



Diocese of Clifton

Faith, Hope, Love

St Joseph's Catholic School Newsletter

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18th November 2021 Term 2-2

From Mrs Howells

We are at the end of week three, before you know it, it will be Christmas!

Saturday 6th November, we enjoyed the amazing PTA firework display here at school. There were so many people involved in making the evening such a great success. Becky Maltby's dad and uncle for providing and performing the firework display; for those of you who managed to join us I was amazed that they managed to get them to go up straight despite the wind! Other members of her family who did the catering. Becky & Dave Smith (Henry's parents) for coming along and donating the tea, coffee and hot chocolate, the coffee was amazing! The Pre-School who sold much needed sweets on the night... what a great event and what an amazing amount that they made.

Last week, the Eco Committee delivered an assembly to the school about Cop 26 and challenged the rest of the school to write a promise that they would like the world leaders to make to help tackle climate change and look after our planet. All of the children wrote their promise on a leaf, which is being collated together by Mrs Piper.

On 11th November our Year 6's was joined by Reception for their remembrance service. Unfortunately, we were all on TEAMS but our Year 6 and Reception parents weren't! We are really sorry that you appeared to be in a completely different meeting to us. Our tech support is looking into this. However, Mrs Hamlin got an iPad and quickly recorded the service for you. It's not the same as being there and different to a recording but captured the moment none the less. There is a remembrance tab on the website if you would like to take a look, you will also find pictures of the Year 6's working with their buddies to make their lanterns. I must thank Mrs Knight, Mrs Hamlin, Ms Busby, Miss Berry and Mrs Hill for all of their hard work in putting their lovely service together for us to enjoy.

Last Thursday, at St Joseph's, was a busy one. We had Louise White, the RE and Catholicity Adviser for Clifton Diocese spend the day with us. We visited all of the classrooms to see how well the children are understanding God Matters. We had such a lovely day and were so impressed with all of our children; their great attitudes to learning and for demonstrating that they know so much! We were also delighted that while she was here she performed a service and commissioned Mrs Barron's new Chaplaincy Team. Louise left at the end of a very long day saying that she felt like part of our St Joseph's school family. I would like to thank all of our staff who are working incredibly hard to ensure that each and every child gets the opportunity to be the best that they can be.

This week has been our 'act of kindness' week. The children across the school have taken part in activities and given thought to what they can do in addition to their normal kind selves. They have all made gratitude beads. When St Therese was a little girl, she made herself a set of beads to remind herself to be kind at least 10 times a day...our children have made these to carry with them and count their acts of kindness. They have also made a kindness quilt, written acrostic poems about friendship and taken part in compassion and mindfulness sessions.

Can I please remind you that the wall running into school is a dry stone wall and should not be walked on and over Also, please can you make sure that your little ones aren't playing on the carpark retaining wall that leads to the school office. The wood that is retaining the soil has seen better days and we are concerned that they might hurt themselves as well as scattering the gravel onto the path.

We have made a decision about Christmas and what we are going to do rather than wait in the hope of the easing of restrictions which will give us little time to prepare anyway. We have decided to record the KS1 Nativity which will be available on the school website and for KS2, we are planning an outdoor carol concert on the playground - we are praying for a dry night! Look out for more information nearer the time.

Finally, the PTA will be serving hot drinks and cake in the playground after school on Friday, please do remember to come along and support them, all of their funds raised are spent on our children.

Finally, the panto is booked in for 18th December. Thank you to all of the parents who have already paid their contribution towards the cost. If you have not yet paid, just a quick reminder that the deadline for this 1st December.

In Your Prayers

We pray for peace in our world and an end to war.



Class News!



St Mary	Freya - We are sending pictures and writing to the snowman. Finley - I like playing with the trains.
St Joseph	Jake - I like phonics. James - I like playing with Elliot and I like P.E
St Peter	Olive - I like gardening because we planted our daffodil bulbs. We had to leave a gap from each bulb so that they could grow. Emilia - I've enjoyed God Matters this week. We have been learning about the different times of the liturgical year and what colours are for each.
St Patrick	Jed - I have enjoyed learning about simple and compound sentences. I have also enjoyed hearing the new recommendations from school council. Charlotte - I have really enjoyed maths, learning about 3x, 4x and 8x tables. I enjoyed the homework Mrs Hobbs set to practise them, especially the game 'Hit the Button.'
St George	Spencer - I have enjoyed learning Roman Numerals in MOT making our own Non-Chronological reports in Literacy. Lauren - I have enjoyed the One Kind Words activities we have been doing this week in the afternoon. I have really liked doing more work on Roman Numerals and getting outside.
St Teresa	Alfie - I really enjoyed creating our class blog and also all our work on cubes! Jasmine - I really enjoyed joining in with our dance lesson!
St David	Lola - This week I have enjoyed our Health and Wellbeing sessions because we got to make kindness pony beads. Last week, I really enjoyed remembrance too because we got to make candles with our buddies and we spent quite a lot of time with them. Harvey R - I enjoyed History because we were learning about Anglo Saxon times. We had a group called the Saxons, a modern-day group and the jury group. We would get asked a question and the Saxon group would say what would happen about it and the modern-day group would say their thoughts, and then the jury had to choose - modern day won! This shows that nowadays it's more fair than the Anglo Saxon times.

PTA SECOND HAND UNIFORM

Thank you for the donations received so far. For the time being the PTA cannot accept any more, it has quite a bit to sort through and resell for the time being.

Most of the donations received have been in good condition but unfortunately some items have been torn, holey and stained. This has meant PTA members have had to dispose of these items at local recycling centres/clothes banks.

In future the PTA can only accept school logo uniform in excellent condition. No foot-wear please. MANY THANKS.

Christmas lunch Tuesday 14th December 2021—paper order forms were sent home earlier in the week. Please ensure the form is returned by 30th November at the very latest. If you do not return the form we presume your child will bring a packed lunch on the day. THANK YOU.



Mrs Freckleton's new work mobile is 07562 981017.



Time to start School? If you have a child born between **1 September 2017 and 31 August 2018**, then **now** is the time to apply for a place at our school for admission from **September 2022** onwards. You must complete an application form that is available from the school admissions team of Gloucestershire County Council. Please ensure you apply by the closing date of **15 January 2022**. If your child is Catholic, you must also provide a copy of the baptism certificate to the school by this date.