

# WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Friday 27th January 2023

## A MESSAGE FROM DR PAULINE YOUNTS (CHAIR OF GOVERNORS)

Dear families of St. Joseph's,

I imagine you are all as saddened as I am to hear of Miss Choma's impending retirement. She and I have spoken at length about this, and I can tell you it was not a decision she came to lightly. There will be plenty of time for us to celebrate her more formally, but for now I'd like to share a few words on behalf of the Governors.

Miss Choma's tenure as Head of St. Joseph's has been served with grace and compassion, and during what can only be described as one of the most difficult times in our living history, her calm leadership and unwavering dedication to the safety and education of our children was second to none. Navigating the pandemic, and the subsequent impact on the academic, social, and emotional development of our children, has not been an easy task, yet she has led the school throughout with love and devotion.

The inclusive culture at St. Joseph's is inspired by her leadership as she lives and models the school's Mission daily. Miss Choma carries Christ in her heart, and shares his love, laughter and friendship with everyone she meets.

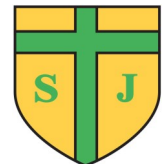
Filling her shoes will not be easy! In collaboration with the Diocese and the Trust, we have advertised for a new Head, and this process will take us a while as we work to ensure her successor is as fabulous as Miss Choma. Please do reach out to me, or any of the Governors, if you have feedback you'd like us to consider as we make this most important appointment.

Sincerely,

Pauline

Chair of Governors

[p.younts@stjosephsotley.org](mailto:p.younts@stjosephsotley.org)



## ASSEMBLIES

| YR       | Y1         | Y2           | Y3        | Y4       | Y5            | Y6                     |
|----------|------------|--------------|-----------|----------|---------------|------------------------|
| 24.03.23 | 03.02.23   | 17.03.23     | 24.02.23  | 03.03.23 | 10.02.22      | 27.01.22               |
| Spring   | Number Day | Mother's Day | Fairtrade | CAFOD    | St Valentines | Holocaust Memorial Day |

## DATES FOR THE DIARY

- 1st February - Y4 Saint Day
- 2nd February - Athlete Visit
- 3rd February - Number Day
- w/c 6th February - Y6 Bikeability
- 9th February - Y3 Gymnastics
- **w/c 13th February - HALF TERM!**
- 20th February - Dogs Trust Visit
- 21st February - Pancake Day Activities
- 22nd February - Ash Wednesday Mass
- 24th February - Author Visit
- 27th February - Reading Week
- 28th February - Toast Tuesday
- 1st March - YR Saint Day

# SCHOOL NEWS

## FRIENDS OF ST JOSEPH'S

### CAMPING TRIP

Thank you to everyone who expressed an interest in helping to organise the FOSJ Camping Trip and attended the meeting on Wednesday. We had a good laugh sharing our funny camping stories and looking at sites & activities. A few people said they would like to be involved, but couldn't make the Wednesday meeting so there will be second meeting on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> January at 7.30pm via Zoom!

**Meeting ID:**

881 4150 4238

**Passcode:** 836994

We are still looking for some Dads to help out (I appreciate you may have been watching Leeds beat Cardiff on Wednesday. Completely understand, it hasn't happened very often this season has it!). I look forward to hearing about your ideas, suggestions and if you want to be involved. No pressure!

If anyone has any questions, or wants to be involved but can't make the meeting on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> January, please call or message Tom (07793765713). For those wanting to come on the trip, don't worry, more information about the camping weekend and how to secure your place will be announced in February!

Tom Hatley (Winter & Willows Dad - Y1 & R) and the FOSJ Team

### GOLDEN TICKET - WILL YOU FIND A GOLDEN TICKET?

We are looking forward to our Golden Ticket Event on Tuesday 7th and Wednesday 8th February.

Children will be able to purchase 110g Galaxy chocolate bars for £2.50. If they find a Golden Ticket hiding in the wrapper, they need to bring it to the school office on Friday 10th February at 3.15pm to claim their prize.

A huge thank you to Arundel Travel Otley and Wharfedale Mumbler for sponsoring us for this event. In addition we would like to give a shout-out to those incredible parents who have sourced/donated prizes: Tom Monkman, Alice Miles, Jo Crosby, Amy Barnett, Lisa Hayton and Rebecca Keinhorst. Thank you.

