

St Joseph's Catholic School Newsletter

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17th October 2019 Term 1-3



From Mrs D'Arcy

Another two weeks have flown by..only one more week and it will be half term!

We'd like to thank the staff for all of their hard work and efforts in putting together the harvest liturgies that we celebrated last week. We hope that the parents who were able to come along enjoyed seeing what their children have been up to. Thank you also to the parents that contributed to the produce display - all of which went to Stroud Food Bank. The fresh produce was divided up and a group of Year 6 children went around the village to donate it to the elderly.

Saturday was the first KLB race, and as ever our children did us proud. Despite the miserable day, they turned up with a good attitude and tried their hardest to be the best that they could be! Well done to all that took part and thank you parents for supporting this event. It's really important that the children take part in all 4 races to score the most points available to them!

This week has been the week of Awe and Wonder and the children have been learning about the Sikh faith. They have enjoyed a wide range of activities, re-telling stories, learning facts, dance and trying food!

On Tuesday Years 5 and 6 went to Wycliffe for a STEM day. They came back buzzing having had a thoroughly great time! We need to thank Miss Crisp for organising this event. Whenever children are taken off site there is always an additional work load for the teachers - so thank you Miss Crisp for providing this great event for our children.

We would like to thank the parents who attended Parent Forum this Wednesday. Although they were few, we have received positive feedback on communication, the ease at which children have coped with transitions between year groups and how quickly staff have got to understand the needs of individual children without being informed by parents. The governors who were present had some feedback on recent communication and ideas of how to help parents to understand their roles other than being a familiar face! Please do think about coming along to the Parent Forums. It's always nice to hear positive feedback but it's also an opportunity for parents to discuss ways in which they feel that we can improve on a whole school basis.

Today we celebrated our New Academic Year's Mass. Thanks goes to Fr Philip for leading the lovely service, to our Year 6 who read well and wrote the bidding prayers and to the rest of the school who behaved and sang beautifully. They fulfilled our expectations - well done!

We are looking forward to the school disco tomorrow night, please do encourage your children to come along to have fun with their friends and to support the fund raising efforts of our PTA - who do an amazing job of supporting the school to be able to afford extras for your children.

We are looking forward to parent's evening next week, giving you an opportunity to speak with your child's class teacher and find out how they are settling into their new class. We'd like to take this opportunity to let you know that staff are only required to meet with parents once a year and to provide one written report. Here at St Joseph's we always go the extra mile and in doing so offer all parents two meetings per child per year. If you have concerns over and beyond that then appointments should be made through the seniorleaders@st-josephs.gloucs.sch.uk. Our staff work exceptionally hard and we need to make sure that they are not over burdened with additional meetings.

We hope to see you next Thursday afternoon when our Year 6 children will be hosting a World's Biggest Coffee Morning - in the afternoon to support Macmillan Cancer Support. This was an extremely successful event last year and they are hoping to be equally successful next week. Last Friday they began preparing by making fudge to sell...the smell wafting down in the corridor was mouthwatering!

Can we remind you again NOT TO WALK THROUGH THE STAFF CAR PARK. Despite our continual requests for parents to walk round, some parents are still walking through with their children. The car park is in continual use with staff coming and going. The only parent that should be walking through are ones needing access to Pre-school or OOSC - not as a cut through into the school playground. Thank you for your support with this.

Finally, we would like to remind you that when the children come back to school after the October half term, they should all be in winter uniform. We hope that you all have a lovely break, spend time with family and friends, please make sure that your children get a good rest, they have worked hard over that last half term and need to recharge for the long and exciting term ahead that will lead us to Christmas!

In Your Prayer

We pray for peace in our world and an end to war.



Class News!



St Mary	Gilbert is enjoying learning all the new letters and sounds. He knows kite starts with a kicking k. He likes playing with Isaac as well as his brother, Claude and his friends—Jacob and Alex. Olive loves learning numbers, she can count up to 10. Olive likes playing tag with Bella, Otis and Gilbert.
St Joseph	Jed likes to learn—today he has learnt how to split 6 into 2 smaller groups. Isla C loves to run about and play with Harriet and Oscar. She is making a book with pictures of butterflies and children she has drawn inside.
St Peter	Claude likes to play tag with Theo, Jacob, Spencer, Reuben, Toby and Raffy. He has been taking part in the St Peter's PE tests this week—he has had to run up and down for 2 minutes, throw a ball and catch it after it bounces and kick a ball. Bella has been learning to double numbers. She is looking after her sister Olive at break times. The class are retelling the story of the Three Little Pigs.
St Patrick	Isaac enjoyed maths this week—he has had to identify which lines are straight. In literacy Beatrice has been writing sentences with similes and using alliteration.
St George	In class Benedict has been learning about all types of triangles, eg scalene triangle. Benedict was good at the running tests this week. Francesca really enjoyed reading maps in geography. She is enjoying the Week of Awe and Wonder and said Sikhs celebrate the Festival of Light every year.
St Teresa	Amber said Y5/6 went for a STEM day at Wycliffe and met Lizzy and Dave; they made flintstones and some groups bent pens with fire, the pens continued to work afterwards. Isabelle D said in the week of Awe and Wonder the class are learning about Sikhism and Guru Nanak. She enjoyed the KLB cross country race last weekend despite it being very muddy and rainy.
St David	George has been learning the bus stop dividing method in maths. He has also been learning about values and decimal places. Prudence enjoyed the STEM day, she did maths where she learnt a card trick. She made slime and bent pens, which was a lot of fun!

Weekly R E A C H Awards
4th and 11th October 2019

St Mary	Finlay Taylor, Roberta McKeever, Otis Jewkes-Long and Kian Smith-Wallace
St Joseph	Nia Vuchinkova, Theo Pegler and Grace Batten
St Peter	Amelia Stewart, Rosie Crew, Bella Hampshire and Spencer Stancombe
St Patrick	Alfie Lavis, Florence Scott, Stanley Beard and Lani Jewkes-Long
St George	Amelia Trusilo, Ollie Grant, Anabel Williams and Harry Goose
St Teresa	Elsa White, Leah Lavis, Niamh Soares and Eliza Mace
St David	Ayla McKeever, Freddie Samuel, Willow Carter-Smith and Gracie McPherson

Forest School
with Miss Piper



Forthcoming events

- 18th Oct PTA Autumn Disco 6.00pm-7.30pm
- 22nd/23rd Parents' Evening 3.30pm-6.00pm
- Oct
- 22nd Oct Education Mass at Clifton 7.00pm
- 24th Oct Macmillan Coffee afternoon 2.00-4.00pm
- 25th Oct End of Term 1
- 4th Nov Term 2 begins
- 8th Nov Open Day
- 9th Nov PTA fireworks and BBQ night from 6.00pm
- 11th Nov Remembrance Assembly 10.30am
Reception and Yr 6 children
- 11th Nov Anti-bullying week
- 13th Nov Commissioning the Chaplaincy Team

Was your child born between
1st September 2015 and 31st August 2016?

KEY DATES

November 2019—you should receive a letter from GCC advising you how to apply for a school place
15 January 2020—deadline for making your application
16th April 2020—Allocation day

Any questions please contact:
school.admissions@gloucestershire.gov.uk
Or visit www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/schooladmissions

UNIFORM—please remember to name all your child/ren's school uniform/belongings that they bring into school. If an unexpected item comes home that is not your child's then please ensure it is returned to the school office or class teacher immediately. THANK YOU.

Congratulations to Kian and Amelia R who won the yummy cake recently.
THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT.



Feedback Slip for newsletter (17.10.19)