

# WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Friday 17th November 2023

## A MESSAGE FROM MR GILHOOLY

Dear parents/carers and friends of the school,

We have had a jam-packed week full of excitement and hard work.

Who knew that chickens evolved from dinosaurs? Well, Key Stage 2 were keen to share this when they returned from their science trip on Thursday. It is safe to say that I have been put off eating a chicken (dinosaur) dinner.

This week our focus has been Anti-Bullying and developing the children's knowledge of what bullying is and how it must be dealt with straight away. As a school, we fundamentally do not tolerate bullying. If there are any ongoing issues that you are aware of, then please do communicate this with school. Communication is key in resolving any issue.

Next week, our children will be completing various assessments (quizzes as we like to call them!). This will give us a solid understanding of where the children are at in their learning journey, their next steps and what further support is needed. This is nothing for the children to panic about and most will not even know they are completing them. If you have any questions about our assessment cycles, then please contact me via the school office.

I hope the weather holds out this weekend and that you all have a fantastic weekend.

Best regards and God bless,

Mr L Gilhooly



## DATES FOR THE DIARY

<u>November 2023</u>	<u>December 2023</u>
20 <sup>th</sup> - Y3 Football Tournament	1 <sup>st</sup> - Scholastic Book Fair
21 <sup>st</sup> - Y1 Otley Walk	1 <sup>st</sup> - Y2 Assembly
<b>22<sup>nd</sup> - Y4 Class Mass—CHANGE OF DATE</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> - KS2 Author Visit
22 <sup>nd</sup> - Y1 Hearing Test	6 <sup>th</sup> - YR/Y6 Vision, Height and Weight
24 <sup>th</sup> - Y5 Assembly	6 <sup>th</sup> - Y2/Y4 Christmas Tree Festival
24 <sup>th</sup> - EYFS Training Day - <b>School Closed to Reception Pupils on this day</b>	7 <sup>th</sup> - Y6 Confirmation
	7 <sup>th</sup> - YR/Y6 Christmas Tree Festival
	8 <sup>th</sup> - FOSJ Family Bingo Night
	8 <sup>th</sup> - Y3 Assembly
	8 <sup>th</sup> - Y1/Y3/Y5 Christmas Tree Festival
	14 <sup>th</sup> - Christmas Dinner
	14 <sup>th</sup> - Flu Immunisations
	15 <sup>th</sup> - Music Assembly
	16 <sup>th</sup> - FOSJ Christmas Fayre
	20 <sup>th</sup> - YR, Y1 and Y2 Christmas Productions
	21 <sup>st</sup> - Christmas Party Day
	22 <sup>nd</sup> - Whole School Mass

## CHRISTMAS DINNER DAY

Who would believe that is just 4 weeks until Christmas Dinner day!

We will be donning our Christmas jumpers and hats once more as we celebrate together.

If you are normally on packed lunches and would like a Christmas Dinner on this day (priced £2.55), then please let the school office know as soon as possible.





3



4

# FAMILY BINGO

£3.00 ENTRY

WHICH INCLUDES.....

6 GAMES OF BINGO!

18 PRIZES

TO BE WON!!!!

FRIDAY 8TH DECEMBER

DOORS OPEN 6.00PM



10

HOT DOGS AND TUCK SHOP INCLUDING SOFT  
DRINKS. B.Y.O ALCOHOL

[HTTPS://ST-JOSEPH-S-  
CATHOLIC-PRIMARY-SCHOOL-  
OTLEY.SUMUPSTORE.COM/PROD  
UCT/FAMILY-BINGO-EVENING-  
FRIDAY-8-DECEMBER](https://st-joseph-s-catholic-primary-school-otley.sumupstore.com/product/family-bingo-evening-friday-8-december)

**BUY YOUR  
TICKETS HERE!!**



# OTLEY CHRISTMAS

# LIGHTS

## SWITCH ON

5:30PM - 7:15PM

MONDAY

27TH NOVEMBER 2023

FEATURING:

LIGHTS OUT

NAMELESS

SAM BARRATT

SING UP

OTLEY  
BRASS BAND

WHARTONS  
CHOIR

LIGHT SWITCH ON @ 7PM FOLLOWED BY  
FIREWORKS



# SCHOOL INFORMATION

## CHRISTMAS PERFORMANCE



Reception, present...

