



# WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Friday 21st July 2023

## A MESSAGE FROM MISS CHOMA

Dear all,

Time has really flown by... I can't believe I am saying my goodbyes to everyone! I can remember my first day at St Joseph's – 10 years ago and at the time feeling excited yet nervous. Being at St Joseph's has been one of the happiest and rewarding times of my teaching career. It has been a privilege to work with so many wonderful children, staff and parents.

To provide a broad and balanced curriculum for the children is important to us as a school – sport, music, the arts, extra-curricular etc. Hence, we have lots of talented children in sport, music and the arts; some of our children play for the county in cricket or have gone on to be great musicians. On top of this, we have great academic achievements too. This is down to the devoted staff; hard work by the children and parental support (especially with the sporting fixtures).

St Joseph's is a lovely, family feel school. I will miss my good mornings and smiling faces each morning. The excitement of the children when they bring a piece of work they are proud of or something they have conquered - nothing beats this feeling as a teacher/headteacher.



So, with heartfelt warmth – thank you all for all your support to me, personally, the children, the staff and school. It has been a blast. Thank you, children, for making me smile every day and feeling so proud of each and every one of you. You have lots to be proud of. Remember all you great children to reach for the sky and fulfil your dreams!!! St Joseph's will always have a special place in my heart.



Molly also wanted to say goodbye. She is four now and still a crazy pooch! We will be enjoying, along with Luna, lots of daily walks! Of course, a little bit of resting too.

For the last time, have a wonderful summer break. Keep safe and have fun!

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



## HAPPY HOLIDAY

We would like to wish every single one of you a happy and healthy summer holiday!

We will be returning back to school on Tuesday 5th September 2022. Monday 4th September is a staff training day.

Enjoy your time off and we look forward to see you all ready and raring to go for the next school year in September!



## GOODBYE AND GOOD LUCK

Goodbye and good luck to Miss Hulbert and Mrs Crosby as they move onto their new careers. We would like to thank them both for being part of St Joseph's and wish them every success for the future.

We welcome Mr Gilhooly as he starts the new school year as our Headteacher. We know that you will make him feel welcome at St Joseph's.

Thank you to all the children and parents for your kind words, cards and gifts. We look forward to moving to our new classes in September.

## SPORTS

### Y6 Boy's Football

What a match - it was full on action from the outset with St Joe's dominating the field. The action was soon followed by the first goal from Logan. St Joe's kept up the pressure to be leading by 6 goals in the first half. The opposition did fight back. However, great defending from George, Asa and Lucas, along with some excellent goal keeping from Finn, Y5, kept the opposition at bay. Some great midfield work from Lucas and Oscar, and goal scoring from Logan and Zak. The final score was 10-4. Well done!

### Y6 Girl's Football

Well done to the Year 6 football team who played the final match of the season against Otley All Saints on Monday. The girls played brilliantly and won the match 6-2. It was wonderful to see how the girls had grown in confidence over the season. Well done!

It was a great way to end the season and we hope they continue to play at their new schools.



## GOODBYE YEAR 6

We would like to wish all of Year 6 the best of luck as they begin their new journey at secondary school.

We have had a wonderful week celebrating with our Y6 Mass and Assembly on Tuesday and our Y6 Party at Hollywood Bowl and Nandos on Thursday.

We will miss them all the children and hope they will come back and share their success stories.

### Goodbye Year 6 - you will be missed!



## FOSJ

The Friends of St Joseph would like to thank everyone for their support this year. Whether you have helped at an event, donated a raffle prize, bought a Golden Ticket Chocolate Bar or given some positive feedback and encouragement we really do appreciate it!

We have raised just over £5,000 this year and had lots of fun along the way. Who doesn't like selling pumpkins and having a bake sale in the pouring rain!

FOSJ are having a refresh for next year and we have setup a Volunteer Group. Lots of parents have expressed an interest in helping out with an event or getting raffle prizes, but want to dip in out depending on home/work life. This is completely understandable and we really appreciate any time/support you are able to give. If you would like to join the 22 members of the Volunteer Group we would love to hear from you. Speak to Emily Hatley to find out more (07789776185).

You are all invited to our Parent Meet & Greet including AGM is taking place at 6.30pm on Thursday 14th September at Clitheroe House (Parish Centre). Prosecco, refreshments and snacks will be provided and we want to:

- Give new and old parents a chance to meet up.
- Explain more about the FOSJ Volunteer role.
- Vote for the new FOSJ committee members.
- Run through the events we have planned for the new school year.
- Summarise the events that took place last year and the money raised.
- Hear your thoughts on what the money should be spent to help our children and the school.



Lastly, we just want to thank Lou Wordie (Chair) and Laura Teahan (Vice Chair) who are stepping down at our AGM. They have both put a tremendous amount of time and effort into the last 12 months.

Have a great summer everyone!!

## SCARBOROUGH 2023

On Wednesday 19th July, we took a trip to North Bay in Scarborough. Everyone had a wonderful time eating their ice creams and playing with their friends.

Thank you to all the parents, staff and volunteers for making this possible - we couldn't do it without you!



## **FATHER LAWRIE'S RETIREMENT - A MESSAGE FROM THE PARISH**

Work is underway to organise a memorable farewell party for Father Lawrie to be held on **Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> October**. Although he will have left Otley before then, Father will return for this special event.

He will say the 11.15 Mass when he will be joined on the altar by a whole number of other priests from the Diocese - an even greater number of our children will be involved too.

After Mass, there will be the "official" presentation to Father, following which the whole Parish is invited to refreshments and drinks in the Parish Centre. We're sure this will be really enjoyable and for Father Lawrie a day to remember.

