

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Friday 25th March 2022

A MESSAGE FROM MISS CHOMA

What a busy week in school – I think we will all need a rest this weekend! Y1 led a beautiful mass on following in the footsteps of the disciples. They wrote some lovely bidding prayers about friendship; how they can help and support their friends and the importance of forgiveness in friendships. They read with confidence. All the children sang beautifully. I am very proud of their behaviour, especially how well they joined in with the mass responses. A big well done.

There has been some wonderful work in school this week. YR – are always working hard to improve their writing. Now, I receive some fantastic stories, cards and letters. I received a wonderful letter from Theo asking if I could buy some longer planks of wood because the ones in YR were just a bit too short! It's in hand Theo. I will ask Mr Ed if we have a longer plank of wood in school. Y1 have been thinking about the Earth Hour (Saturday 26th 8:30-9:30pm – turn of the gadgets and light the candles). If we all stop using so much energy, we will help protect Earth. They came up with some great ideas we could do as families to save energy. Y2 were perusing magazines looking for green pictures. They needed to make lots of leaves for their 3D trees. Y3 were busy designing their cushions; learning how to do a running stitch; designing posters and writing poems on climate change (there was a lovely, calm atmosphere). Well, Y4 have been ultra busy this week! They designed and created mini 3D rainforests. The quality of the work was impressive. Then they used their scientific skills to design an alarm system for their model – there were buzzers, lights and spinning warning systems. Very impressive Y4. Year 5 have been focusing on the use of palm oil in the products we eat. They have written persuasive letters to the food companies against the use of palm oil and its role in the destruction of the rainforest. Y6 – I would like to thank the Climate Control Group (Esther, Joseph, Agnes, Abigail, Zahra and Mia) who worked with Mrs Bates to organise Climate Week in school as well a giving presentation to other classes on the importance of working together to reduce climate change. Thank you to the Mini Vinnies for running our fun filled games afternoon.

To end a super week in school, Y2 led a wonderful assembly reminding us to thank all the wonderful Mums and female care givers in our lives. We have so much to thank them for – their unconditional love, guidance and support. Have a lovely day on Sunday to all our wonderful Mums and female care givers.

Well done to all the children this week for their hard work, for making us smile and great behaviour. The sun is shining; have a wonderful weekend; have fun and enjoy your time together.

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

Corben's beautiful poem about his Mum, Emma.

*My Mum,
She is helpful to me every day,
Loving, caring, amazing
She is as beautiful as a flower in the sun.*

*My Mum,
Kind, snuggly, perfect,
She is as joyful as a chirping bird.
I'd like to say thank you to
My Mum.*

IMPORTANT DATE FOR THE DIARY - QUEEN'S JUBILEE YEAR

As you may be aware, an extra bank holiday has been announced for 3 June 2022 for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. As this falls within the May half-term holidays, all schools are required to claim the extra bank holiday date on a day of their choosing.

Therefore, school be closed on Friday 17th June 2022.

School will be closed on this day to all pupils and staff. Thank you!



KEY INFORMATION

DATES FOR THE DIARY

- 28th March - Parents Evening
- 29th March - Toast Tuesday
- 30th March - Parents Evening
- 1st April - Whole School Mass
- 1st April - Easter Egg Raffle (children to bring £1 and a small chocolate egg)
- Return to school Tuesday 19th April
- 22nd April - Y2 Feast Day



SPORT UPDATE

FOOTBALL: Well done to our football team who played Pool School on Tuesday afternoon. It was a great game with the final score being 4-2 to St Joseph's. Our goals were scored by Daniel and Alistair. Thank you to all the grown-ups for providing transport. Please can all kit be returned to school before the Easter holidays.

CROSS COUNTRY: I was delighted this week to receive a medal in the post for Agnes in Year 6 for finishing 10th in the Saturday morning Cross Country League. All the children's scores who took part in at least 4 cross country races are added up to compile a final league position. This is a fantastic achievement and well-deserved for many years of dedication.



