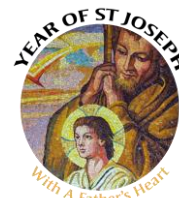




St Joseph's Catholic Primary School
Diocese of Clifton



Inspiring everyone to REACH through
Faith, Hope, Love

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Acting Headteacher: Mrs Clare Howells

Fantastic Log Trail News

Dear parents/carers

2nd February 2022

I have no doubt that if you have seen your child this afternoon you will know what exciting news that they have to tell.

As you are aware, there has been lots of talk about a new log trail for the children at St Joseph's. For just over 12 months now, the PTA have been planning fund raising events with this in mind. During this time the school council, led by Mrs Jenkins, have spent many hours listening to the ideas that their class have had and reporting back to the council during their meetings. They have had the challenging job of setting a specification for the design that will meet as many of the children's ideas and needs as possible. Sadly, this will not be including the hot tub and zip wire!

Having raised so much in such a short space of time, the PTA started to look at grants to boost the funds that they had raised towards the trail. However, in order to apply for grants a final design and costings are required. Leah Farrer, from the PTA, offered to act as a go between in sourcing suitable companies and meeting with Mrs Jenkins to develop a design from the specification. This involved hours and hours of toing and froing from company to council then back again. It soon became clear that the costings were far more than we had imagined. One of the companies that came out to school discussed developing the trail in phases. This suddenly made the project more achievable and thanks to the incredible work of the PTA, along with an OOSC donation, we could nearly afford phase 1. Even after we thought that we had agreed what was required, there was still a lot of communication to ensure that the design was what the council had specified.

We actually received the final design during the first week in January. With the cost of materials due to increase at the end of February we were keen to get the order in. Leah presented the design to the pre-school committee, who kindly agreed to pay for the first section of phase 1 of the trail, enabling us to place the order. I presented the final design to the OOSC committee, I was hoping that they might contribute towards part of the next phase, however, thanks to their incredibly generous donation we were nearly in the position to commission the whole Log Trail. Finally, at the January FGB, I shared the design and costings with the governors who willingly agreed to the final amount of money which meant that the whole project could go ahead.

This afternoon, the school council shared the design that they have been working towards for such a long time with the rest of the school. We were joined by members of the committees who, by supporting this project, will turn the children's dreams into a reality. The order has been placed and work is due to begin the week of the 18th May, weather and materials dependent. The project will be built during school time which means that the children will get the amazing opportunity to watch as it develops. All being well, after May half term the trail installation will be complete and our children will spend summer term 2 exploring it and developing their skills.

As I am writing this letter to you all, I still can't believe that by the summer the children will have this incredible trail to play on and explore. This is all down to the hard work of Mrs Jenkins and Leah Farrer, who have invested an incredible amount of time working with the children and companies to get to the final



design, the PTA for their tireless fundraising events, to the pre-school committee who have funded the first part of phase 1 of the trail, the OOSC whose donation made phase 2 and most of phase three a reality and finally, the school governors who committed the final amount enabling us to secure the whole installation.

ST JOSEPHS CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL
PROPOSED PLAY AREA

Examples of the Pickle Up Sticks 9

Clatter Bridge

Log Walk Weaver

Drop Rope Traverser

Parallel Rope Walk

Log Traverse

Horizontal Monkey Bars

Rope Wall Climber

Pull Up Bars

Tree Stump

Grass

Mound Area

Phase 1

Phase 2

Phase 3

Option 1 - Phase 1
Proposed Features:
1 x Mini Balance Beam with 25 x SaferGrass Mats
1 x Clatter Bridge
10 x Log Steps
1 x Log Walk Weaver
1 x Log Traverser
1 x Parallel Rope Walk
1 x Drop Rope Traverser
12 x Log Posts with Hand & Foot Holds

Option 2
1 x Horizontal Monkey Bars with 25 x SaferGrass Mats
1 x Rope Wall Climber
with 15 x SaferGrass Mats
1 x Pull Up Bars with 10 x SaferGrass Mats

Phase 2
1 x Pickle Up Sticks 9 with 44 x SaferGrass Mats

Drawing No: CYQ2123 C
Drawn By: D05
Scale: 1:200 @ A1
Date: 11-01-22
Page: 1 of 1

Playtime by FAWNS

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I cannot thank all of the people who have been involved in this project (I realise that it's not finished just yet!), for the time and commitment that they have put into doing their very best for the children at St Joseph's Catholic Primary School. I feel extremely fortunate to have such committed and energetic individuals amongst our staff, governors and parents that have given so much to this project. Their hard work will not only benefit the children that are at St Joseph's today but for many years to come.

Yours sincerely

Chowell

Acting Headteacher

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