



Diocese of Clifton
Faith, Hope, Love

St Joseph's Catholic School Newsletter

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22ndth March 2018 Term 4-2



What a fabulous fortnight we have had! As always, the children have been working their socks off! It is always a treat when the children bring their work to show me and to see the pride and big smiles on their faces! I even had some reception children who played the recorder for me! They were so please with themselves!

Sr Marie has continued to pray the Stations of the Cross (Via Circus) with the children, so that all classes have had the opportunity to understand the events leading up to Jesus' crucifixion. Sr Marie has been so very impressed with the children, some of the questions they have asked and the thoughts they have shared! Thank you Sr Marie!

A big well done to Erin Musty, Maddie Nicholls and Jess Foran who ran in the district cross country competition. It was a very challenging course but the girls were amazing!

I do hope that you found the parents/carers consultation evening fruitful and can see how hard the children are working! It was lovely to see how proud the children were when sharing their work with you and I am sure you will agree, that this is very much as a result of the hard working, dedicated team of staff that we have here.

Thank you to those children who joined us for breakfast last week-it was a great turn out and a lovely event as always.

Thank you to the parents who provided constructive feedback on the questionnaire which will be used when we complete the piece of work on our school vision. Staff have analysed and discussed it in great detail. The children have equally been very helpful and I am very excited about the vision, mission and future of St Joseph's. It is great to have so many parents on board with the direction in which the school is travelling. When I began my journey here, there were four classes, with 93 children on roll. My aspiration was always to grow the school into a single form entry primary school, as it had been historically, providing an excellent Catholic education for our children. I am delighted to inform you that the governors have confirmed that we will move to 7 classes in September. The detail of what this will look like will be communicated at a later date, in the meantime, I am working closely with Mrs Harris, our finance officer, to ensure the budget balances! This is such exciting news for us as a school community and I will ask for some parental support to ensure this transition is as smooth as possible. I would like to thank Elaine Noone for running the hockey club this term-the children have thoroughly enjoyed the training and your time and expertise is very much appreciated. Thank you also those who joined us for a moment of prayer and reflection this morning. Life is very busy and to take ten minutes out of the day to really focus the mind and soul, is very important. Thank you to Sr Marie for leading us.

I would like to thank Fr Jose for celebrating Mass for us on our Feast Day of St Joseph. St Joseph was such a quiet, humble servant yet with inner strength and courage that protected the Holy family and of course, is the patron saint of our school and church.

Please do come and join the PTA meeting this evening-it is a crucial point, especially now with moving to single form entry-**YOUR SCHOOL PTA NEEDS YOU!**

On Saturday 24th March, we are encouraging our school families to join WWF Earth Hour. Further information can be found on the WWF

website. The wildlife that we love are at risk from the effects of climate change, pollution and over consumption. Therefore, you can make a personal promise to the planet and join the 'big lights out' this weekend. The children's home-work will be centred around this so please do try to take part. We recognise that the school also has a role to play in this and we are being proactive so that we too can make a difference. I would like to apologise for the confusing message that the Exemplar Education letter has created. As a school we do not actively endorse or promote the service, but through distribution and returns, the school is awarded a small financial contribution. We will not be sending the leaflets out in the future.

Dear Fathers, Happy Feasts of St Joseph! Follow his example when caring for your children as they grow up in wisdom and grace. Pope Francis 2018



In Your Prayers

We pray for ourselves: that through our Lenten Journey of prayer, fasting and almsgiving God will deepen our love for our sisters and brothers living in poverty.



Class News!

St Mary	Spencer built a model transformer which he brought to show Mrs D'Arcy today. His transformer was made out of Mobilo. Evie-Mai likes to play with Georgia and Lauren.
St Joseph	Henry is learning about animals that can fly and crawl on the ground. Henry wrote about an owl and a caterpillar. William S wrote actions to describe a caterpillar.
St Peter	Reuben S has learnt that tigers live in forests. Reuben recently received his Platinum badge for reading lots and lots! Sam S has been learning about animals and their habitats.
St Patrick	Emily said the class are learning about light and shadow. Emily is enjoying gymnastics especially the stretches and different moves. Summer has been learning about circuits. In God Matters Summer has been sticking pictures into her book about the Stations of the Cross.
St Teresa	Layla is learning about electricity and sockets. The class are also looking at shapes and the different shapes in kites. Connor enjoyed representing the school at the rugby tournament yesterday in Dursley. There were 6 different teams.
St David	Conrad is writing suspense stories in class. In maths the children are learning about geometry and angles. Erin M is thinking up some good ideas for her suspense story. She is currently reading an Alex Rider book called 'Eagle Strike' - this story gives her lots of creative writing ideas.



Weekly Star Awards
9th and 16th March 2018



St Mary	Successful Learner Gifts & Talents Following in Jesus' footsteps	Claude Gane and Matilda Maltby Alex Almeida and Imogen Munday Tabitha Settle and Spencer Stancombe	
St Joseph	Successful Learner Gifts & Talents Following in Jesus' footsteps	Theo Reid and Jimmy Jagger Matilda Lane and Reuben Bisset-Jones Ellie Atkins and Will Spence	
St Peter	Successful Learner Gifts & Talents Following in Jesus' footsteps	Toby Brimacombe and Reuben Spence Harvey Odibendi and Sam Spencer Laura-Mae Harrison and Francesca Di Stazio	
St Patrick	Successful Learner Gifts & Talents Following in Jesus' footsteps	Wren Clements and Fitch Thurlow Niamh Soares and Isabel Newman Elsa White and Amber Dalby	
St Teresa	Successful Learner Gifts & Talents Following in Jesus' footsteps	Freddie Nicholls and Lily Tarr Holly Stewart and Freya Musgrave Connor Riggall and Freddie Samuel	
St David	Successful Learner Gifts & Talents Following in Jesus' footsteps	Conrad Newman and Josie Herbert Lucy Hathaway and Casey Boulton Erin Stokes-Richardson and Alfie Mace	



Congratulations to
Leo Tiley who won the
cake raffle recently.
Thank you for your
continued support.



**Mrs D'Arcy's Special
Award**

Maddie Nicholls



Easter Holiday Camp at St Peter's High School,
Gloucester—the first week of Easter from 3rd – 6th April
and is open to pupils of all school ages – Reception –
Year 6 and is being held at St. Peter's High School.

For more information please see the following link:

<https://www.montaguacademy.com/holiday-camp/>

Congratulations to Freddie Samuel
(Y4) and his mum Georgie who are
to be baptised during the Easter
Vigil at Woodchester Priory on
Saturday 31st March.



**Shin pads—if you have any spare shin pads at
home that you would like to donate to school
they would be very much appreciated.
Thank you.**

Foundation Governor Vacancy—applications are
invited for the post of Foundation Governor from
those who are keen to support Catholic Education.
For further details please see Tony Lynch, Chair of
Governors or Mrs D'Arcy.

Forthcoming events

25th March PTA Easter Egg Hunt
27th March Stations of the Cross
28th March End of Term 4 at 2pm
16th April Term 5 starts
14th May SATS Week Year 6

ADVANCE NOTICE—Term 4 will finish at 2pm
on Wednesday 28th March for all children.
Please ensure you are able to collect your
child at this earlier time. OOSC will be running
from 2pm onwards as normal. THANK YOU.

Feedback Slip for newsletter (22.03.18)