MULTI-ACTIVITY & LEGO WORKSHOP EASTER COURSES IN OTLEY

Inspiration Tree are offering Multi-Activity courses and LEGO workshop this Easter at our school on Monday 4th, Tuesday 5th & Wednesday 6th April and a LEGO workshop at the Whartons on Tuesday 12th April.

They courses are £17 per day from 9am-3pm. There is an option for an extended day if required. Please look at the attached flyer for further information. To make a booking please go to www.inspiration-tree.com.



HEALTHY PACKED LUNCHES

As part of our Healthy Schools initiative, we are closely looking at our lunchtime choices.

Our school meals provide a range of nutritionally balanced meals each day, but if you do make a packed lunch for your child then the Change 4 Life Healthy Schools website has some great hints and tips on what their lunchbox should contain.

We have noticed an increase in sugary items such as drinks, processed fruit products (eg winders), chocolate biscuits, sweets and sugary yoghurts. We ask that parents look at the sugar content of the packed lunch, and adjust accordingly. Thank you!



UNIFORM



Please ensure that ALL uniform is labelled as otherwise it is very hard to ensure that clothes are returned to the rightful owners. We do not have a central lost property. Please check your child's cloakroom for missing items.

PARENTPAY

As we come to the end of term, we would appreciate you looking into these arrears and making payment or calling into the Office to discuss with Miss Wilkinson.

Please ensure outstanding monies are paid before 19th April 2022.

CLIMATE CHANGE

We have had a very busy week learning all about our Climate and the threat of Global Warming.

On Monday, the children came to school wearing green or brown to celebrate International Day of Forests. We had an assembly to find out how the day is celebrated all over the world and why it is so important to protect trees and forests.

Members of the Climate Council from Year 6 have been visiting every class in school this week. They have organised Global Warming lessons and activities in every class from Reception to Year 6.

They have put a lot of thought into producing PowerPoint Presentations at the right level for every class. Well done to Abigail, Joseph, Zahra, Mia, Agnes and Esther for all their hard work and enthusiasm!

Thursday was Earth Hour Day and each class has turned their electricity, lights and devices off for one hour to think about how hard it can be to save energy and cut down on fossil fuel usage.

The official Earth Hour across the world is Saturday 26th March 8.30-9.30pm. If you have a go at this at home it will be very dark and you will need an adult to light some candles!

Year Reception and Year 6 buddies loved looking at all the different types of trees and shrubbery on the school field.

We have had a very artistic week in Y1; we created different shades of green to paint our rainforest leaves and used a mosaic of animal furs and skin to cover our jungle animals.

Y2 enjoyed a visit from Y6 pupils and created a letter to send to the Prime Minister about their concerns for the climate and possible solutions.

In Y3, we read about British forests, produced posters explaining why trees are so important and enjoyed some quiet time 'tree-hugging' in the afternoon.

In Y4, have loved learning about the rainforest and medicine produced from rainforest plants. During Earth Hour, we wrote poetry about trees and rainforests.

In Y5, we have learnt about the effects of deforestation on our ecosystems. We have found out one of the causes is palm oil farming.



Climate Council



Competition Winners



CATHOLIC LIFE OF THE SCHOOL

A PRAYER FOR THE WEEK

You beckon us to follow you on the way of forgiveness O God.

Forgive us, and make us a community of reconciliation.

You beckon our community into the fullness of life.

Forgive us, and make us a community of reconciliation.

You beckon the whole universe into wholeness.

Forgive us, and make us a community of reconciliation.

Forgive us and transform us into a community of grace.

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

Thank you to Holy Name School who led Collective Worships for the children in Key Stage Two on Wednesday. In Year 5, the children were invited to think about how they can serve others like Jesus did.

RECONCILIATION

Well done to the children in Year 4, 5 and 6 who all received the Sacrament of Reconciliation on Thursday. The children were all very reflective during this time. Thank you to the priests who gave up their time to do this for us.

