



Diocese of Clifton

Faith, Hope, Love

St Joseph's Catholic School Newsletter

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15th October 2021 Term 1-3

From Mrs Howells

Only one week to go until half term! It has been a really busy last two weeks. The children and staff worked really hard to produce their Harvest celebrations - thank you all for your kind and generous donations. The tinned food all went to Stroud Food Bank and the fresh fruit went to the Paganhill Community Group who work with local people to put on a wide range of activities for all ages in The Octagon Community Hub. One of the things that they do is share good food with good neighbours. They understand that it can sometimes be tough to buy and cook good, healthy food. That's why they share great food that would otherwise be heading for landfill with their neighbours. Their food is free, but they ask people to consider making a donation to the Group to help it keep going. Thank you for helping us to support these two worthy causes. It was lovely to meet some of our reception parents at the phonics evening a couple of weeks ago, thank you to those parents who came, we hope that you found it useful and thank you to Miss Berry for delivering the evening.

Last Friday was an amazing day for many of our children. St David's, St Theresa and St Peter's class all had an extra exciting experience with a visit from Jonathan's Jungle. The children were so excited when they were sharing their favourite animals with me. Even some of the teachers held the creatures! Thank you to Mrs Knight for arranging this fun and educational visit for the children. The cake raffle is back! And what a fabulous cake and truffles for the first draw! The tickets will be sold in the playground by year 6 children after school on a Thursday. Please support the PTA by buying a ticket.. you have to be in it to win it.. and I have to say that the Biscoff truffles last week were absolutely delicious. The week ended off nicely with our first film night. Thank you so much to our great team who gave up their Friday night to enable this even to happen and especially for the shiny door streamers and tickets for entry...thoughtful touches that make a huge difference to the children.

This week has been eventful, confirmed positive Covid cases and parents evening - thank goodness they were virtual! I hope that you enjoyed meeting your child's class teacher, if you have not had a chance to already, and seeing how well they have settled into the new school year. I'm sorry that we have had to postpone the Year 4 meetings, we will reschedule them for after half term.

Looking ahead to next week, on Thursday after school the PTA will be holding a hot drinks and cake sale in the playground after school. Please support their efforts to raise invaluable funds that enhances our children's educational experiences.

Mass is back - it is lovely to be able to attend class Mass on a Thursday again in our beautiful Church. Some of our Year 6 have taken up the role of Alter servers and Yesterday, Theo read the first reading. Thank you St Theresa's class, it was a pleasure to join you.

Finally - look at what Mrs Daly, year 6 and year 4 have achieved (before and after photos on page 2!) They have worked their socks off on what was an over grown muddle -look at it now. Raised beds ready for planting. We are so proud of the way that they have worked and the effort that they have put in - certainly being the best that they can be. A huge thank you also goes to Mr Armstrong who not only provided some compost but raked the bed over too.

In Your Prayers

We pray for those who work in schools that they may be blessed with the gifts of the Holy Spirit.



Class News!



St Mary	Alfred - I made a house for the cars! Roman - I like drawing flowers.
St Joseph	Ginny—"I enjoy playing with my friends" "I like mental maths" Oliver—"I enjoy playing with Elliot and Finley" "I like P.E"
St Peter	Marmaduke - Jonathon came to visit. We got to hold a snake. My favourite was the lizard called Tiny. Isabelle - I like doing lots of work. My favourite is MOT because it's really fun.
St Patrick	Megan - I have been enjoying Maths because a lot of us have been getting onto Secure it and Deepen it which makes me feel good. Maths is my favourite subject! Kacper - I like Computing because we go on Scratch.
St George	Jacob— I have enjoyed guided reading this week, looking at a non-fiction text about canoeing adventures, I loved learning that beavers teeth never stop growing! Claude— I have liked being back with all my friends at playtime, and I have been enjoying our Maths lessons where we have been rounding up and learning about equilateral and isosceles triangles.
St Teresa	Emily— I enjoyed using cohesion and parenthesis in our learning making my writing even better. Florence - This week we have learnt about trust and being kind to each other. This was for our learning about faith.
St David	Jonathan's Jungle: Hamish - 'It was really outstanding to see all the animals personally, and to meet creatures individually. It was great to learn facts about each of them - I adored all of them!' Harvey R - 'It was amazing holding Tango because he was very heavy yet soft like a tube. It was also interesting to learn that 'Tiny' is the largest gecko species on the planet'.

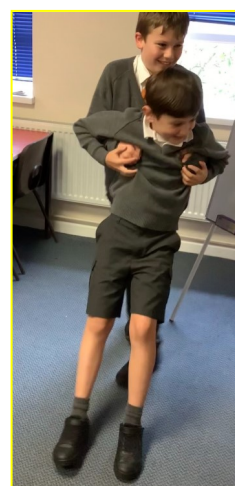
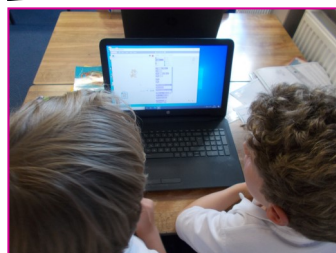
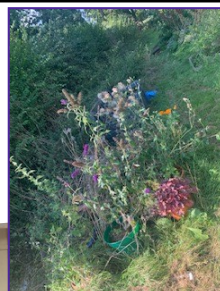
**JONATHAN'S JUNGLE ROADSHOW—FRI 8TH OCTOBER
YEARS 2, 5 AND 6**

The children had a great time—see the pictures below. Thanks for your support with this. If you have not paid yet, it's not too late—please do so via Parentpay. Thank you..



**Thank you to Dr Armstrong who delivered much needed manure to the beds in the gardening area.
Thank you so much!**

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.



Jet is back reading with the children—yippee!

