

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Thursday 26th October 2023

A MESSAGE FROM MR GILHOOLY

Dear Parents/Carers and Friends of the School,

Well, what a first half term! A full eight weeks completed - here's eight amazing things to celebrate from this half term:

- Just how well all the children have settled back into school life - there is some amazing work taking place across the school
- Year 6 residential - the children have shared their experiences and really grown in confidence
- Launching 'Little Jo's' - we have welcomed pre-schoolers into our play session and there is a real community spirit on a Thursday morning (this will continue so keep checking for updates!)
- Review of the quality of education - we welcomed experienced leaders from across our Trust of schools to quality assure our educational offer. They were impressed!
- Our Year 6 children welcomed their buddies into the St. Joseph's family - what a beautiful assembly it was. There were smiles all around
- Numerous Masses we attended - children read beautifully in church and sang well. They listened carefully to Father's homilies and have taken on board his teachings
- Abundance of sporting events that we have taken part in - sport is a high priority in school and is definitely supporting the children in their academic progress

Last, but by no means least, our Times Tables Rockstar Relaunch Day - throughout the school children were engaged in number games, times tables challenges and presenting their times tables songs to everyone.

The list could go on and on. We are in such a privileged position to be teaching your children and the communication and support you give us is much appreciated.

We hope you all have a relaxing half term and come back ready and raring to go, as we begin our run up to Christmas.

God Bless and best regards,

Mr G and Mrs H

DATES FOR THE DIARY

<u>November 2023</u>	<u>December 2023</u>
7th - Girls Football Match	1 st – Scholastic Book Fair
9th – Y3 Class Mass	1 st – Y2 Assembly
10th – Y6 Assembly	1 st – KS2 Author Visit
13th – Anti-Bullying Week	3rd - Otley Victorian Fayre
13th - Odd Sock Day	6 th – YR/Y6 Vision, Height and Weight
14th - Open Day 10am-12pm and 1pm-3pm	7 th – Y6 Confirmation
15 th – KS1 Science Festival	8 th – FOSJ Family Bingo Night
16 th – KS2 Science Festival	8 th – Y3 Assembly
16 th – Y5 Class Mass	14 th – Christmas Dinner
16th - Open Evening 6pm	14 th – Flu Immunisations
17 th – Mission Statement Assembly	15 th – Music Assembly
20 th – Y3 Football Tournament	16 th – FOSJ Christmas Fayre
23 rd – Y4 Class Mass	17th - Christmas Carol Service
24 th - Y5 Assembly	20 th – YR, Y1 and Y2 Christmas Productions
24 th – EYFS Training Day – School Closed to Rec Parents	21 st – Christmas Party Day
	22 nd – Whole School Mass

SCHOOL INFORMATION



POPPY APPEAL

Year 6 children will be selling the poppies and other memorabilia every morning until Friday 10th November.

Please give generously.

The *Poppy Appeal* is the Royal British Legion's biggest fundraising campaign held every year in November, during the period of Remembrance.

Poppy 50p

Reflector £1

Zip Pull £1

Silicon Wristband £1

Snap Band £1.50



YEAR RECEPTION 2024

OPEN DAY/EVENING

Thursday 16th Nov

Timings: 10am-12pm, 1pm-3pm or a 6pm start for presentation and Headteacher introduction.

We warmly welcome Parents/Carers of children starting school in September 2024 to come and see our school. Mr Gilhooly and Miss Wilkinson will be available to answer any questions and visitors will be given a guided tour by our Year 6 Pupils.

Please feel free to tell your family and friends about our wonderful open days.



ANTI-BULLYING WEEK

Anti-Bullying Week 2023 will take place from **Monday 13th - Friday 17th November**. The theme is Make A Noise About Bullying. Throughout the week, we will be complete various activities and raise the awareness of being kind and reporting acts of bullying.

ODD SOCK DAY—MONDAY 13TH NOVEMBER

Odd Socks day will take place on the first day of Anti Bullying Week, Monday 13th November to help raise awareness around anti-bullying.

It's an opportunity for children to express themselves and celebrate what makes us all unique! We are asking children to wear a pair of odd socks with their normal uniform. We would like to see an array of colours and styles—the brighter, the better!



