



Diocese of Clifton

Faith, Hope, Love

# St Joseph's Catholic School Newsletter

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23rd January 2023 Term 3-2

From Mrs Howells

From torrential rain to frozen ground in two weeks. Hats and gloves are an essential at the moment! There was great disappointment when I had to let the cross country team know that unfortunately the 3<sup>rd</sup> KLB race had been cancelled due to the heavy rain that was expected. As it was, the rain had stopped by 9am (the race start time) but the ground at KLB was waterlogged which would have made the race conditions unsafe for our runners so sadly, it was the right decision. This leaves us with one more race – Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> February with the later race start time of 10am, there is the mums and dads race too for anyone who is keen followed by the end of season awards at 11am – which we are very much looking forward to.

The children are enjoying their music lessons that are led by specialist teachers. Last year we were asked for permission to record our Year 6 children and Mrs Knight during their lessons, this was because the children listened, followed instructions and engaged so well in their learning. Mrs Knight was asked to record her thoughts of the programme that we have bought for our children. We had no idea that our school was being used to advertise the music service for Gloucestershire! Please follow the link to see last year's Year 6 enjoying their music sessions and for a taste of the experience that our current Year 6 are getting this term

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=k6lrTHT-TbQ>

Having spoken to some of them last week, they were full of enthusiasm about the lesson that day and the learning that will be coming over the term.

Mrs Barron has been working hard with the Chaplaincy team so that they are able to lead liturgical prayer on a Monday morning. With very little practise, they have jumped at the chance and are doing an amazing job. What a great opportunity to develop their confidence and public speaking skills. Something that all of the children will be practising with the up and coming Oracy Competition which has been set as homework next week. Thank you for your support in getting your child/children ready for this. This is a whole new area of competition for St Joseph's but one that Mrs Knight is really looking forward to.

Last week was a busy week of visitors. We had Jenny Violette from Mangotsfield English hub who joined us for the day on Wednesday and Louise White from the Diocese who was in school for the day on Thursday. I always take great pleasure in showing visitors around the school. They are always impressed by the warm and friendly greeting that they get, and are so impressed by the calm purposeful environment and the children's positive attitudes to learning. Everyone working together to be the best that they can be. I can't thank the St Joseph's team enough for all that they do, their commitment and focus on putting the children first.

Last Thursday it was lovely that a reception parent joined the class for Mass at St Joseph's Church. Please do join your child's class if you are able, the children love it when their family comes too.

Hawkes had their house treat on Friday. As you will be aware, the children are given marbles throughout the week for all sorts of things, showing kindness, being helpful, demonstrating beautiful manners, the list is endless, all encouraging the children to **REACH**. The marbles are counted up and converted into house points which are shared and celebrated on a Friday in Celebration assembly. The house with the most house points for the term are announced as the winners and the prize is a House Treat. Hawkes won last term and the captains came up with the idea of an escape room. They asked and Mrs Hamlin delivered! Coming into school on her day off to work with the children the challenge was set. They had great fun, solved the problem, cracked the code and the session was rounded off with a doughnut! I would like to thank Mrs Hamlin for all of the time that she has put into this great treat for the children.

Finally as you are all aware, the MAT consultation is in process. We will be holding a presentation this Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> January at 6pm on Teams. The link will be shared tomorrow. For anyone who is unable to come to the meeting the power point presentation will be available on the school website after the meeting – any questions please do not hesitate to ask. The deadline for responses is midday on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> February. Following this the governors will meet to collate and discuss your views before responding to the Diocese.

In the meantime – don't forget your hats and gloves, it's chilly in Nympsfield!

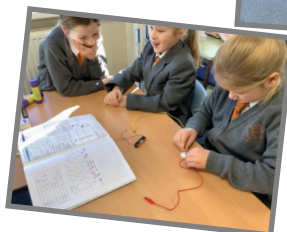
God of light, shine in our hearts so that we can bring joy and hope to other people, especially those who are frightened, sick, lonely or hungry. Amen.



## Class News!



|            |   |
|------------|---|
| St Mary    | Pheobe - I love my buddies!<br>Poppy - We are learning taking away using teddies and buses!   |
| St Joseph  | Teddy—I like playing with my friends. I also like doing maths.<br>Charlotte T - I like literacy because it's fun and we can write stories.  |
| St Peter   | Eliza – I liked it when we did Maths. We are learning to count in 2's to help us with our times tables.<br>Elizabeth – I like Guided Reading. I like doing my sentences for my look, cover, write check.  |
| St Patrick | Henry – I liked it when we were looking at our use the force topic looking at magnets. I really liked playing with my friends!<br>Thomas – I really liked doing maths and playing with my friends too!  |
| St George  | Annabel - I really enjoyed Maths this week because I really feel confident with column addition.<br>Harriet - I loved Religious Education this week because I made links with how Jesus is the Light of the world                                   |
| St Teresa  | Ed – We have been learning about the similarities and differences between Jesus' birth and refugees today.<br>Orla - We made honey spiced oat cakes inspired by the Anglo-Saxons, unfortunately some may have stayed a little too long in the oven. |
| St David   | Sadie – I have enjoyed doing Chaplaincy this week, as we are getting ready for next week's liturgical prayer.<br><br>Lawrence – I have appreciated doing art and getting ready to paint a surreal masterpiece!                                      |



### English and RE

We have been learning about refugees within our RE learning. Here's is a Cinquain poem by Lauren Year 5.

### Refugees

Worried, Frightened  
Begging, hoping, praying  
Waiting for some calm  
War

### CLASS MASS DATES

26<sup>th</sup> Jan - Y6  
2<sup>nd</sup> Feb - Y5  
9<sup>th</sup> Feb - Y6  
16<sup>th</sup> Feb - Y5  
2<sup>nd</sup> March - Y4  
9<sup>th</sup> March - Y3  
16<sup>th</sup> March - Y2  
23<sup>rd</sup> March - Y1  
30<sup>th</sup> March - Reception

**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.**

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.