We are still accepting prizes, so if you or your workplace would like to donate we would be very grateful. We currently have 30 prizes with more expected. We have a wide range of prizes for adults and children (£200 holiday vouchers/Leeds Rhino Tickets/£50 Buon Apps voucher/Go Ape vouchers/ family railway tickets etc!).



## SPORTS

### Year 6 Dodgeball

Well done to the Year 6 Dodgeball Team who represented the school brilliantly on Wednesday night at Benton Park School. They won all their games convincingly apart from a narrow loss to the eventual winners and finished 3<sup>rd</sup> overall. Thank you to all the grown ups for providing transport.



### Cross Country Finals

The Cross Country Final is taking place at Temple Newsam on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> February in the afternoon. This is for children who finished in the top places at the Cross Country event last November and one child qualified through his performance at the Saturday morning Cross Country events. Well done and



Good luck to the following children: Lucas in Y6, Ian in Y4, Fin in Y4, Henry in Y4, Lucille in Y3, Evie in Y3, Joseph in Y3, Corben in Y3, Gabriel in Y3 and Albert in Y3. All the children have been given letters.

## REMINDERS

- **IMPORTANT:** Children MUST bring a water bottle to school each day as school does not have any spare
- All children need to bring a coat to school with them
- Hair must be tied back. Jewellery should not be worn—this includes chains/bracelets and earrings other than studs
- Children **MUST** wear the correct P.E Uniform. In particular, sports leggings are not allowed
- If you have any spare, clean underwear, please bring into school for accidents. **ALL YEAR GROUPS!**

# CATHOLIC LIFE OF THE SCHOOL

## A PRAYER FOR THE WEEK

Dear Lord,  
 We pray that we have eyes that see the best in people,  
 A heart that is able to forgive the worst  
 And cherishes the good in people.  
 A mind that forgets the bad things  
 and remembers the happy times.  
 We pray that we also have a soul that never loses faith in  
 you.  
 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)

## FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

This week, we were able to set a date with Father Lawrie for First Holy Communion which will be on Saturday 13th May at 10am. We will be sending letters out with further information in due course.

## VIRTUE

This week, the children thought about our new virtue which is Love Thy Neighbour. Over the next few weeks, we will be thinking about the following statements: I love my neighbour when:

|   |                                      |   |
|---|--------------------------------------|---|
| I treat others as I want to be treated.             | I say kind and loving things.        | I show affection.                           |
| I share my things with others.                      | I help people and animals in need.   | I show I care by listening to others.       |
| I do little things for others that make them happy. | I notice when someone needs my help. | I show I care by looking after my community |

## Y6 ASSEMBLY

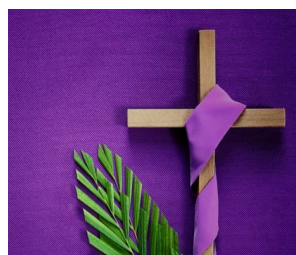
Thank you to Year 6 who led a thoughtful assembly today about the Holocaust as it was National Holocaust Remembrance Day today. They told us about Anne Frank and about the impact of WW2 on regular people. Y6 shared reflective prayers which we can be found on the back page of the newsletter.

## RECONCILIATION

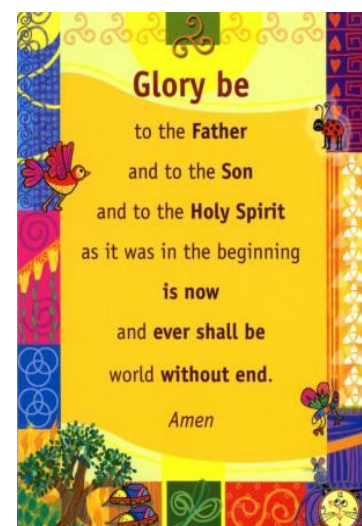
A reminder that Reconciliation classes will start on the first Wednesday after half term. Children will need collecting at 4pm from the office. If you have not already returned your child's form, please do so before the meetings start. Thank you.