### "Wriggly Nativity"

on Wednesday 20th December at 1:30pm

Year 1 & Year 2 present

### "Stable by Starlight"

on Wednesday 20th December at 2:15pm

Each child will be allocated 2 tickets.

We will hold a raffle to raise funds for FOSJ - £1 a strip. Card Payment available.



## OTLEY SCIENCE FESTIVAL

On Wednesday, KS1 enjoyed 'Amazing Air' by Dr Sarah Bearchell at Otley Courthouse. The show focused on how do we know if air is there if we cannot see it? The children were then shown how even though we can not see it, we can see and feel the effects of air. The lady used an air canon to hit paper cups around the room off the ledges and used a fan to move bubbles around the room which the children loved.

On Thursday, KS2 had an exciting trip to see 'Ultimate Dinosaurs' with Ben Garrod at Otley Courthouse. We had a super interesting talk on dinosaurs, learning about all the discoveries scientists have made and are still making! Did you know, scientists believe that the Tyrannosaurus Rex was actually brightly coloured with feathers, and could have sounded more like a pigeon?

Thank you to all our parent helpers for accompanying us on the trip.

## LITTLE JO'S PRE-SCHOOL PLAY SESSIONS



We are delighted to invite you and your child (babies and toddlers welcome) to come along to our **FREE** Pre-School Play sessions.

All welcome! Please spread the word to friends and family.

To book on to a session, please contact our school office on 01943 463840 or email [office@stjosephsotley.org](mailto:office@stjosephsotley.org)

**16th November**  
**23rd November**  
**30th November**  
**7th December**  
**14th December**

**9.15am - 10.30am**



## SPORT

**YEAR 3 FOOTBALL** - Good luck to the Year 3 team who are playing their next football league matches on Monday. Please ensure your child has shin pads and football socks with them. The children will need to be collected from the office at 3pm and taken straight to the venue.

A form has been sent out to all the children who said they were available for this fixture. Mr Gilhooly will be accompanying the children on Monday.

**KS2 CROSS COUNTRY** - The next Cross Country League Race will take place on Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> November at Wharfe Meadows. Races will start at 10am. A form has been sent out for all KS2 children.



## ABSENCE

As we begin the second half of the Autumn term, we enter the time of year when children start to pick up illnesses. The NHS has produced a useful web site with guidance that explains when it is ok to send children to school and when they need to stay off. If your child is unwell, please refer to the guidance on the site and if you are still unsure, please contact the school office from 8am each day to discuss with the school whether you should send them in.

If a child is unwell at school, please be assured we look after them and if we feel they are too unwell to remain in school, we will contact you. Most children actually 'forget' they are not well when they are involved in lessons and with their friends.

You can find the NHS page '[Is my child too ill for school?](#)' by clicking on the link.

Thank you for supporting your child's attendance at school, every day does matter!



# SCHOOL INFORMATION

## ANTI-BULLYING WEEK

On Monday, we celebrated Odd Socks Day and all wore odd socks to express ourselves and celebrate what makes us all unique! Mrs Dowd-Postlethwaite led an assembly to introduce Anti-Bullying week and to remind children what to do if they see another child being unkind.



Throughout the week, we have reflected on the theme 'Make a Noise About Bullying' and to remind everyone whether it's in school, at home, in the community or online, to speak out by telling a trusted adult so that they can try and help resolve the problem. We looked at what is the difference between 'banter' and bullying. Some classes created a bant-o-meter where they described or drew pictures at each interval to show whether it was jokey banter or genuinely unkind bullying.



