



Diocese of Clifton

Faith, Hope, Love

St Joseph's Catholic School Newsletter

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25th February 2021 Term 4-1

From Mrs Howells



I hope that you all had a good half term and what great news to begin term 4. I'm sure we were all equally excited by the announcement on Monday night – it will be great to have our school family back together again! For those of you who are supporting your children with their learning at home – only 6 more days to go! I would like to thank you all for your support and feedback that has helped us to shape your child/ren's learning since Christmas. It has been a steep learning curve for us all but we have worked through it together. It is amazing what we have all achieved in such a short space of time. I am so proud of all of the staff who have as ever gone above and beyond in their efforts to do the very best that they can for the children in their classes and of course our children who **REACH** in all that they do supported by you their parents.

On behalf of all of the staff, I would like to thank the reception parents for their very kind and thoughtful basket of goodies that was delivered just before half term. The staff were delighted – so thank you.

Sadly, Shrove Tuesday and Ash Wednesday fell in half term this year, I hope that you all managed to have fun with pancakes at home! Before we broke up for half term, we took part in our annual Lent Retreat. This year Mrs Barron's Chaplaincy Team recorded the stations for us to follow in our class bubbles before joining together as a whole school. It's not very long so if you haven't had the opportunity to take a look, please do. It is on the school website under Collective Worship. I would like to thank Mrs Barron and the Chaplaincy Team, all of whom took part for such a beautifully prepared and presented service for us.

Also, Mandy Baker is producing short time out reflections which are also on our website under the Collective Worship tab. Worth a look if you have 5 minutes.

We always do our best to support our families and are very aware of how challenging these times have been for some of you. We can only offer advice, support and/or point you in the right direction if we are aware of the challenges that you are facing. Please take a look at the Wellbeing and Pastoral support pages that we have on our website within our Parent's area. If you are worried about someone you know, need mental health or financial support or would like some ideas of things you can do to support yourself with anxiety, then this page will offer guidance. If you can't find the support you need, then please contact Mrs Freckleton (our Pastoral Lead) who will do all that she can to support you.

An exciting opportunity has opened up on the Governing Board for a parent governor. We would invite any suitable parent who has the time to commit to consider joining our Board in taking a strategic lead in shaping the future of our great school. Once the children have returned to school we will be holding an election (believe it or not, this cannot be done electronically!).

There are some exciting events coming up this term. On Wednesday 10th March, Year 6 have their STEM challenge – please consent and pay via Parentpay by Monday 8th March so we can secure the booking. We have moved World Book Day to Thursday 11th March. We feel that it will be much more fun for the children to celebrate together in their class bubbles. The staff are busily working on making it a day to remember for the children.

St Joseph's Feast Day is coming up too on 19th March. Followed by parent's evening the following week which will once again be held on TEAMs. The booking system for this will be different to previously because we will be changing to use the service provided by our website eSchools. Look out for instructions for booking in the coming weeks.

I will write to you next week outlining the plans to get the children back into school on the 8th March! We can't wait.

In Your Prayers

Loving God,

Help us to work together to share what we have so that everyone has what they need.

Help us to build a better world, where each of us can become the best person we can be.

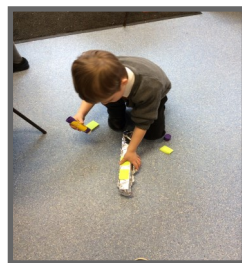
Amen



Class News!



St Mary	Pearl enjoys outdoor learning. Finley S - I like seeing what cool things my friends have to show at register time and my favourite thing is when it's phonics bingo time and writing my marbles on the board if I win.
St Joseph	Isabelle— wants to say that she is super proud of trying her hardest with her writing and managing to make it smaller and ready for little lined books!! And remembering finger spaces!! Isaac - is super proud as he has managed to reach his deepen its in maths!! He is very pleased with himself.
St Peter	Hannah - I have been doing lot of exercises in school, laps around the school playground with my friends. Nia—my maths was easy because we were learning about 1/4's and 1/3's . At break time I played a game with my friends.
St Patrick	Arthur - I have enjoyed Maths this week because it's my favourite subject. Matilda - I have loved Literacy this week because we are learning about Fabels. Harmony - I have enjoyed Maths this week because I have challenged myself to get to finish deepen it each day.
St George	Alfie L - I have enjoyed learning to multiply in maths. In MOT, we have been learning to use fractions. Samuel - I have enjoyed learning some challenging maths. I like the missing digit problems for the deepen it questions. In Literacy, we created some funny actions to help us retell the story.
St Teresa	Jack – I have really enjoyed learning about space and challenging myself with the tricky maths that we have been covering in Year 5! I am a member of the Eco-Committee and it has been fabulous! Home learning has been fun because I still get to see my friends!
St David	Molly – Exciting and joyful, I have loved our recent French lessons with Mrs Ferris. We looked at our nationalities and French speaking countries. Magnifique! Elsa – I have really been enjoying PE with Stef and Ollie and I have also thoroughly enjoyed our recent topic lesson with Miss Fry, where we learnt about imports and export. I cannot wait to come back to school!



CHANGE OF DETAILS
Please let the school office know if your child has any new allergies/diet requirements. It is imperative that we have the correct information at school.
THANK YOU.

Please be considerate to our neighbours when parking at school. Try to use the village hall, it's only a couple of minutes away. Thank you.



E-Schools —we are moving across to using our current website provider e-Schools to communicate with parents/carers—thank you if you have downloaded the app and are already using it. We have had good feedback saying it is very easy to use. So far approximately 57% of you have downloaded the app. ***At present we are still sending emails via the school admin address also but this will stop soon and you will need to use e-Schools or look at the school website to receive all school communication.*** So please can we ask if you have not set an e-Schools account up please do so ASAP—usernames and passwords and an instruction sheet were sent home via your child in December. If you need a reminder of the login details or have any questions please email the Admin Team at admin@st-josephs.gloucs.sch.uk. This is different to the logins sent to you by email for TEAMS. Thank you.



To see out the final stages (hopefully) of lockdown, Grace has joined her Dad in a group looking to raise funds for a charity called Rays of Sunshine. This is a fantastic charity that brightens the lives of seriously ill young people and their families by granting wishes and providing ongoing support in hospital and within the community. The challenge is for us, as a group, to virtually run, walk and cycle a distance of 5567km, equivalent to London to New York before the end of April.

Here's a link if you want to find out a little more about some examples of life changing wishes they've granted and the impact they've had on many young people in the UK.

<https://raysofsunshine.org.uk/>

Any contribution you are able to make would be very gratefully received and if you are able to, here's a link to the groups Just Giving page:

<https://www.justgiving.com/team/MEH>