SPORT

CROSS COUNTRY LEAGUE CHANGE OF DATE

The Cross Country League race that was due to take place at Wharfe Meadows on Saturday 11th November has now been rescheduled for Saturday 25th November at Wharfe Meadows with races starting at 10am. A Microsoft Form will be sent out after half term to children in Key Stage Two.

GIRLS FOOTBALL MATCH

The Girls Football Match is scheduled to take place on Tuesday 7th November at St Peter's and St Paul's Yeadon at 3:30pm. A form will be sent out over the holidays. Please complete by Monday 6th November.



CHRISTMAS CARDS

If you would like to purchase your child's Christmas cards, please return your slip and monies to the school office by Wednesday 10th November.



All cheques must be made payable to:
'The Friends of St Josephs'

Please note: FOSJ are unable to give change due to logistics.

Thank you.

THE SANCTUARY - RELAXATION

On Thursday, Mrs Lenik came to visit Y1 to look at some relaxation techniques including breathing, visualisation and the power of calming music.



Mrs Hart said, "It was so relaxing that I could have fell asleep. I think Mrs Mulholland might have actually dozed off at some points!"

Thank you Mrs Lenik for such a wonderful experience.

SCHOOL INFORMATION



LAST CHANCE: Y7 SECONDARY ADMISSIONS



If your child is due to start secondary school in September 2023, you should apply for a place as soon as possible. The deadline to apply is 31st October 2023.

If parents are applying to St Mary's Menston and feel that they should be in a specific category ie Baptised Catholic, then they are required to complete a Supplementary Information Form and provide the required evidence.

Please visit [https:// www.stmarysmenston.org/admissions](https://www.stmarysmenston.org/admissions) for more information. Please note that it is the responsibility of the parent/carer to complete all forms and supply evidence – reminders will not be sent.



FRIENDS OF ST JOSEPH'S UPDATE The FOSJ Uniform Exchange is officially open!!



A huge thanks goes out to the volunteers in the Uniform Exchange Group! They are working on a rota to ensure all donated uniform is collected every week from the green bin, they then check the quality and send it on to Chevin View Laundry who clean everything before sending it back where our volunteers sort it into sizes.

The groups aims are:

- To ensure that families always have uniform available.
- To provide school with spare uniform to ensure there is always something for a child to wear should any accidents happen.
- To reuse school uniform supporting a sustainable environment

The team will be attending all our events with their stall so if you are short of anything or need a spare, please come get what you need. Any donations given are hugely appreciated but not compulsory!

You can drop off any unwanted uniform in the green bin or hand it into the front office.

FOSJ BUN SALE: Thank you to Sophie White and her team of bakers for supplying some fabulous cakes for our Bake Sale. We managed to raise a brilliant £216!!!



TIMESTABLES ROCKSTAR DAY

On Tuesday, children (and teachers) came to school dressed as rock stars. The school staff started the day with a musical performance - singing Times Table Song to the tune of Encanto's 'We Don't Talk About Bruno'

You can learn the song here <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9nX8YlhDDcc>



Throughout the day, the children took part in a series of challenges and activities and Y1 - Y6 classes performed a multiplication song at the end of the day.

Fluency in times tables is vital, as it allows the children to do richer, deeper mathematics: reasoning, problem-solving, spotting patterns and making connections. Please practise with your children over the holidays.



CATHOLIC LIFE OF THE SCHOOL

A PRAYER FOR THE WEEK

We thank you Lord, for this half term.
For our challenges, our successes, and the mistakes from which we have learnt.
Be with us as we spend our time with family and friends.
Give us strength and courage to do what is right: to be witnesses of our faith.
Keep us safe in our activities; give us good rest and good fun.
Bring us back refreshed and ready for the new half term.
We thank you for our families and our school community that cares for us.
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>



KS1 MASS

Well done to Year 2 who led the Key Stage One Mass so eloquently on Wednesday morning. Father Nicholas was very impressed with the children's reading and how they participated in the Mass.

The theme of the Mass was "Chosen People" which has been their RE topic this half term. In the Mass, we heard how God has chosen every one of us and that we are all special. At the end of the Mass, the children read a reflection.