*We know that all children have the right to be safe and listened to.*



## FRIENDS OF ST JOSEPH'S UPDATE



### FOSJ FAMILY BINGO EVENING!!

**Friday 8th December! Open to all! Just £3 per person for entry and tickets for 6 games of Bingo!!  
All adults and children welcome!**



**Limited tickets available!**  
Fantastic prizes including....  
**2 x £50 Amazon Vouchers**  
**Lego and Lol sets with RRP's of £100**



Hot dogs and a tuck shop on sale including soft drinks. **B.Y.O Alcohol.**

Book tickets via the link. Limited tickets available so book early to avoid disappointment!

<https://st-joseph-s-catholic-primary-school-otley.sumupstore.com/product/family-bingo-evening-friday-8-december>

Please bring your confirmation email as proof of purchase on the evening!!

Many thanks to our wonderful local sponsors of the event who have donated to ensure we have an AMAZING array of prizes! Thank you!



## Next FOSJ Meeting

6:30 on the 15<sup>th</sup> November @ The Horse and Farrier, please come along and join us, no obligation to

# Reading Rockets

**Read to succeed!**

All you have to do is read each day and get your reading record signed.



**Own Clothes Day!**



**Golden Table!**



**Computer Time!**



**10 House Points!**



# CATHOLIC LIFE OF THE SCHOOL

## A PRAYER FOR THE WEEK

Thank you for the light,  
That helps and strengthens us.  
Guide us towards the light  
So that we can make the world a better place.  
We pray for all of our brothers and sisters around  
the world celebrating Diwali  
At this special time of year, may they enjoy a  
peaceful and happy Diwali.  
Amen.

## 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.

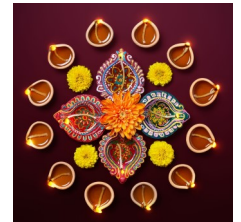
[http://www.olasotley.org/  
bulletin.html](http://www.olasotley.org/bulletin.html)



## COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

This week, we continued to look at our virtue of hope. We thought about how November is an important month for the Church as it is a time when we remember those who have gone before us. As Christians, we believe that we have hope in God, that death is not the end and that Jesus will be with us at all times. We remembered our loved ones, those who we have lost, those who have given their lives in war. We prayed that they are with God in the eternal joy of heaven.

On Thursday, we thought about the Hindu festival of Diwali which took place last weekend. The children learnt that it celebrates victory of light over darkness and they listened to the story of Rama and Sita.



## YEAR 5 MASS

Thank you to all the grown ups who were able to attend our Class Mass on Wednesday - it was so lovely to have so many people join us. The theme of the Mass was 'Creation' which was our RE topic last term. We thought about how God wants us to be stewards of the Earth. We thanked God for our beautiful world and all the people in it. The children read and sang beautifully and Miss Grant was very impressed.

The children all behaved beautifully and did their parts with confidence - well done Year 5! Thank you to Father Nicholas for leading our worship for us.

## CHRISTMAS EVE MASS

*On behalf of the children's liturgy group - Our Lady and All Saints, Otley*

If your KS1 or KS2 child would like to take part in our Christmas Eve Mass please contact Denise Emmett (07854 969701) before 1<sup>st</sup> December.

We are looking for confident readers to be narrators and children to sing perform the parts of the nativity story with some speaking parts.

There will be a practice straight after school in church on 22<sup>nd</sup> December.

## CONFIRMATION

The last Confirmation Class will take place on Tuesday next week. This will be a rehearsal for the Confirmation Service so will take place in Church. If possible, please can the child's sponsor, parent or carer come to the Church at 4pm so we can just explain what will happen on the day? Thank you. All children will need collecting from the Church at 4:15pm.

The Confirmation Service will take place at **Trinity University Chapel, Horsforth at 7:15pm on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> December.**

## The Great Unseen

I will not hurry through this day!  
Lord, I will listen by the way,  
To humming bees and singing birds,  
To speaking trees and friendly words;  
And for the moments in between  
Seek glimpses of thy great Unseen.

