



St. John's RC Primary School

Inspired by the Holy Spirit and guided by the teaching of Jesus

Love one another, as I have loved you

Newsletter: Issue 15

Friday 26th January 2024

Head's News...

Another action-packed week has zoomed by in the blink of an eye, and what a fantastic week it has been. I would like, first and foremost, to remind the parents who will be attending our First Holy Communion meeting on Wednesday 7th February 2024. It will be such a delight to welcome you all into the school. It will be such a lovely opportunity to share this most blessed occasion. If you have a child that has not made their First Holy Communion, and they have been baptised, please let me know so that we can include them and prepare them to receive the Sacrament.

Our whole school mass on Thursday for the feast of St Paul was a beautiful celebration of mass. The children were so reverent, respectful and prayerful, so much so that Father Philip said that they should all have an extra break on Thursday afternoon. I am so proud of the children and staff here at St John's.

We are noticing a slip in standards of children wearing school uniform. Children should come to school in navy skirt, pinafore or trousers, light blue reverend collar blouse, navy cardigan with logo, navy socks or tights or grey trousers, light blue shirt, long or short-sleeved, navy Jumper with school logo, school tie, black indoor shoes and black outdoor shoes (**not trainers**). We have some jumpers and cardigans in school that we are recycling (as we are a sustainable school), so please do ask us for these. Please can you help us to ensure our children are following the uniform policy – this is on the website.

Attendance

Our overall attendance this week as a school is **95.5%**, our target is a minimum of **97.5%** - please do send children in for every learning opportunity. Our attendance is getting better so let's keep it going, every child should be in school for every learning opportunity.

Attendance to 19 th January 2024 (we always report a week behind)			
EYFS	95.8%	Year One	90.4%
Year Two	94.7%	Year Three	98.7%
Year Four	98.8%	Year Five	98.2%
Year Six	95.1%	Whole School	93.5%

Stars of the Week

Congratulations to the following pupils who received awards this week:

EYFS: Parker and Sefania

Year 1: Theo, Joseph, Margaret

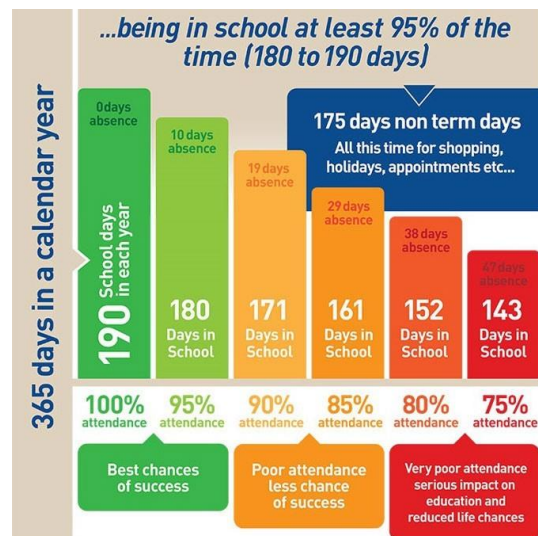
Year 2: Rowan, Helenka, Matthew

Year 3: Jack, Mariam, Charleigh

Year 4: Marta, Stasiu, Raphaela

Year 5: Olivier, Whole Class, Arianne

Year 6: Amel, Nathalie, Noah



House Points

Earth: 365 (692)

Water: 362 (705)

Air: 408 (747)

Fire: 365 (713)

Teacher

It's important to have good teachers. Parents are the first and foremost educators of their own children – other family members and friends can also teach about what really matters in life. But who can really teach us about the best way to live?

Jesus stood out as a teacher because he taught with authority and power. In this Sunday's Gospel, Jesus demonstrates this through the amazing healing of the man in the synagogue.

Jesus' teachings expose the things that weaken us – setting free all those who listen to him. The whole of Jesus' life was a continual teaching. His teaching is calm and wise, powerful but gentle, and enriches family life.



Birthdays

An important message about birthdays!!!

Children can come into school in non-uniform on their birthday. This is so wonderful as everybody within our school community who sees them will know that it is their special day. If their birthday falls on a weekend, on PE day or within a school holiday the child may come in non-uniform on the Friday before or the Monday afterwards.

This week we celebrate:

Cailean, Zahfyre, Aben and Stefan
22nd January

Amayah – 25th January

Ren and Elliott – 26th January

Matthew and Rocco – 27th January



Safeguarding

If you have concerns that a child may be in immediate danger, call the police on 999 or MASH on 0345 050 7666.

If you have safeguarding concerns about a child or family, please do not hesitate to contact us on 01295 263740 and ask to speak to a member of the safeguarding team. Alternatively, you can email our DSL (Maureen Collier) directly:

office.3350@st-johns-banbury.oxon.sch.uk

Early Years Class News

In Early Years we are thinking about all the things we are thankful for (friends, family and toys generally.) Reception are very busy exploring the amount of 5 through the rhyme 5 Little Speckled Frogs which we have been singing, representing with blocks and fingers and acting it out.



Year One had a fantastic morning at BGN multi-skills. They all worked incredibly hard, and all thoroughly enjoyed the morning. The children all showed respect to the sports leaders and enjoyed a range of different activities. They were a credit to St John's.