## Lent Activities

21st February—Pancake Day  
 22nd February—Ash Wednesday Mass  
 28th February—Toast Tuesday  
 3rd March - Faith Lunch  
 7th March —Toast Tuesday  
 14th March —Toast Tuesday  
 21st March —Toast Tuesday  
 28th March —Toast Tuesday  
 31st March - End of Term Mass  
 31st March - Easter Egg Raffle



## Prayer of the Week



# CLASS PAGES

## YEAR R NEWS

This week in RE, we have been learning about the story of Jesus curing the paralysed man. We did some brilliant acting out of the story taking on different roles. As part of this we thought about people around us who are poorly and who makes us feel better when we are ill.

In Literacy, we have been reading 'One Snowy Night' by Nick Butterworth. We used our senses to think about what Percy, the park keeper, smelt, tasted, saw in different parts of the story.

In Maths, we have explored adding two groups together in different ways. The children enjoyed the number bus activity where children were on the bus and then more children got on. They counted how many children were on the bus altogether.

We have enjoyed Art this week. We learnt about Jackson Pollock and how he poured, dripped and splashed paint onto his canvases. We then got the opportunity to make our own Jackson Pollock inspired art work.



## YEAR 1 NEWS

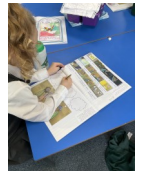
We began a new unit in Maths this week- capacity, which is the amount something can hold. We can use capacity to describe when something is full, half full and empty. We enjoyed a practical based lesson by filling different sized containers with water and discussing their capacity.

In RE, we have been thinking about the feelings of Mary and Joseph at the presentation of Jesus in the temple. This feast is known as Candlemas. When Simeon called Jesus a 'light', this was the inspiration for the celebration of Candlemas (February 2nd). It was and still remains to this day a Christian celebration of the purification of Mother Mary and the first appearance of Jesus in the temple.

In English, we have started a new book called Meerkat Mail which is all about Sunny and his adventures in the Kalahari Desert. We will be writing diary entries about Sunny's activities and learning to spell the days of the week.

In PSHE, we have been learning how to name colours in French. We sang a song and practised moving around the classroom when a new colour was called out.

We have started a new unit in Art called Colour Creations. We have been using lots of different types of magazines to create a collage of colours. We thought about how many different shades of a particular colour we could see and compared and contrasted these.



## YEAR 2 NEWS

In English, we have been planning our own Orion stories. We chose one of the characters fears and then thought carefully about how he could overcome this fear. We then prepared our own word bank, which included conjunctions and a list of adjectives which may be useful when writing our storie. We then used some of the adjectives to practise writing expanded noun phrases.

As part of our work on multiplication, we have been looking at equal groups and using these to created repeated addition calculations and then we learnt how to write this as a multiplication calculation for example  $4 + 4 + 4 = 3$  lots of 4 or  $3 \times 4$ .

In Science, we began our topic about 'Animals' which includes humans too! We have had a great discussion about what a healthy diet should contain. We learnt that there are 5 main food groups and that our diet should include lots of fruit and vegetables!

We continued with developing our clay pumpkin sculptures this week by painting them in bright colours. When they are completely dry we will be adding dots, just like Yayoi Kusama!



## YEAR 3 NEWS

In Maths, we have continued to work hard learning our times tables. We have looked carefully at the links between the 2s, 4s and 8s and how we can apply our knowledge of known multiplication facts to support us with trickier calculations.

In English, we are writing our own narratives based on our class text. We are working hard to include all of the grammar that we have been focussing on this half term including adverbials and figurative noun phrases.

In RE this week, we researched the life of John the Baptist, read about Jesus' baptism and explored what this revealed to us about Jesus.

In History, we finished our Stone Age to Iron Age topic. We learnt about Iron Age roundhouses and hillforts before comparing homes through the ages and considering which we would have preferred to live in and why.

In Art, we have been exploring the work of William Morris and what inspired some of his pieces. Taking inspiration from the pieces we looked at, the children created some of their own William Morris style designs



## YEAR 4 NEWS

In Maths this week, we have focussed on division. We have looked at dividing 2-digit and 3-digit numbers by 1-digit numbers, sometimes even with remainders. We have used place value counters and charts to help us with this as well as using different visual representations.

We have continued to read "Until I Met Dudley" in English. This week, we have had a go at improving an informal explanation and writing our own imaginary explanation as to how a light works. We have also looked at the different features of a formal and informal explanation.

