



Diocese of Clifton

Faith, Hope, Love

# St Joseph's Catholic School Newsletter

Tel/Fax: 01453 860311

[admin@st-josephs.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:admin@st-josephs.gloucs.sch.uk)

[www.st-josephs-nympsfield.com](http://www.st-josephs-nympsfield.com)



26th November 2020 Term 2-2

From Mrs Howells



We are at the end of November already....heading into advent! We are keeping our fingers crossed and count our blessings as we continue to remain fully open. Thank you all for wearing masks, socially distancing, avoiding conversations with other adults and using the guidance that we have shared with you in order to keep our school safe and open to our children. Last week KS2 celebrated the commissioning of our Chaplaincy team. The service was pre-recorded by the diocese and at certain points the chaplaincy children joined in. It was obviously not the same for the children, who would normally have gone to Clifton Cathedral, but it was lovely that they were able to share this special service with their class and the rest of KS2. I would like to thank Mrs Barron for her hard work in preparing her new team (and their class teachers) for this special occasion. This service can be seen by all under Collective Worship on the school website. We have had a few more children who have been remote learning due to self-isolation. So far three of our members of staff have supported children's learning at home. Thank you to our supportive families who have given us feedback which is enabling us to develop the learning that we are offering along with a code of conduct. We will share more about this with you soon.

We now have an eco-committee! Mrs Piper is delighted to launch the new committee by getting the whole school to join the woodland trust in their Big Climate Fightback campaign. 30 saplings have been delivered and bubble planting will begin soon! The committee members are; Reception - Ginny Clements, Year 1 - Olive Hampshire, Year 2 - Charlotte Daly, Year 3 - Claude Gane, Year 4 - Nia Hamlin, Year 5 - Jack Brown and Year 6 - Molly Bradley - Steel, Tilly Madden, Leo Lai.

Mandy Baker has produced her final reflection for lockdown which can be found on our school website under the collective worship tab. She has also produced a special reflection for our school for the start of Advent. We will share this with the children next Monday, then add it to the website to share with you too. We are so lucky to have such amazing support for our school.

The PTA continue to work hard for our school in new and creative ways. We have lots of hampers in school. Thank you for all of your generous contributions - they will look amazing when they are wrapped. Obviously selling tickets is more of a challenge than usual. Please do all that you can to support the sale of them, there are some fabulous prizes to be won. There will be no big Christmas tree in the hall this year - but not to worry, the PTA have provided trees for the classrooms! Staff and governors can't thank this committed committee enough for all that they do to support us. We would also like to thank Mr and Mrs Smee for the beautiful Christmas tree, pot and lights that they have donated to us this year. It has pride of place in the front entrance. It's a live tree so we are planning to pot it up and watch it grow!

It's beginning to feel a lot like Christmas..... and with that in mind Miss Browning was so keen for the school not to miss out on the traditional pantomime visit that she found Jack and the Beanstalk on line... Oh no she didn't, Oh yes she did! We hope that you will support this bit of Christmas fun for the children.

A virtual tour of the school has been added to the website alongside our virtual open day, so do have a look if you have not already it will give you the opportunity to have a look at your child/children's classroom this year. We celebrated our Advent Retreat yesterday afternoon. Our Chaplaincy team did an amazing job of leading the school through some thought provoking messages about the weeks to come. The afternoon was different though peaceful and respectful as the children listened to the messages, considered their questions and gave their responses. The Team led with such confidence, we were proud of them all.

Finally, we are incredibly proud to have made it into the Punchline this week because we are in the Sunday Times Top 250 Primary State schools in England! We are ranked 138. The Times surveyed 15,000 schools in compiling their list. Credit goes to the dedicated team that we have at St Joseph's, who support our children to REACH in all that they do to be the 'Best that they can Be'. If you haven't seen the article and would like to please see the link below. <https://www.punchline-gloucester.com/searchresult/stonehouse-schools-make-sunday-times-top-primary-lists-hopelands-preparatory-st-josephs-catholic-pri>

## In Your Prayers

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



## Class News!



St Mary	Jake - I like playing with the sand.  Julia - I enjoy building houses with the building bricks.
St Joseph	Finlay - I like practising for the Nativity Isaac - I am so clever doing my flashcards!
St Peter	Theo: I liked Maths this week because we got to learn about our tens and ones. At playtimes, I've been playing with Grace. All of the Year 2's play a game where you have to catch the dogs. Tansy: We had the Advent Retreat and I like doing all of the activities. It is important that we prepare for Christmas by putting up our Christmas trees.
St Patrick	Roxi - I love maths this week because it was fun but also quite challenging.  Raffy - I loved topic this week because we observed rocks which was really interesting.
St George	Sadie - This week, I have enjoyed retelling the story of King Midas and the Golden Touch.  Xavier - In maths, we have been learning to add four-digit numbers. I have made it to the 'secure it' questions this week.
St Teresa	Daisy - I am enjoying the Viking topic which is well underway in class 5. I have also been enjoying literacy where we have been learning how to use dialogue to advance the action! I can't wait to start learning our Christmas carols!  Harvey R - I'm really enjoying maths because we are learning in a way that helps me to understand, and Miss Johnson makes it fun. I am really enjoying the calm atmosphere in our classroom.
St David	Molly—I really love our crime and punishment topic with Miss Fry. It was fun yesterday as we had to take our fingerprints and we imagined we were criminals! Elsa—I've really enjoyed our DEAR time book we are reading called 'Holes'. It's a 'cliff hanger' book, you never know what's going to happen next!

**DATA SHEETS**—We are limiting the amount of paper which is sent home at the moment so Data Sheets will not be sent home this year. Please let the Admin Team know if you change any of your personal contact details. If you are not receiving any school emails/text messages, again please let the Admin Team know. **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. Thank you.



Christmas Jumper Day will be on Friday 18th December—please donate a minimum of £1.00 on the day. All proceeds will go to Save the Children. Thank you for your support.



*eSchools*—we are moving across to using our current website provider *eSchools* to communicate with parents/carers in the future. Individual log ins will be sent to you all next week to download the *eSchools* App. We encourage you all to download and use this app. Any prob

