



Diocese of Clifton

Faith, Hope, Love

# St Joseph's Catholic School Newsletter

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17th October 2022 Term 1-3

From Mrs Howells

Only one week to go until half term. The autumn is flying by but the weather remains on our side at the moment. And how lovely that we are able to welcome you back into school. Thank you so much for all of the parents who are coming in to read with the children at school drop off – it makes such a difference to some of our children and vitally helps to build their fluency.

Parents evening feels like it was a long time ago now, but thank you all for attending in one way or another. That settling in meeting is an important opportunity to share any information about your child that we might not already know and for you to meet their new class teacher. This time we offered you the choice of face to face or Teams (using your child's account). How well did it work for you? I know that in some cases we had one parent face to face and another joined on Teams from work meaning that both parents could be there. Any thoughts on what you think parents evening should be like moving forwards will be gratefully received and help us to shape future meetings.

It has been a busy few weeks. At the start of last week the children enjoyed some workshops where they were learning more about Catholic Social teaching that Mervyn Amesbury from CAFOD came in to deliver. As always, our children listened well, were impeccably behaved.

Our first team went off to a tournament last Wednesday afternoon with Mrs Daly and Mrs Wright – girls football. Most schools sent a Year 6 team but our team was a mixture of Year 6 and 4. The team worked well together and came an incredible 3<sup>rd</sup>. Well done to the team who represented our school so well, Ava, Emily, Sophia, Edith, Tansy, Megan and Grace and thank you to Mrs Daly and Mrs Wright who enabled the team to go.

We welcome Miss Howard to Year 4. She is a student teacher who is doing her PGCE and has come to St Joseph's for her first placement. As you can imagine, our Year 4 have welcomed her into their classroom and she is very impressed with their behaviour and attitudes to learning.

Our Harvest Liturgies took place last Thursday and it was lovely to see so many of you there. The children really enjoyed having a proper audience for the first time in quite a long time. Speaking to an audience is a great way for our children to develop their confidence. Well done and thank you to our children for the beautiful harvest services and of course to the staff team who make it all possible. Thank you to all of the parents who wrote on our comments sheets, if you would like to add your comments about what you saw, please do email them in and we will add them too. Thank you also very much for your harvest donations. It is amazing how well our small school supported the Food Bank in Stroud. We also took the fresh produce down onto the Dursley Food Cart which is run by a group of volunteers called the Dursley Community Food Hub, who are supporting local families <https://fb.watch/gcZIV0gMfr/>

A survey was sent out to you on Friday asking you your thoughts on the prayer life of the school. Please do fill it in if you have a few moments spare. Your views will help us as we plan for the coming year—here's the link <https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/DNXQTJ/> The deadline for this is Friday 21<sup>st</sup> October 2022.

Last week was rounded off well with the first school disco in some time – and what a disco! I don't think I remember that many children being there pre-covid. It was lovely to see so many of the children having such a lovely time. Miss Mason, Mrs Daly and Miss Berry enjoyed it too – thanks to them for coming to support the event. A huge thank you goes to the PTA who arranged the event but also all of the parents who supported them by running stalls on the night- Jenny Lowe, Fran Amigoni, Catherine Pinnock, Joanne Armstrong, Sian Batten, Hayley O'Reilly, Natasha Shingleton, Naomi Watson – without you the disco would not have been possible. Thank you also to the bakers who supplied cakes to be sold on the night. I have already had an email with a list of improvements and we will be asking the School Council what they think too.

We waved goodbye to Year 6 this morning as they head off for the week on residential. I am looking forward to joining them tomorrow morning for a few days and am hoping that the weather stays fine! For the children who are in school, this week is the week of Awe and Wonder, where the children will be learning about Judaism. Do ask your children what they have learnt through assemblies and lessons this week.

On Friday afternoon, Year 4 will be holding the world greatest Coffee Morning, in the afternoon, where they will be raising money for Macmillan. This has been the focus of their REACH activity this term. Whilst this is a Year 4 event, it would be lovely if anyone else is able to support the event by providing cakes for the children to sell. Obviously, they will be selling cakes to the children at school. They have invited our neighbours in the village so are hoping that they will pop in for a cup of tea and a slice of cake too. You too are welcome to come in. The event will be taking place in the Year 6 classroom and will continue for a while after school too for those of you who would like to pop in at school pick up.

Finally, I hope that you all have a lovely half term. Your children have worked hard and deserve a rest.

Dear God,  
Please help to remind us of the message that Saint Teresa taught us,  
help us to remember that we should follow in Jesus' foot-steps,  
and that life is not all about the things we own or perceived opinions.  
Thank you for reminding us that we are all unique and are guided by faith, hope and love.  
Amen



## Class News!



St Mary	Atticus - I am a builder. I built a house for somebody to live in! Coco - I like playing with everything!
St Joseph	Poppy B - I enjoyed doing MOT and literacy. Tristan - I enjoyed doing the Arithmekit sheets in MOT.
St Peter	Amberlee – We changed our biographies from David Attenborough to Mrs Barron! My favourite part is when she told us her favourite thing to play with. It was a pram and a doll! Jake – I enjoyed the Harvest Festival. I loved it when we stood up and sang.
St Patrick	Olive—I have enjoyed doing literacy, especially changing the dragon poem to goblins. Marmaduke—I enjoyed learning about the different lines in maths—vertical, horizontal, parallel and perpendicular.
St George	Nia— I really enjoy literacy because I get to learn new things and improve my writing even more. Rory—I enjoyed times tables on the iPads because I'm getting much faster! This will help me for my times table check.
St Teresa	Roxi- I really enjoyed our pastel art work in REACH time. Alex- I really enjoyed our Harvest Celebration; we practised how to project our voices, so everyone could hear our important message.
St David	Ava - On Wednesday Year 6 girls went to a football tournament at Rednock and we came 3 <sup>rd</sup> out of 7 teams. We had a lot of fun and showed team spirit. Theo - When I did a purple assessment write task about the animals on Pandora (a made-up planet), I needed to use expanded noun phrases and relative clauses which I feel I did well.







[Parent Newsletter –](#)

[Ten:Ten Resources \(tentenresources.co.uk\)](http://Ten:Ten Resources (tentenresources.co.uk))

## CLASS MASS DATES

20th Oct—Year 2

St Dominic's Dursley—children's liturgy takes place every Sunday at 10.30am Mass. Primary school children are invited to go into the parish hall for their own liturgy which includes prayers and activities linked to the week's Gospel. Tea, coffee and cake is also served after this Mass in the parish hall at Café Dominic for all parishioners.

**CONTACT INFORMATION—***To try and save printing and paper costs we will not be sending out Data Sheets but rely on you to inform us of any changes to your child's contacts.*  
*Thank you Admin Team.*