



Diocese of Clifton

Faith, Hope, Love

St Joseph's Catholic School Newsletter

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27th January 2022 Term 3-2

From Mrs Howells

Thank you so much for supporting us by testing your children regularly before sending them into school. Your actions have prevented the spread of the virus in several of our classes, for that we cannot thank you enough. Unfortunately, we have been unlucky with one class but all parents involved have tested and kept us informed so that the class teacher is able to plan accordingly – so thank you all. We ask that in order for your child to access remote learning the following day we are informed by 5pm. With the recent change in testing from day 5 that also works the other way – please let us know when your child tests negative. There is no guarantee that it will be day 5 and 6but if a child comes back after isolation and we are not expecting them the class teacher will not have their work ready for the classroom- it will be uploaded on TEAMS. As I am sure you can imagine, to get the work ready for the day is not a 5 minute job so this can cause disruption to the teaching and learning for the rest of the class if this happens. Thank you for your support with this. Spring term 1 and 2 are always get your heads down and get learning. There is not the amount of additional learning opportunities that there are in the autumn term but that does not mean that the children are not having a great time. This term, arranged by Miss McCarthy before she went off on maternity leave, three classes are lucky enough to be having specialist music teachers for the term. Year 1 taking part in ready, steady play workshops, Year 3, much to Mrs Daly's delight, are learning the clarinet (don't forget that your child is able to loan a clarinet for just £10 for the term) and Year 6 are taking part in a music tech programme – using iPads to make music. So far the children have thoroughly enjoyed these lessons.

Last term Hawks got the most marbles for the term. Traditionally, if a house won the term, they would get to negotiate a treat with me, something that the whole house could take part in and enjoy while celebrating being the best that they could be for the term. Last year, sadly, there were no such treats. This year however treats seemed more likely, then restrictions were re-introduced. Having set Hamish and Michael the challenge of coming up with a treat that Hawks could safely all join in – they have! I now have the challenge of organising it! They are determined to keep it as a surprise from their house mates – so if your child is a Hawk, I wonder if you will get the opportunity to ask them what the treat was before they tell you? Thank you to all of the people that are involved in making the treat a possibility. We have everything crossed for fine weather or we might have to postpone!

All tournaments have again been suspended for the term. This is particularly disappointing for the cross country club, who were keen to compete once again at KLB. However, Mrs Hares and Mr Britton have been training hard with the keen group of runners and they will be working on a 1500m time trial over the next few weeks. All of the local school will be doing this and the children's times submitted to Ron White (the man who organised the KLB races). He will be rewarding the top 5 in each age group. Not the same as a KLB race, but an opportunity to see how well the children are doing compared to children of the same age in other schools.

Mrs Piper is keen to get Forest School back up and running after half term, something that many of our children have been asking about. However, she needs someone to support her for the sessions. If you are keen and able to offer support, then please do contact her at wildrootsforestschool@gmail.com where she can give you more information about what will be involved. Finally, a letter and election papers for the parent governor vacancy is coming home tonight. If you have time and would like to join the board of governors in the strategic leading of our school, then please complete the form and return to the school office.

*Our beloved God of all humanity,
We feel hurt as war and injustice has forced loved ones apart
We commit ourselves to passion and pray for peace
Help those who need hope, love and joy
Help loved ones escape war and injustice
Turn away from intolerance
We share love, freedom and hope for the New Year
Through Christ our Lord*



Amen

Class News!



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| St Mary | Cooper - We cooked Gruffalo Crumble! Olivia - I play hide and seek with Mia. |
| St Joseph | Beatrix - I like fun lessons like making our own sliders. |
| St Peter | Kian – I love doing numeracy and homework. Henry – I like phonics and playtime. |
| St Patrick | Harriet - I have enjoyed using column method in Maths this week to add numbers together. Sidney - I like doing computing. We are solving problems and bugs on Scratch. |
| St George | Sophia - I like learning the clarinet in music because we learn something new every time. Last lesson we learnt the open G. Lily - I liked science because we got to make circuits and we had to figure out how to make the bulb light up. |
| St Teresa | Isaac - I have really enjoyed using the atlas to find where the different countries are. We were learning about World War II. Isla - We developed our skills in art using chalk to create scenes on the blitz. We loved how they turned out. |
| St David | Harvey R - I felt that I found the practice SATS easier than in October. I enjoy Maths club as that is where we learn about things that we have struggled on. Maths Club has helped me as I feel I am better at percentages than I was last time, and it has helped me in the practice SATS as well with my extra knowledge. Michael - I enjoyed doing computing as we were able to programme different objects to move on an app (Code.org). Also, I enjoyed writing a short story for 10 minutes based on a picture. |

Please complete a parent survey by following this link:

<https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/CWZKJ4/>

Are you a practising Catholic and interested in becoming a Foundation Governor at St Joseph's School? If so please contact clerk@st-josephs.gloucs.sch.uk or speak to Mrs Gwyer or Mrs Tiley (Co-Chair of Governors). THANK YOU



St Joseph's is looking for a handy person to carry out small maintenance jobs on an ad hoc basis. For more information please email Charlotte at sbm@st-josephs.gloucs.sch.uk. THANK YOU.

RECEPTION SEPT 2022—the deadline has passed now for school applications but just a reminder if you have applied for a place at St Joseph's for your child/ren on a faith basis supporting evidence must be provided. If you do not provide the supporting documentation eg a certificate of baptism, or of reception into the Church, or of reception into the order of catechumens, your child cannot be placed within any of those categories and this may affect your child's chance of being offered a place. Please bring documents to the school office. THANK YOU.



We would like to say a big thank you to Mr and Mrs Timberell and Mr Shipton for making and donating wonderful items for our outdoor learning area. The children will benefit so much from what you have made.