ENROLMENT MASS

Well done to everyone who attended the enrolment Mass for First Holy Communion. You all read clearly and sang beautifully.

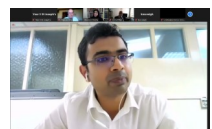
Thank you to all of you who supported the coffee morning after the mass. Over £3000 pounds was raised for the Ukraine Appeal. A special mention that to Skyla who gave up her time to serve cakes and helped with the cleaning up afterwards.

DIFFERENT FAITHS

This week, some of the classes were able to listen to people from different faiths talk about their religious festivals via Zoom. In the summer term, each class will be learning about a different faith.

GAMES AFTERNOON

Well done to our Mini Vinnies who ran the games afternoon today. All the children had a great time playing the different games including skittles, beat the keeper, guess the name of the teddy, guess the sweets in the jar and lots more. Thank you to everyone for their generosity in supporting these events.



PRAYER OF THE WEEK: ACT OF CONTRITION

Oh my God, because you are so good,
I am very sorry that I have sinned against you
And with the help of your grace,
I will not sin again. Amen



CLASS NEWS

YEAR R NEWS

What a busy week it has been in Reception! We started off the week learning about the importance of trees. In the afternoon, we enjoyed spending time with our buddies whilst looking at the wonderful trees we have on our school field. We even tried some tree hugging. We all agreed we felt calmer and happier when we returned to the classroom!



On Tuesday, enjoyed a visit from Esther and Agnes from Year 6 who came to teach us the importance of looking after our world. We learnt that there are lots of things that we can do to make a difference for future generations to come. We also learnt about the importance of recycling and had a go at sorting different materials into the right boxes.

In Maths, we have been learning about 3D shapes. We enjoyed hunting around school to see what 3D shapes we could find. We learnt about the properties of each face and enjoyed using vocabulary such as faces, vertices and edges.

In RE, we have been learning about the importance of forgiveness. We heard the story of Peter Denying Jesus three times. We learnt that we must try to forgive just like Jesus forgave Peter.

YEAR 1 NEWS

What a jam-packed climate change week we have had in Y1! We've enjoyed rainforest maths, by colouring in calculations to reveal the hidden rainforest animal.

We've had amazing presentations from Y6 which taught us how human activity is causing worldwide temperatures to rise higher and faster than any time we know of in the past...and what we can do to combat this?

In Science, we completed a matching activity to help us learn about the factors that cause climate change. We learnt how more frequent and intense drought, storms, heat waves, rising sea levels, melting glaciers and warming oceans can directly harm animals, destroy the places they live, and wreak havoc on people's livelihoods and communities.

We've loved doing lots of art this week too. We used our newfound knowledge of mixing paints to make different shades of green this enabled us to paint bright and vibrant rainforest leaves. We made animal mosaics, to place in our rainforest scenes.



We've also felt the benefit of hugging trees, made Earth Hour posters, led a beautiful KS1 Mass, looked at books in the Scholastic Book Fair and had a blast at Friday afternoon games. Wow, we have crammed in a lot. It has been a brilliant week!

YEAR 2 NEWS

Thank you to the parents who joined us for our class assembly. All of the children spoke clearly and shared their thoughts about Mother's Day.

In English, Year 2 have written some beautiful poems for Mother's Day. They thought very carefully about their mums and what makes them so special. Everybody came up with some excellent adjectives and we even thought of some similes! We hope that all of our Mums enjoy reading your poems and your special day.

In Maths, we continued our work on fractions and started to recognise quarters and found quarters of amount by dividing objects into 4 groups. We are beginning to understand how important knowing our multiples of 2 and 4 are. We also found out that to find a quarter, we halve the number and then halve it again.

As it has been climate week, we have been finding out about how important trees are. We decided to create our own tree collages by using recycled card and paper only. We enjoyed painting our backgrounds and developed our cutting skills to help us create the branches and leaves.