Thank you to Mrs Holmes and Mrs Walsh for organising Mass, and to Fr Nicholas for leading us in our worship. Thank you to all the grown ups who were able to join us.

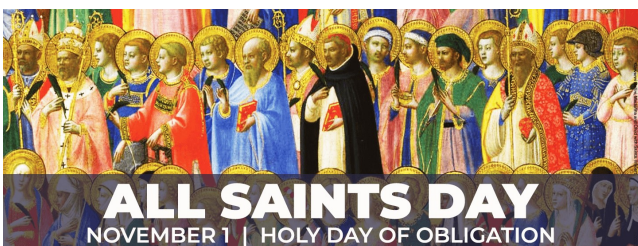
CONFIRMATION

This week, the Confirmation candidates were asked to think about who they would like to choose as their saint name and their sponsor. Please help your child think about who they would like to choose.

The Confirmation service will be on Thursday 7th December at the Chapel at Leeds Trinity University, Horsforth at 7:15pm.

MASS DATES

<u>Mass</u>	<u>Date</u>
Y3 Mass	9 th November
Y4 Mass	23 rd November
Y5 Mass	16 th November
Whole School Mass	22 nd December



REFLECTION FROM KS1 MASS

You have called us. You have called us by our name
We belong to you. We are yours.
You have chosen us to be members of your family.
In your love, you have created us to live in unity.

You will lead us to your light.
Walk before us through the night.
You will guide us on our journey
You will keep our vision bright.

You will hold us when we fall
Give new strength to hear your call.
You will never be beyond us for your love is all in all.

You will nourish, you will lead
Giving every gift we need.
For your reign will be established
From the smallest of all seeds.

Through our sharing here today
May our faith and life convey.
Christ our light and Christ our vision
Christ our purpose, Christ our way.



CLASS PAGES

YEAR R NEWS

We have had an exciting week which all started with our Rockstars taking over the school. The children were super mathematicians and looked amazing! Thank you to all the parents for dressing them up for the day :)

In Maths, we have been recognising 1, 2 and 3 and noticing where we have seen them e.g. 3 apples on the tree, 2 leaves near the door. This has then led onto subitising and 'noticing' if it's 3 or not 3. On your autumn walks, encourage your child to look for 1, 2 or things around them.

In English, we have been writing our fruit salad list linked to our book, 'Oliver's Fruit Salad'. Then we cut the fruit up carefully ourselves and ate our yummy salads! The children thoroughly enjoyed their fruit.

Well done to all the children in Reception for their hard work and wonderful attitude to learning during our first half-term.

YEAR 1 NEWS

On Tuesday, Year 1 loved being dressed up as rockstars. Thank you to all the grown ups who helped with the costumes. In Year 1, we practised counting in twos and enjoyed learning a counting in twos chant, we also did some printing with Lego, counting pairs of socks and building towers in twos.

We also had a special visitor to our class on Tuesday morning - Mrs Skeoch. She worked for over 20 years at our school as a Teaching Assistant before retiring. She has very kindly volunteered to come into school to hear the children read on Tuesday mornings.

In History, we looked at segregation in America and found out that not only did black and white people have to sit separately on buses but that they also had separate schools, restaurants and even communities.

In Science, we looked at our sense of sight. We talked about what our eyes tell us about the world around us and looked at the different parts of the eye.

In Art, Year 1 enjoyed learning about Paul Klee, an artist from the 1920's. We used sponges and paint to try to recreate some of his artwork. This helped Mrs Harvey get a question right on University Challenge this week!

YEAR 2 NEWS

Mrs Holmes and Mrs Walsh are both extremely proud of all the children for leading KS1 Mass on Wednesday. Everyone spoke clearly and tried hard with the hymns. Father Nicholas was very pleased and even commented on how well the children are doing with their reading. Thank you to all the parent's support in learning the words and for attending our Mass.

In English, we have been copying out our Autumn poems in our very best handwriting, ready to display. We are all working hard to use our best writing in all we do. Please keep practising over half term, it really is starting to pay off.

As part of Rockstar Day, Year 2 had lots of fun practising their times tables. We played lots of different games including multiplication bingo. Each game helped us to develop our knowledge of the 2, 5 and 10 times tables. We all had lots of fun and also enjoyed playing on TT rockstars!