This week, we started our new Geography topic which is Settlement. In our lesson, we talked about what a settlement is and talked about why settlers would have chosen different locations in the past. We then looked at what parts of different names mean and tried to find settlements with these in their name eg cester - Leicester.

In RE, we have looked at how the Last Supper links to the Mass and we have looked at the different artefacts found in Church. We talked about how they are used and why they are important.

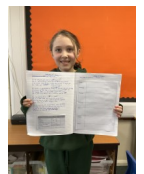


## YEAR 5 NEWS

In Maths, the children have continued to work hard looking at adding fractions and mixed numbers. They have been able to identify when to find the common denominator in order to add two or more fractions together. Along side this, the children have been able to analyse and experiment with two different methods of working out when adding two mixed numbers together and offer an explanation for which method they prefer.

In English, we have produced some wonderful narrative poems! We had a range of different themed ones from mystery, nonsense and humorous. The children really enjoyed using different poetic devices within their poems and I have thoroughly enjoyed reading them. Well done Year 5!

In our RE lessons, as part of our 'Inspirational People' topic, the children have been looking at the life of Father Damien and how he chose to live his life through a variety of Christian beliefs and how he became an inspirational person.



## YEAR 6 NEWS

In Maths, we looked at scale drawings and scale factors. We began looking at quadrilaterals that had been enlarged by a scale factor. After this, we drew the enlarged quadrilaterals and even had a go at right angle triangles. We can now identify scale factors from given lengths too. On Friday, we developed our knowledge about ratios and put them into problems.

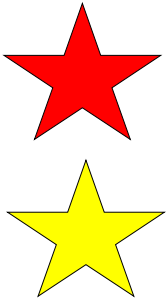
In English, we looked at non-chronological reports based on marine life and giant African land snails. We identified features - text and linguistic - which will help us to write our own about an animal.

In RE, we discussed the similarities and difference between The Passover, The Last Supper and the Eucharist. We came up with so many! We know that a sacrifice is the common link between all of them. Our task was to create a piece of artwork which shows all three. Some pieces of art were amazing - look out for them on the website!

On Friday afternoon, we watched a live interview with a Holocaust survivor as part of Holocaust Memorial Day. We were so interested in the survivor's life and what they went through.



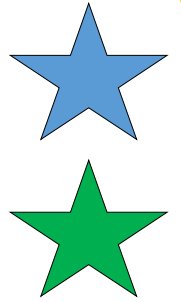
# HOUSE OF THE WEEK



WELL DONE TO

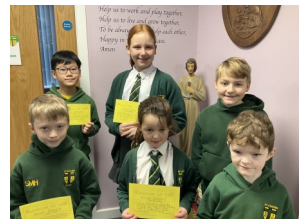
## ALL TEAMS

FOR EARNING HOUSE POINTS THIS WEEK



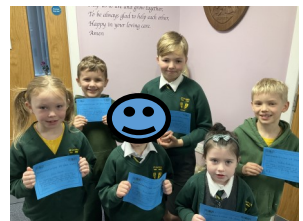
### SUNSHINE AWARD

LEONARD (YR), JEMIMAH (Y1), WILLIAM R (Y2)  
CORBEN (Y3), CLOVIS (Y4), STEFAN (Y5), ELLIE (Y6)



### MATHS AWARD

JACK (YR), WINTER (Y1), ELSIE (Y2)  
ZACHARY (Y3), WILLIAM (Y4), SAM S (Y5), ALFIE (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

## Y6 Reflection Prayers

Oscar: Dear Lord

We pray for people who have lost their lives due to following their religion. May they rest in peace. We also ask God to protect this from happening again to others.

Lord in your mercy.

Hear our prayer.

Kirsty: Dear Lord

We pray for the families, whose relatives have sadly died in the Holocaust, may they rest in peace. We hope that their families may be able to live in peace too.

Lord in your mercy.

Hear our prayer.

Anita: Dear Lord

We pray for those on cold streets suffering from poverty. May you bring light into their lives during this hard time and help us to equally share out what we have so that our world can be free of poverty.

Lord in your mercy.

Here our prayer.

Eva: Dear Lord

We pray for the people living in Ukraine and that that their suffering ends soon. We also pray that they find the light in the darkness during this hard time.

Lord in your mercy.

Hear our prayer.