I will not hurry through this day;  
I will take time to think and pray;  
I will look up into the sky,  
Where fleecy clouds and swallows fly:  
And somewhere in the day, may be  
I will catch whispers, Lord, from thee!

## PRAYER OF THE WEEK

*Eternal rest grant unto  
them, O Lord, and let  
perpetual light shine  
upon them. May the  
souls of the faithful  
departed, through the  
mercy of God, rest in  
peace. Amen.*



# CLASS PAGES

## YEAR R NEWS

This week, the children had a lovely week exploring all the nursery rhymes around the room.

In our Drawing Club, we have been making yummy porridge and of course, eating it! We then wrote instructions about how to make it. At home, ask your child to show you how to make porridge and try other flavours.

In Maths, we have looked at shapes and focusing on circles and triangles, and identified their properties. We have also been learning about recognising 4 and 5 and hunting for them in the outside provision.

In RE, we have been learning about Diwali and we made some beautiful clay pots.

As it is Anti-Bullying week, we have focused on being kind and how we can show kindness to others. We created a kindness tree to remind us to always show kindness to everyone.

## YEAR 1 NEWS

In English, we finished reading 'Peepo' and started gathering ideas for what we could write about in our own book based on what we can see in our classroom. To help us do this, the children found out how we can make plurals by adding -s to the end of words.

We have continued looking at addition in Maths and number bonds within ten. The children have been using counters and ten frames to help them find different number bonds within ten.

In Geography, we thought about what sort of place Otley was and whether it was a city, town or village. We thought about some of the features in Otley such as the river, the Chevin and that it has lots of houses in it but also fields around it. **On Tuesday next week (21.11.23), we are hoping to go for a walk around Otley to look at some of the different features and to compare the different types of housing in Otley. Please ensure your child has a coat and suitable footwear with them on this day - thank you.**

As part of Anti-Bullying Week, Year 1 have thought about what kindness means and different kind words that we can use. The children enjoyed making cards and kindness bands.

## YEAR 2 NEWS

In Maths, we have continued to work hard with adding 2-digit numbers to a 1-digit number. We are getting very good at making groups of ten ones and exchanging them for one ten. We used base ten to help us with this and began to practise recording it in our books.

In English, we have continued to enjoy the story 'Winter's Child'. We are using some exciting and interesting vocabulary to describe the beautiful setting. We have also been learning about how to write captions for pictures. We needed to use capital letters, full stops and make sure it was written in the past tense.

As part of our RE work this week, we have been learning about the Holy Trinity. We discussed how one person can be a sister, a daughter and a niece, just as God can be three in one: God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit. We also enjoyed learning the Glory be prayer.

We all enjoyed wearing our odd socks on Monday to start Anti-Bullying Week. We have given lots of thought about who we can reach out to if we feel we are being bullied and what to do if we see someone being bullied. We designed our own odd socks and wrote positive words on them.

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



## YEAR 3 NEWS

In English, the children practised their acting skills by role playing as townspeople from Hamelin. They wrote about their thoughts and feelings seeing a rat, and drew upon these ideas to create a descriptive paragraph.

In Maths, we looked at subtraction bridging 10 and 100. We used related calculations to solve problems efficiently and systematically. We then learnt the formal methods of column addition and subtraction. We also practised our Mental Arithmetic - the children are becoming much more fluent with their number facts. Well done Year 3!

In RE, we began learning about The Annunciation. We discussed what it feels like to be chosen for something special before reading the story of when Angel Gabriel visited Mary. We discussed her thoughts and feelings before writing an email in role as Mary to Joseph telling him all about what happened!

We came to the end of our History topic and began Geography this week. We will be looking at the physical and human geography of Otley, and looking at maps to develop our knowledge of directions and the local area.

