



From Mrs D'Arcy

Diocese of Clifton

Faith, Hope, Love

# St Joseph's Catholic School Newsletter

Tel/Fax: 01453 860311

[admin@st-josephs.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:admin@st-josephs.gloucs.sch.uk) [www.st-josephs-nymphsfield.org](http://www.st-josephs-nymphsfield.org)

28th November 2019 Term 2-2



The weeks are flying by and we are well on our way to December! The children and staff as always are working hard to be the best that they can be!

Last Monday, a house Netball tournament took place. The house captains, with the support of Mrs Ferris, organised their teams. They worked together and tried their best for their teams. The spirit in which they played and supported each other was impressive but what we would expect from our children! With a competition there is always a winner...the winning house were **Kestrels!** Congratulations to Leo Tiley and Connor Riggall the House captains and thank you Mrs Ferris for supporting the children to organize and take part in the event.

Last Tuesday, Mrs Ferris joined two of our year 6 pupils from last year at their secondary school for afternoon tea. She was given a guided tour of the school, they shared their work with her and talked about their transition and how they were getting on. Mrs Ferris thoroughly enjoyed her time and came back delighted that they are continuing to shine and striving to be the best that they can be in their new school. Thanks goes to Mrs Ferris for taking the time to continue her support of our pupils even when they are no longer in our school! This being a reflection of the commitment of the staff here at St Joseph's. Feedback about our year 7 pupils from secondary schools has been:

- how polite our children are
- what high standards and expectations they have of themselves
- what great independent learners they are
- what a good work ethic they have
- how ready they are to take on the next steps of their educational journey

Our Year 5's took part in the exciting Renishaw K'Nex challenge! They had to build a float with moving parts in an hour. The winning float had moving wheels and cogs were used to make some figures on the top spin around! Congratulations to Zac Reid and Sammy Stewart. They have been invited to the finals in the summer term, where they will be set a new challenge and compete against children from other local school. The feedback from Alison Kelly, the lady who ran the workshop, was how polite our children were and how well they listened and followed instructions! Year 4 had a great day out at the Roman Baths in Bath. The trip was planned to support their topic and the children and adults who went all learnt a lot!

Year 3 also went out of school off to Stonehenge, despite the cold weather the children were so excited to see the ancient stones! Thank you Miss Browning and Mr Walton for organising the trips and to the willing parents who supported it. Thank you also to the parents who have sent in emails of appreciation to staff for the enjoyment and variety of experiences that they provide for the children. Whilst it is our job, staff here go over and beyond for the children because that is what we do. However, your positive support and feedback is always nice to receive.

Thank you all of the parents who battled to get their children to Woodchester Mansion on Sunday! The timings weren't quite right - we had not anticipated the popularity of the event! The children looked fantastic in their Christmas hats and as always shone! Their behavior and singing was excellent. We'd like to apologise to the parents who had the shoe cleaning chore on Sunday evening!

Monday was busy as ever, we had flu immunisations. Well done to Miss Gardiner for all of your reminders- most of our children's slips were returned and the nursing team were impressed with the response!

The building work has begun! After the shock of being thrown out of our office, we have adapted quickly and are working together in the main office. Apart from the noise of drilling at times, we are all able to get on with the day job! The building work at the moment will be having no impact on you in terms of drop off and collecting your children. However, as changes occur and the project develops, we will keep you updated. Please bear with us, while the work is going on—it will all be worth it in the end!

This afternoon we began to prepare for Advent with a thoughtful and respectful Advent retreat. Teachers were supported and many of the stations were led by members of the chaplaincy team. Thank you also to the parents and governors who joined us, the event what a perfect beginning to Advent.

Behind the scenes, our fantastic PTA have been working away to get organised for the Christmas Fayre THIS Saturday. Thank you to all of the parents who have donated to the hampers and tombola. Staff were getting competitive as they put them together last night, ably guided by Miss Busby. The key stage 2 children wait in anticipation to see if theirs is the winner. We don't envy the judge! We have put them in the Y6 window so that you are able to get a sneaky preview before Saturday. Thank you to all of the parents who have already sold and returned their tickets to the office. Just a reminder, if they are still at home to get them back to school please—you've got to be in it to win it! There will be mulled wine and mince pies, stalls and games, lots for the children to do and the choir will be performing at 2.20pm. Please do come along and join in the festive cheer!

We would like to remind all parents who have a child with SEND that structured conversations are next Wednesday - 4<sup>th</sup> December. You will be invited for a review of your child's progress and what their next steps are. Please ensure that you know the time of your appointment. If for any reason you are unable to make the meeting, please let the school know so that staff don't waste their time chasing missed appointments.

We will be finishing off next week with Film Night (Friday 6<sup>th</sup> December). We may have to make sure that staff don't fall asleep!

Also, an additional event has been added to the calendar. On Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> December, the school choir will be performing in the hall and the school council will be serving tea, coffee and mince pies/Christmas cakes. We hope that our neighbours from the village will come and join us but would like to invite any parent and grandparents to join us.

