



Diocese of Clifton

Faith, Hope, Love

St Joseph's Catholic School Newsletter

Tel/Fax: 01453 860311 Term 2-3

admin@st-josephs.gloucs.sch.uk

www.st-josephs-nympsfield.com



from Mrs Howells

Can you believe it is the first of December already? We started our advent last week with Mrs Barron's Chaplaincy Team leading us through an afternoon of quiet reflection. If you have watched it on the school website, I am sure that you will agree an incredible amount of work was put in by all to produce such a beautifully staged delivery by the children. Mrs Barron's son, Jack even came in to help. Well done to all of the children who took part and huge thank you to Mrs Barron for her hard work, commitment, enthusiasm in ensuring that the children get such great opportunities to shine. Year 6 have been lucky enough to have two visits in the last 2 weeks! Last Friday 2 councillors joined St David's class to talk about their roles and to answer their questions. Both Mrs Knight and myself were really impressed by the questions that the children prepared beforehand. The children had a great afternoon and learnt a great deal. Cllr Wendy Thomas, Dursley Division and Cllr Steve Robinson County Councillor for the Parishes of Amberley, Horsley, Kings Stanley, Nailsworth and Woodchester left saying "we came away from the session absolutely inspired by your students! They were so engaged, thoughtful and asked really good questions"..." They were so bright and I felt uplifted by their interest and questions."

This week they were visited by a blood nurse to support their science learning, who left us equally impressed. Well done Year 6, what a fabulous job you have done in representing our school and what a great role model you are to the rest of the school! Thank you also to Mrs Knight for all that she is doing to make learning fun and engaging for her class.

Practise is well underway for the KS1 Nativity, Miss Jones is hoping that it will be ready for recording next week. KS2 are also practising for their outdoor carol concert - we are praying for fine weather. The concert is planned for Tuesday 14th December at 6pm. Because of the amount of work that is put into this event, we do like all of the children to come. If your child is not able to make it please can you let the school office know and we will make sure that your child is not given a reading, solo or other significant part. The PTA will be joining us on the night and providing hot drinks, mulled wine and mince pies to keep you warm!

Non uniform day yesterday brought in a great selection for the Christmas Hampers that will be put together once again next week by Mrs Wand. Thank you for all of the donations as soon as they are made we'll send you some pictures!

Thank you to all of you who supported the PTA hot drink and cakes event after school - don't forget the regular Thursday cake raffle. And, we would like to thank the PTA for all the events they have organised this term and providing us with a Christmas tree in the school hall.

The Chaplaincy Team have been busy again. To mark the beginning of advent the team will be visiting each class in the morning with an 'act of kindness'. The acts will be taken from the tree next to the advent display in the Reception area. Each class has been given an advent book where they will stick their act of kindness. On this page children are asked to write when they have done an act of kindness or if they have seen anyone showing/doing an act of kindness. Thank you to Mr Barron for his act of kindness in making the wonderful wooden tree.

I hope that you have all sent in your child's Christmas dinner orders, Caren, our cook needs to ensure that her order for the meat and vegetables is placed this Friday. We are so impressed with the school dinners this year, that all of the staff will be joining the children this year for Christmas dinner!

Quick Log trail update.....the PTA have been an incredible support in working with companies, feeding back to the School Council where Mrs Jenkins has worked hard to ensure that the children's ideas are shared whilst keeping them realistic. She did find herself squashing dreams when she explained that a jacuzzi and zip wire were probably not a possibility! However, nearly a year on and the PTA along with a donation from OOSC have raised £5,550 - which is amazing considering this has all been throughout the pandemic. Renishaw have also donated £500 to the appeal. We feel that we are coming to a final design and hope it will be with us before Christmas. The plan is to work towards a staged instalment, with the money raised so far, we think we are nearly able to purchase the first phase. As soon as we have designs and figures we will be sharing it with the School Council in the first instance, then the whole school, and of course you all, so that they can see what we have been working for.

To that end - Film Night this Friday, if you haven't already booked your child's place for their chosen festive film then please do. All money raised from the Christmas events (film night, raffle, KS2 carol concert) will go towards the log trail project to give the funds a bit of a Christmas boost. Finally, if you are free next Wednesday at 8pm it would be great to see you at the virtual OOSC AGM. If you would like to attend the meeting, please contact: secretaryoosc.st.josephs@gmail.com.

Let Us Prayer

Christ, come into our world of darkness
Light up our lives with your coming.
Fulfil all our longings with the joy of your birth
Strengthen our resolve to work for change in our world
And to share the hope of your birth that each Advent brings.
Amen.

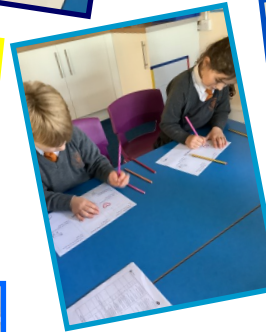
Sr Bridgetta Rooney/CAFOD



Class News!



St Mary	Tristan: I liked the book about baby Jesus. Isabella: I made a gingerbread picture!
St Joseph	Pearl: I like maths Ilithyia: I like all of my friends.
St Peter	Sol: We've been decorating our Christmas tree in the classroom. I helped Finlay decorate with the baubles. Gilbert: We've been practising our Grammar. We've been using if, when and because to improve our sentences.
St Patrick	Nia: I am enjoying learning about rocks. Some are sedimentary, some are igneous and some are metamorphic. Harriet: I really enjoyed writing about how to wash a woolly mammoth. It was funny and it made me laugh.
St George	Orla: I like computing because we get to design our own game and practise our times tables. Lauren: I really enjoyed our Advent Retreat because it brought me closer to God.
St Teresa	Beatrice and Autumn: We have enjoyed doing a Big Write in literacy, we wrote a persuasive letter on deforestation. Also, we have enjoyed the advent retreat, which the Chaplaincy planned for us. Theo and Alfie: In topic we have been learning about Vikings and Anglo-Saxon Gods. Odin is one of the Gods they believed in and his power is knowledge and war.
St David	Jack: This last week has been extremely fun as we have had tournaments for netball in PE and our team names had to be something Christmas related. We also had a nurse come in who taught us all about the heart and blood. We had two other visitors come in who were councillors and told us a lot about their jobs and what they had to do every day which was really interesting. Inca: We got to finish our Room 101 piece in English. I loved that because I love writing and we improved our spellings and punctuation, and this helped because now I know more and more spellings that I didn't know about. This took a long time but at the end it was my favourite lesson of the week.



Just a reminder dogs should not be brought onto the school playground/field. If you need to bring your dog to school for pick up/collection please ensure it is on a lead and you stand behind the green metal fence. Thank you for your cooperation.

Also the log trial is out of bounds please do not let any child/ren play or go near it. Thank you.

Mrs Smee (parent and OOSC Chair) lives in Dursley—postcode GL11 5RQ, opposite Indoor Outdoor and is holding a Christmas event there on 17th December with little Christmas stalls, where a percentage of the takings will be donated to the log trail fundraising. She also has a tin outside her house where she is asking for donations for the log trial from families who come to see the wonderful light display. She has raised £22 so far! Thank you Smee Family



Mrs Harris, our School Finance Officer is retiring at the end of term. Tracey has been with us since March 2017 and will be greatly missed.

We welcome Mrs Meek to the St Joseph's family as the new Finance Officer. Mrs Meek is working part time until the new year.