In PSHE, we looked at an anti-bullying poem called 'Bully', as well as two children who had experiences of bullying in their school. Year 3 confidently explained how important it is to tell a trusted adult about what is going on, and created posters to encourage other children to do this.

## YEAR 4 NEWS

Year 4 started the week making an interesting discovery in our reading corner! After break on Monday, we came in to find a robotic arm cordoned off with police tape. Using this as inspiration for our writing, the children wrote a series of factual formal sentences using modal verbs to form part of a newspaper report on the finding.

In Maths, we started our unit on multiplication by looking at multiples of 3. Year 4 explored how to recognise if a number is a multiple of 3 by finding its digit sum.

In RE, the children learnt the story of Zechariah and Elizabeth. They learnt that it can be hard to trust God but through prayer and faith you can.

In Geography, the children used atlases to label different European countries and identify their features.

## YEAR 5 NEWS

In English, we have been focusing on writing expanded, detailed sentences based on a setting from 'The Lost Thing'. The children used thesauruses to find synonyms for emotive adjectives as well use a variety of adverbs and subordinate clauses to add detail and dimension to their sentences.

In Maths, we have been furthering our understanding of squared and cubed numbers. We have used a plethora of concrete resources such as counters and multi-link squares to visibly make those connections of what is a squared number and what is a cubed number. From this, the children applied these concrete models to their learning.

In PSHE, as part of the National Anti-Bullying Week 2023, we spent time looking at the difference between what is 'banter' and what is 'bullying'. The children were able to recognise the difference between the two and created a wonderful poem on why we shouldn't bully.

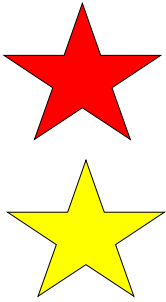
## YEAR 6 NEWS

In Maths, we have been recapping our knowledge of equivalent fractions and simplifying them; we used the Cuisenaire rods to help us. We moved on to placing fractions on a number line ensuring that we look at the start points and the end points.

In English, we wrote a Remembrance poem with figurative language in it. We were able to choose what style of poem we wrote - a noun poem, Fibonacci, free verse, rhyming or 2-worder poem. Additionally, we started our new book all about Anne Frank's life and her diary. We really enjoyed learning about who she was and her life in the annex.

During our RE lesson, we began our new topic of 'Justice'. We discussed what justice and injustice is. We read a poem about refugees and identified where it made reference to injustices in the poem. After this, we thought about which images showed justice and created a piece of artwork.

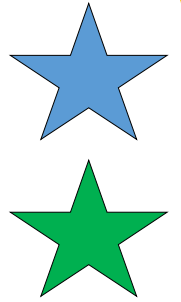
# HOUSE OF THE WEEK



WELL DONE TO

# EVERYONE

FOR EARNING HOUSE POINTS THIS WEEK



## SUNSHINE AWARD

GABRIEL (YR), MASON (Y1), CHARLIE (Y2),  
JOSHUA AND ELSIE (Y3), JOSEPH H (Y4), HUGO (Y5), NATALIA (Y6)



## ENGLISH AWARD

AYLA (YR), WILLIAM R (Y1), JEMIMAH (Y2),  
ISAAC B (Y3), CAITLIN (Y4), JAMES (Y5), REUBEN (Y6)



## VIRTUES AWARD

SIDNEY (YR), CHARLIE (Y1), LILLIE-AVA (Y2),  
JOANNA (Y3), ZACHARY (Y4), HENRY H (Y5), STEFAN (Y6)



## HEADTEACHER AWARD

MASON (Y1)



## 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 PARENT SUPPORT GROUP

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

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**EVERY TUESDAY (TERM-TIME)**

9.30-11.00 am

The Core, Orchard Street,  
Otley, [LS21 3NX](https://www.princehenrys.co.uk)

Tea and coffee available  
Parents and carers of school aged children very welcome

**For more information contact Lisa on:  
07510079959/[mnl@princehenrys.co.uk](mailto:mnl@princehenrys.co.uk)**