The season of Advent restores ... a hope which does not disappoint for it is founded on God's Word. A hope which does not disappoint, simply because the Lord never disappoints! ... Let us think about and feel this beauty."

Pope Francis

## In Your Prayer



The prophets of old longed for the coming of Jesus into the world. We, too, long for your special coming at this time in the hope that it may bring joy to all who are suffering and the light of faith to all who do not know you.

## Class News!



St Mary	Bobbie likes to play with the babies in the classroom. Henry enjoys building dinosaur houses, rockets and towers with the colourful building blocks.
St Joseph	Nicholas has found the instruction sheets really interesting this week, he likes to follow instructions. Charlie is having fun at the art and woodwork club with Miss McCarthy and Miss Busby on Mondays. He is using lots of different materials, paint and wood.
St Peter	Jacob likes to play tag and hide and seek with his friends at break times. He is an innkeeper in the nativity. Toby is finding out lots of facts about planet earth, which is the class topic. He is one of the Kings in the nativity.
St Patrick	Nia really had fun at Stonehenge last week; she particularly enjoyed looking around the Stone Age village to see what it was like! Jimmy enjoys playing with Alfie L, Stanley and Theo. He liked looking at the ancient stone site on the trip.
St George	Harry G liked the trip to the Roman Baths recently; he said the class could have a taste of the bath water, it was very warm and not very nice! Millie loves art at school—she is making mosaics from differing coloured stamps. So far she has designed a crucifix and a tree.
St Teresa	Laila does tag rugby after school on Thursdays! She is very fast and Miss Fletcher took the class last week and said she was amazing. Leo is enjoying learning about Vikings and Anglo Saxons. He is making a fact finding poster. He said Vikings did not actually have horns on their helmets.
St David	Gracie is writing discussion text in literacy, which she said was almost like a debate on paper; you write both sides down and then at the end there is one decision. Freddie N made a flood barrier last week. He enjoys playing netball. He said the class debate between the Saxons and modern day people was really good.

Weekly R E A C H Awards  
15th and 22nd November 2019

St Mary	Otis Jewkes-Long, Edward Artz, Gilbert Gane and Kian Smith-Wallace
St Joseph	Charlotte Daly, Isla Colyer, Isla Harper and Maya Pinnock
St Peter	Roxi Maltby, Harmony Timbrell, Theo Meta and Pippa Munday
St Patrick	Sadie Price, Gus Webb, Alfie Lavis and Isaac Clark
St George	Madeleine Francis, Emily Musty, Daisy Taylor and all of Y4 for good behaviour on their trip!
St Teresa	Sam Stewart, Isabelle D'Arcy, Wren Clements and Pippa Grimsey
St David	Prudence Herbert, Emilia Spencer, Ayla McKeever and Alfie Gordon

### SCHOOL TRIPS

*Lots of exciting trips and events have been planned for the children please pay promptly by PARENTPAY. We thank the PTA for subsidising these events.*

*Whole school Panto on 17th December —£14 per child*  
*Y5 We Are the Curious on 7th January 2020—£15 per child*  
*Y5 WW2 Experience Day on 1st April 2020—£15 per child*  
*Y4 Slimbridge Wetlands on 14th May 2020—£13 per child*  
*Y5 Sir William Romney experience day on 15th June 2020*  
*—£5.50 per child*

Christmas Jumper Day!  
20th December 2019



**CHRISTMAS  
JUMPER DAY**

*In aid of Save the Children  
Suggested donation £1*

### Forthcoming events

30th Nov PTA Christmas Fayre 1.30pm  
 6th Dec PTA Film Night  
 7th Dec KLB Race 9.30am  
 11th Dec KS1 Nativity 9.30am  
 12th Dec KS1 Nativity 2.00pm  
 17th Dec Panto Trip  
 18th Dec Christmas Lunch  
 18th Dec KS2 Carol Service 6.00pm  
 18th Dec KS1 Christmas Party  
 19th Dec Choir singing 10.30am  
**ALL WELCOME**  
 19th Dec KS2 Christmas Party  
 20th Dec Christmas Jumper Day  
 20th Dec Breakfast with Fr Christmas  
 20th Dec End of Term (1.30pm finish)  
 6th Jan Inset Day staff only  
 7th Jan Term 3 begins

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION forms are available from the school office. Children must be at least 8 years old or in Year 3. Forms must be returned to St Dominic's, Dursley Parish Office by 9th December.



Attendance—the updated policy was emailed to all parents/carers recently.

If requesting a leave of absence during term parents/carers will need to complete a form available from the school office setting out the reasons. The form must be completed at least 7 days before the start of any leave. If the holiday is not considered to be an exceptional circumstance it will not be agreed. If you nevertheless take your child out of school for the leave of absence this will be recorded as unauthorised leave and you could receive a Penalty Notice.

**Congratulations to  
Kobe Timbrell and  
Ella Wand who won the  
yummy cake recently.**



**THANK YOU  
FOR YOUR  
SUPPORT!**

**Feedback Slip for newsletter (28.11.19)**