



Diocese of Clifton  
Faith, Hope, Love

# St Joseph's Catholic School Newsletter

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11th March 2021 Term 4-2



From Mrs Howells



It is great to have all of our children back in school! To see their smiling faces as they ran into school on Monday was the perfect start to the week. They have all settled back in so well. But I imagine our children, who did a brilliant job of remote learning, are feeling rather tired this week.

I would like to thank all of our parents who are supporting us by doing their very best to follow the guidelines of social distancing, avoiding socialising with other parents and wearing masks at school drop off and collection. Several parents have raised concerns that some of our parents are not. A parent was overheard saying the other day 'they can't make us do it' - and they are right, we can't - however we are politely asking all of our parents to support us to stay open by following the Government guidance in order to reduce the spread of the virus. Just to remind you, we are still in lock down, the only thing that has changed is that children have come back to school. I would like to remind you all that the village hall car park is available at school drop off and collection. Whilst there is a small walk back to school there are very few parents who are using it, so it will be much easier to get a parking space!

We have come back to a great week of activities. We have re-introduced the daily mile. Miss Fry and Miss Crisp have organised the school field and worked out that 7 laps = a mile. Each class has been challenged to run around the world! In the classrooms is a map and markers to help them keep track of their progress. As they reach a country they will have a session where they learn a bit about it. They started in England and I am told that all classes should have made it to France by the end of the week...we shall see!

Yesterday Year 6 had a fabulous morning doing a STEM workshop with Claire Lyes from Renishaw (all measures were put in place to ensure that this was a safe visit to school). The children were designing and making modern day defences for a castle. Having researched defences, in castles from the past, they then used this technology and mechanisms with moving parts to protect their castle. The defences ranged from spy cameras to deadly chandeliers! There was a competition and the winners were Oscar and Leo! There is a next stage of the competition to come - the details of which we await.

Today we have had our World Book Day. We are celebrating it a week late so that all of our children could be in the same place to join in the fun, which was definitely the right thing to do. The children looked amazing today (well done all of you on the costumes!) and have had great fun, learning about many authors, guessing which of their friends were reading the story, making marvelous medicines, and KS2 met Michael Morpurgo! Congratulations to the winners from each class Reception - Ella and Ava, Year 1 - Olive, Year 2 - Orla, Year 3 - Rosie, Year 4 - Sadie, Year 5 - Maya, Year 6 - Ashton, who not only looked great but shared with their class some interesting facts about the author of their chosen book! The lucky winners will be coming home with a £10 book voucher tonight - thank you so much to our amazing PTA once again for supporting us by providing these. All of our children will be coming home with a World Book Day token which can be used towards the cost of a book or exchanged for the World Book Day book of the year. I would like to thank all of the staff for the extra effort that they have put in to make the day great fun for their children.

Just a reminder that next Wednesday is a non-uniform day in exchange for an Easter egg or something Easter themed for the class Easter Hamper. The PTA are once again organising an Easter Raffle. Mrs Wand has very kindly agreed to put the hampers together for us- if you haven't already bought your tickets email the PTA and they will be more than happy to help!

Mrs Barron and the Chaplaincy Team are hard at work preparing for our Feast Day with a St Joseph's liturgy. We will be celebrating next Thursday afternoon and are very much looking forward to it and it will be available on the school website for you to share at home too.

## In Your Prayers

We pray for all people who are finding life hard because of poverty or illness, especially coronavirus: that they may find comfort in the love of those around them.

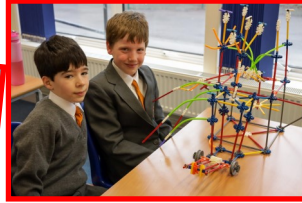


## Class News!



St Mary	<p>Lucy - I like making cards in the art area.</p> <p>Austin - I like playing chasing games with my friends. It makes me feel happy.</p>
St Joseph	<p>Sol - I like this school because everyone is kind and I can learn better with a small class.</p> <p>Emilia— I am excited for our World Book Day game in Year 1!</p>
St Peter	<p>Freya—It's been a great day. I've enjoyed seeing everyone in their costumes. We are writing about Charlie Bucket and we did a voice quiz.</p> <p>Isla—I feel proud because I got a Reach point for retelling in literacy this week. I loved being a mermaid today.</p>
St Patrick	<p>Lauren - I really enjoyed music with Mrs Barron. It was great fun and we used cups to create music.</p> <p>Rosie - I enjoyed using compasses in Geography. It was quite hard to get the red arrow to point at the north and stay there! We learnt a new rhyme to help us with our north, south, east and west. It was Never Eat Shredded Wheat!</p>
St George	<p>Safia - I have really enjoyed making something special for Mothering Sunday. In maths, we have been learning to divide. I have really enjoyed this.</p> <p>George - In Literacy, I have enjoyed the big write this week. We have been learning to use adverbs as openers and relative clauses.</p>
St Teresa	<p>Inca- I'm having such a brilliant time here at St Joseph's. I've learned so much already and I have made some great friends. I am Hermione Granger today and we are having so much fun.</p> <p>Sam— I'm loving being back at school learning about WW2 and Cinquains in poetry. I am so happy to be reunited with my fantastic friends.</p>
St David	<p>Tilly – Today, in Saint David's class, we competed against each other in the STEM workshop and I really enjoyed it. Within the session, we built a castle out of K'NEX – one of the best features on mine was the mechanism we designed for our door. I also enjoy the daily mile and I cannot wait to get to Italy!</p> <p>Kobe – STEM has been one of the most exciting things we've done since we've been back at school. This was because we got to use our imaginations and design our very own castles, equipped with so many different defences.</p>





**CHANGE OF DETAILS**  
Please let the school office know if your child has any new allergies/diet requirements. It is imperative that we have the correct information at school. **THANK YOU.**



Please be considerate to our neighbours when parking at school. Try to use the village hall, it's only a couple of minutes away. We have received calls this week from residents reporting of parents/carers blocking and reversing in driveways. We are all guilty of rushing about and not leaving enough time but please leave early enough to be able to park properly and considerately. **THANK YOU.**

**eSchools**—school communication from next Term will be sent via the eSchools app. From 19th April If you have not downloaded the app you will need to go to the school website to keep up to date with school communication. If you need a reminder of the e-Schools login details or have any questions please email the Admin Team at [admin@st-josephs.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:admin@st-josephs.gloucs.sch.uk). Thank you.

**Parent's Evening 24th/25th March**—75% of parents/carers have booked appointments via eSchools—thank you. The meetings will be via Teams as in October last year. You will use your child/ren's Teams logins for this.

*Governors would like to thank those parents who responded to our remote learning survey before half term. We really value your honest feedback, especially your comments, as it helps us to understand how well you feel the school is supporting your child/ren during these very challenging times and enables us to consider whether there are areas on which the school can improve. I was pleased to be able to join some lessons remotely, to see how lessons are being delivered and it was evident, especially for our youngest pupils, that without your tremendous support and encouragement at home, it would have made it very difficult for our teaching and support staff to successfully delivery the core curriculum.*  
**Gabriella Tiley, Co-Chair.**

