick on Wednesday 17th March.
Year 1 children are invited to wear green clothing.



CLASS NEWS



YEAR R NEWS

We have had a brilliant first week back at school! We are so impressed with how well the children have adapted to being back at school.

This week, we received a very exciting letter from NASA! They heard that we are learning about space and wondered if we would be interested in training as astronauts. The first challenge they set us was to find out all about the role of the astronaut and how they travel to space. We did lots of research and had a go at putting on our suits, boots and helmets and prepared to jet off to space. After acting it out themselves, the children wrote some fantastic instructions detailing the order in which things should be done.

As part of Science Week, we thought it would be a great opportunity to create our own rockets using different materials. We also made fizzy rockets. The children made predictions on what they thought might happen and then we observed the process outside.

In RE this week, we have been talking about forgiveness. We have also been practising the 'Our Father' - it would be great if you could have a go at home too.

YEAR 1 NEWS

We've been thinking about nouns and adjectives in English and using them to write some poetry for a very special lady in our lives!

In PE, we enjoyed some relaxing breathing and stretching for Mindfulness March. We also looked at some cricket activities ready for our new PE unit.

In RE, we listened to the Bible story of the miraculous catch of fish where Jesus chooses his first apostles. Luke 5:1-11: 'After performing this miracle Peter, the fisherman, knew Jesus was special and fell to his knees before Him. Jesus told Peter and Andrew to follow him and he'd make them fishers of men.'

For Science Week, we've had lots of fun carrying out investigations. We've raced balloons along a piece of string and made predictions about the distance they travelled and whether size/shape determined their speed. We've compared card flowers uncurling in water and made predictions about the time this would take and whether size affected the outcome. On Thursday we had great fun and got a bit messy planting cress and bean seeds. We wonder whose will be the first to sprout? We wrote instructions for how to plant a seed. We focused on using the correct language for instructional text.

In Maths, we have been practising making different representations of numbers up to 50. We've also been counting in 2s, 5s and 10s.

YEAR 2 NEWS

Year 2 have been designing and writing instructions on how to make healthy sandwiches. We started by tasting lots of different kinds of bread. The children came up with some fantastic adjectives to describe the smell, taste, texture, and appearance of the breads. I think they all loved eating it too!

For Science week, we decided to find out what would happen to our fresh bread if we left it to go mouldy for a few days. Through this investigation we learnt about micro-organisms and how they can be good or bad. We left slices of bread in ziplocked bags in various places around our classroom. We have made lots of predictions about what is going to happen, so we will have to let you know when we find out next week! We also decided that a lovely accompaniment with our sandwich would be a nice cup of tea! We took loose tea leaves and warm water and tested out lots of different materials to find the best one to use for teabags.

Year 2 did not stop at the two investigations though! We had a wonderful afternoon outside observing and measuring our trees. We took our tape measures and measured the girth (circumference) of the tree trunks 1 metre above the ground. We were surprised that a lot of our mature trees had a circumference greater than a metre. We had to work in groups and stretch out two tape measures. We also enjoyed some 'tree-hugging' for the fun of it!

YEAR 3 NEWS

On Monday, we learned about the scientist Dr Dame Harriette Chick, and the work she did on nutrient deficiencies. The children created fact files and comic strips to show why she is a significant person for us today. In the afternoon, we performed experiments to test the pH of different substances with red cabbage juice, and to show the fat level in different foods using paper bags. On Tuesday, we created a pie chart poster to show the purposes of different nutrients, and bar charts for our experiment data.

On Wednesday, we had 'The Great St Joseph's Menu' and the children worked in teams to create a nutritionally balanced 4 course meal. Miss Choma picked the winning menu, and we will be cooking some of the recipes next week.

We also performed two experiments - using iodine to test for starch in different foods, and burning different foods to find out how much energy they released.

YEAR 4 NEWS

As part of Science Week, we have investigated how the digestive system works and what happens to our food once it has been swallowed. Everyone enjoyed getting messy whilst squeezing the food through the small intestines (tights in our case!) We have also made our own toothpaste and investigated which mixture was the most abrasive and effective for removing stains. We created a fair test when thinking about which liquids are damaging towards our teeth. We placed eggs in four different solutions: milk, vinegar, water and cola to see what the effects were after a week. On International Women's Day, we researched the work of Marie Maynard Daly, who overcame both gender and race stereotypes to become a successful scientist. She researched the effect of cholesterol on our bodies.

In Maths, we have continued to learn about fractions. We have focused on finding equivalent fractions. We have learnt that to find an equivalent fraction you need to multiply or divide the numerator and the denominator by the same amount.

As part of our English work, we have thought about different features of animals. We wrote letters to Sir David Attenborough about a newly discovered species. We had to think carefully about how to describe our animals and how we felt when we discovered them.

YEAR 5 NEWS

Our focus for Science Week has been forces. On Monday, the children investigated water resistance by testing out boats and they also used force meters. On Tuesday, we investigated air resistance by flying different paper aeroplanes to see which design went the furthest. Finally, yesterday we investigated friction by moving cars on different materials. As well as carrying out investigations, we also learnt about Elsie MacGill who was a Canadian engineer. She is regarded as being the first woman to design a plane and was nicknamed "Queen of the Hurricanes" as she oversaw production of the RAF Hurricane Hawker in World War Two at a company in Canada.

For Music this week, Mrs Shakespeare very kindly sent us a video to watch which taught us a rhythm using our body as percussion instruments which we enjoyed learning. Afterwards, we also played a clapping game.

This month it is Mindfulness March and in Year 5 we have been thinking about how we can be more attentive. We have been practising techniques to help us with our concentration and we also practised some mindfulness balancing.

In RE, the children enjoyed making "the Eye of God" crosses using wool and two sticks for the hall display.

YEAR 6 NEWS

In Maths, we have continued to explore position and direction by translating and reflecting shapes on a four quadrant grid.

In English, we started our new class book: 'Kensuke's Kingdom'. We read the first chapter and discussed what we thought might happen in the story – we think Michael (the young boy) will meet Kensuke on his island and he will struggle to get home as the text mentioned he was lost for many years. We can't wait to read more of the book!

This week, we have learnt about the brilliant work of Libbie Hyman; she worked as a zoologist and wrote many books correctly classifying invertebrates. We also investigated the circumference of our heads and worked out the average for the girls and boys. Then, we classified the class into boys and girls, and into greater or less than the average. We loved this!

In RE, we looked at El Salvadorian crosses. We learnt that many poor people create these colourful and pictorial crosses to highlight their hope for a peaceful world. When we created our own, we really thought about the images we used to show hope.