**It's very important we have a good idea of numbers to cater for. Could you therefore, please, complete and return the reply slip at the end of this newsletter?**

In terms of a collection for Father, special envelopes will be available from next weekend and throughout the month of September. These will provide details of the options for contributing to the collection:

- Cash may be placed in the envelope and handed to one of the Collectors
- Cheques can be written and should be payable to Our Lady & All Saints
- On-line contributions can be made to 40-27-15 Account number 31018124 Account name is Diocese of Leeds", and the reference "Fr Lawrie"

These instructions will all be printed on the envelopes.

**As you may imagine it's important we have a realistic estimate of numbers attending to ensure there's plenty to eat and drink for everyone. So please complete the reply slip and drop it off at church or through the presbytery letter box.**



## **ST JOSEPH'S OTLEY FANTASY FOOTBALL**

This year, we have set up our own St Joseph's Otley Fantasy Football Mini League for the school. This is through the official Fantasy Premier League (the school are not responsible for anything on this site) and it is free to play. Joining the league couldn't be easier. Simply use the link below and you'll be added automatically after you've entered the game.

<https://fantasy.premierleague.com/leagues/auto-join/tnc65l>

League Code: tnc65l

This is open to all the children in the school, their grownups and staff. We will publish updates during the year and will purchase a trophy for the winner and runner up. All the rules and guide as to how to play are on the fantasy league website but basically before the Premier League season starts those wishing to join the league, need to choose 15 players costing £100 million or less from the list of players. Then each week you can make substitutions and a transfer. There are also "chips" you can play during the season.

The advantage of playing is that it will teach the children the value of money eg they won't have enough money to buy Haaland, Kane, Saka, Rashford and Salah! It will also help them with their Maths (reading decimal numbers, negative numbers and adding). However it can be frustrating when teams lose or players are injured, and it can cause panic on a Saturday morning when you realise you haven't updated your team and there are only 10 minutes left before the deadline!!!! Ultimately, we hope this is something that the children and you can enjoy - good luck for new season!!!!



## **OTLEY CARNIVAL NHS**



On Thursday, 6 of our wonderful children presented our Otley Carnival 'Thank you NHS' banner to members of staff from Otley Wharfedale Hospital. They would like to put the banner on display in the hospital so all the staff can read our messages of thanks.

We are so thankful for all their hard work and we hope they appreciate this token of gratitude. Well done again to everyone who participated in the Otley Carnival—we looked fantastic!

# CATHOLIC LIFE OF THE SCHOOL

## A PRAYER FOR THE WEEK

Dear Lord,

Over the summer may we:

Take time to claim our strength; it is a gift from God.  
Take time to have fun; it's God's way of teaching us our strengths.

Take time to trust ourselves; as God trusts us.  
Take time to be self-reliant; it is better than being dependent.  
Take time to share with others; they will bless us, and we will bless them.

Take time to have hope because we are children of God.  
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>



## END OF YEAR MASS

Our theme for the Mass today was Journeying with God and our readings and hymns were chosen by: Father Lawrie, Miss Choma, Miss Hulbert and Mrs Crosby. All of our children will be taking another step on life's journey in September which can seem quite scary but we can take courage from knowing that God is with us wherever we go and that he has given us advice to help us as we prepare for a new start in September. Our Mass gave us an opportunity to thank and say goodbye to: our talented Year 6 class; to the staff who are leaving to start new adventures and to Father Lawrie who will retire in the summer. We wish them well on the next steps of their journeys.

*Your light is the only light I need  
as I travel through life's journey.*

*Your word the only voice I hear,  
that still small voice that leads me  
to the place where I should be.*

*Your presence is the only company I need,  
as I walk this narrow road.*

*Your friendship, the strength I need  
to help me on my way.*

Amen

## PRAYER OF THE WEEK

### **Prayer to Saint Christopher St. Christopher's Protection**

Dear Saint Christopher,  
protect me today  
in all my travels  
along the road's way.  
Give your warning sign  
if danger is near  
so that I may stop  
while the path is clear.  
Be at my window  
and direct me through  
when the vision blurs  
From out of the blue.  
Carry me safely  
to my destined place,  
like you carried Christ  
in your close embrace.  
Amen.

## FAITH IN ACTION

Congratulations to our Faith in Action group in Year 6 who were presented with their certificates at the end of Mass today. Philippa and Eva received their Pin Awards and Alfie and Anita received their participation awards which will hopefully lead to their pin awards in September once their work has been moderated.

During the year, the children have gathered evidence of them taking part in prayer, pilgrimage and processions, social action and parish action. They have then presented this in a book. Well done!



## CONFIRMATION

Confirmation will take place at the Cathedral on Thursday 7th December.

Information about preparation classes will be sent home in September when we have had an opportunity to meet with the new priest.



WE WANT TO SEE YOUR READING CHALLENGE MEDALS!

Summer Reading Challenge 2023



Ready,  
Set,  
Read!



You are invited to join the

## Summer Reading Challenge

by visiting your local library between 8<sup>th</sup> July  
and 16<sup>th</sup> September – it's FREE to take part!  
Find out about our free summer family events  
here: [bit.ly/leedslibrariesevents](https://bit.ly/leedslibrariesevents)

And sign up to our Children and Families  
eNewsletter here:

[bit.ly/CFLibrariesNewsletter](https://bit.ly/CFLibrariesNewsletter)



[summerreadingchallenge.org.uk](https://summerreadingchallenge.org.uk)



SUMMER  
READING  
CHALLENGE

**Thank you**  
**Miss Choma**

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**Happy**  
**Retirement!**



twinkl

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