In Year 2, the other faith we study is Sikhism. This week, we learnt about how Sikhism was started by Guru Nanak. We learnt that he was chosen by God to share God's message. We learnt that the messages that Guru Nanak shared are the same as what Christians live by as well.

YEAR 3 NEWS

In English, the children have published their narratives in the style of 'The First Drawing'. It has been lovely to share these with families during Parents' Evenings, and the children are very proud of how hard they have worked.

In Maths, we had a fantastic TT Rockstars day on Tuesday. The children performed the 3 times tables to the tune of 'Uptown Funk' and enjoyed the teachers performing during morning assembly. In our lessons, we looked at making arrays for different multiples of 3, and showing the repeated addition and multiplication and division facts they showed.

In RE, we were introduced to our other faith of 'Islam'. We looked at their key beliefs, comparing them to ours before learning all about their five pillars.

In History, we wrote our conclusion to the enquiry "Is Skara Brae a significant settlement for historians?" using subordinating conjunctions. The children tried to use historical vocabulary in their paragraphs and write like historians explaining the answers.

In Science, we finished our rock fact files explaining the formation, purpose and locations of different rocks. The children used all of the knowledge they have learned so far.

YEAR 4 NEWS

Year 4 have had a fantastic end to the first half of the Autumn Term. Working hard in English to finish their Septimius Severus biographies, the children carefully edited and re-drafted their work to ensure that they had presented everything they had learnt about the emperor to the highest standard.

In PE, the children continued to develop their netball skills through a series of drills. It has been great to see their confidence grow over the half term.

In Art, we finished our plant art topic creating with the children creating their final piece of plant art. Using their own choice of medium, they have produced some accomplished pieces.

On Tuesday, we had great fun celebrating Times Table Rock Star Day and all things multiplication. We sang times tables songs, played games, challenged each other in the TTRS arena and produced some artwork inspired by multiplication facts.

YEAR 5 NEWS

It has been a fantastic final week of half term in Year 5 with lots of brilliant work and incredible amounts of fun.

In RE, we have spent time focusing on the Hindu Creation Story and discussing the similarities and difference with the Catholic Creation Story. The children were able to answer key questions of the events that took place, and in which order they happened occurred. They then went on to create a story board detailing these events. We ended our topic with a super exciting Kahoot quiz which the children thoroughly enjoyed.

In English, we have been writing a persuasive letter to His Majesty The King, to persuade him to put up a statue of Katherine Johnson (one of the Hidden Figures women) so that she can be remembered for her many achievements and integral events of space exploration she was involved. The children used many different language devices such as formal and emotive language.

In Geography, we have been comparing our local area with a region within North America. The children used key questions to help them compare the difference in climate, terrain, culture and leisure.

YEAR 6 NEWS

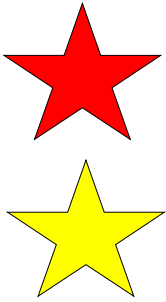
In Maths, we have continued to develop our knowledge of long division with and without remainders. We have thought about different ways we can use our known facts to work out our tables. Don't forget to use TTRS over the half term!

In English, we finished, edited and published our narrative writing. We used the class feedback sheet to show off some 'Insta moments', the wall of fame, common misconceptions, vocabulary and misconceptions. Our writing has been AMAZING this half term!!

On Tuesday, we had a great day for TTRS. We did all things times tables. We even enjoyed learning how they teach multiplication in China and Japan using the lattice method. One of our favourite activities was representing times tables using spirolaterals - they looked so cool.

Every day this week, we have monitored our bread samples for mould growth, and we finally had some! When we return after half-term, we will analyse our findings.

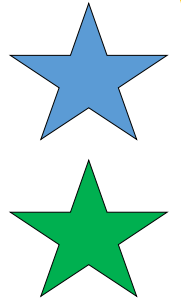
HOUSE OF THE WEEK



WELL DONE TO

EVERYONE

FOR EARNING HOUSE POINTS THIS WEEK



AWARDS ASSEMBLY

On Thursday, we had our awards assembly. Well done to everybody for earning team points throughout the half term. Some children have received their bronze certificate for earning 60 merit points, and some children have even received a silver certificate for earning 120 points! Wow!