YEAR 3 NEWS

In English, we have been reading and finding out about the Tropical Rainforests of the world. We have presented the information about different forest layers using pictures and words. For our Pied Piper unit, we were asked to write a persuasive advert to find a 'rat catcher'. We began by identifying the different features of a persuasive advert, before thinking about our own.

In Maths, we made some of our own pictograms and learnt the importance of a key to understand the number each picture represents. We then moved on to interpreting and drawing bar charts. We collected our own data using a tally chart and presented our findings as a bar chart.

In Science, we have been learning about global warming and the greenhouse effect. We have learnt how trees store carbon, breathe out Oxygen and help to produce rain – great for the atmosphere!

In DT, we continued creating our cushions. We created templates of our endangered animals and cut out the shape from material.



YEAR 4 NEWS

This week we have focused on our Geography topic of Rainforests as part of our Climate Action Week Work.

On Monday, we learned about the different layers of the rainforest, including the animals that might inhabit each layer. We used this knowledge to create dioramas that represented the layers of the rainforest.

On Tuesday, we learned about the different medicines humans can produce from rainforest plants. We used our new school laptops(!) to research the different products that we rely on the rainforest to grow.

On Wednesday, we learned about David Attenborough's Four Imperatives to reverse climate change. We thought about deforestation and learned about what humans can do to reduce our impact on biodiversity in forests and woodland.

On Thursday, we designed and built alarm systems that could protect rainforests from poachers and other trespassers, creating circuits containing different types of switches.

Finally, we ended the week by preparing for Mother's Day and enjoying a Games Afternoon led by the Mini Vinnies. What a week!



YEAR 5 NEWS

Year 5 have enjoyed using the new laptops this week, not only in ICT but also in DT. In ICT, we ended our work on Databases by looking at real-life databases focusing on web-based databases about flights. The children took on the role of travel agents and tried to find flights to different destinations at different airports using the sort function to find the cheapest flights.

In DT, we used the laptops to find out the nutritional value of a Spaghetti Bolognese recipe, the children then adapted the recipe to try to make it healthier.

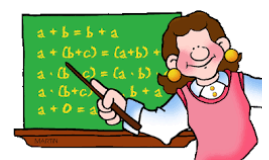
As part of our Climate Change Week, the children have been finding out about palm oil in their different lessons. They were surprised to find out about all the different products that contain palm oil and have found out how palm oil farming is contributing to deforestation and damaging ecosystems. In English, they have started writing persuasive letters to palm oil farms trying to persuade them to stop deforestation.



YEAR 6 NEWS

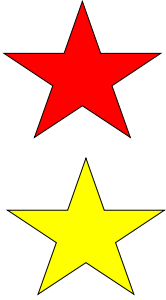
Year 6 have enjoyed Climate Week. We have learned about the advantages and disadvantages of different types of renewable energy; designed climate action posters; and played games in French during our Earth Hour. We even got to hug a tree and try out some bark rubbing with our Reception buddies!

In Maths, we have been getting to grips with algebra, through finding one step and two step rules, as well as substituting. Year 6 have been asking for weeks when they would be able to do some algebra, so they were delighted when they found out our new topic for this week. Although they now realise that they have actually been doing forms of algebra since Year 1 without realising it!





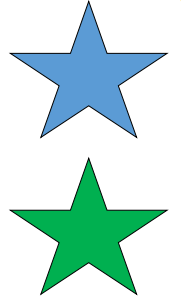
HOUSE OF THE WEEK



WELL DONE TO

FOUNTAINS

FOR EARNING THE MOST HOUSE POINTS THIS WEEK



SUNSHINE AWARD

THEO (YR), LILLIE-ROSE (Y1), OLIVER (Y2),
EDWARD (Y3), PRIMROSE (Y4), PHOEBE (Y5), ALL (Y6)



RE AWARD

OTTILIE (YR), ALL (Y1), MARYSIA (Y2),
CHARLIE (Y3), OLIVE (Y4), LUCIUS (Y5), EVA (Y6)



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