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**

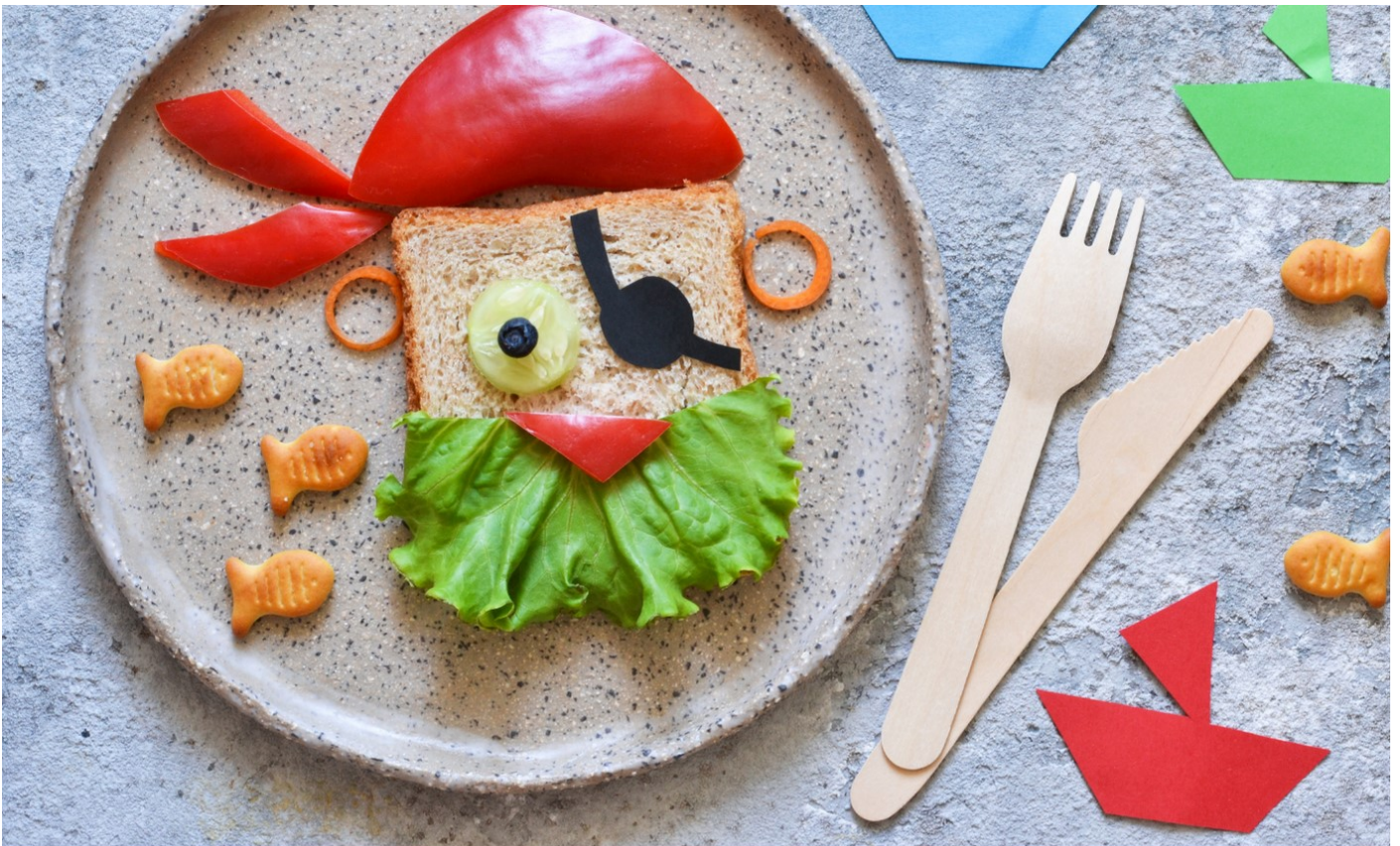
EVERY TUESDAY (TERM-TIME)

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**



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**MONDAY 30TH OCT
10:30 - 1PM**

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- ★ interactive quiz
- ★ activities
- ★ food tasting
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