Year One Class News



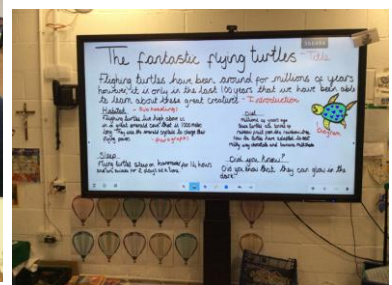
Year Two Class News

In P.E Year Two have been continuing with learning how to have control over their bodies. This has included breathing in their Yoga lesson and controlling their legs and feet for ball skills. Our Yoga poses continue with an animal theme based on the continent of Africa and our ball skills have focused on foot work and controlling a ball in a small space. We also played a fun game with the cones seeing how quick our reaction skills are. Great fun!



This week in English Year Three have been looking at non-chronological reports. We have been looking at the film unit 'Once in a lifetime' and coming up with some fantastic ideas about flying turtles. It has been brilliant to see the children being so creative with their work! Keep it up Year Three.

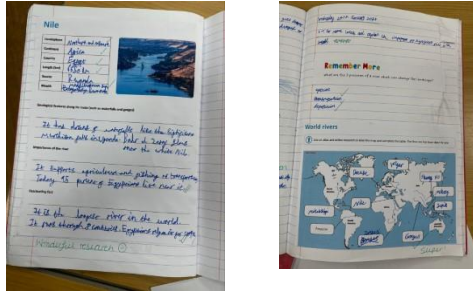
Year Three Class News



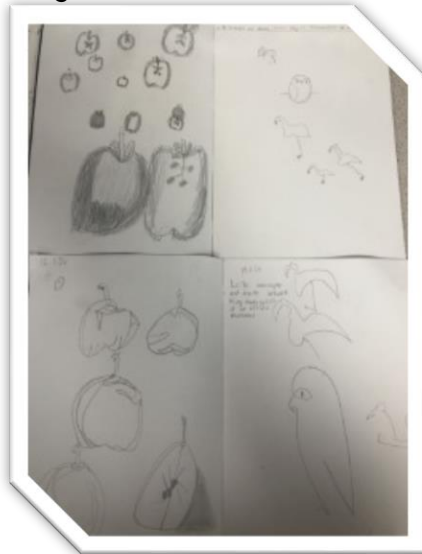
Year Four Class News

🏔️ MISTY MOUNTAIN, WINDING RIVER 🏔️

Year Four have dived right into our Geography topic this term. We have previously explored the journey of a river and how erosion, transportation and deposition can form waterfalls, meanders, deltas, and floodplains. This week, the children have used world maps to identify some significant rivers in our world and researched facts of the River Nile. We found out that the River Nile is the longest river in the world and how Egyptians rely on the minerals to grow their crops! Along the journey of the River Nile, there are small waterfalls too! Some fantastic research done 👍



In our art lessons over the recent weeks, we have been learning the technique of drawing with one continuous line. We have been working hard with this concept - not as easy as you may think! This has led us to learn about the artist Pablo Picasso, known for his use of continuous lines. We've tried to use Picasso's style and artwork to recreate our own too! Have a go yourselves!



Year Five Class News

Year Six Class News

This week Year Six have been busy sitting mock SATs papers as they continue to prepare for their upcoming exams in May. They worked really hard to stay calm and apply all of their learning so far - well done Year Six! We have also continued to share our child-led collective worships. This week our theme was "Forgiveness- beginning again". The children shared the parable of the Prodigal Son and then the class took time to identify how forgiveness is relevant in their own lives.



St. John's RC Primary School

Inspired by the Holy Spirit and guided by the teaching of Jesus

Key Dates

8 th January 2024	Spring Term begins
10 th January 2024	Reception Open Morning
11 th January 2024	Wizard of Oz Trip
11 th January 2024	Whole School Mass – The Epiphany 10.30am
15 th January 2024	Year Six SATs meeting for parents – Year Six class at 3.30pm
25 th January 2024	Year One to Blessed George Napier for Multi Skills
2 nd February 2024	Number Day
4 th February 2024	Choir to lead singing at St John the Evangelist at 11.15am Mass
7 th February 2024	First Holy Communion Meeting for Parents in Year Three classroom at 3.30pm
9 th February 2024	Valentines Disco led by the PTFA EYFS and KS1 4.30pm – 5.30pm KS2 6.00pm – 7.00pm
9 th February 2024	School closes for half term
19 th February 2024	Spring Two term begins 8.45am
23 rd February 2024	Year Five Safety Workshop
8 th March 2024	World Book Day and Author Visit
19 th March 2024	Parents Evening 2.30pm – 7.00pm
28 th March 2024	School Closes for Easter Holidays at 3.20pm
15 th April 2024	Summer Term Begins at 8.45am

As a Catholic School in the Archdiocese of Birmingham, we have embraced the Catholic Schools' Pupil Profile, which teaches the children a set of eight pairs of virtues to be internalised and cultivated - enabling them to grow in wholeness as fully rounded individuals in the image of God. This half term we are: **Compassionate and Loving**

Compassionate: We are compassionate when we feel sympathy and concern for other people who are in difficulty, whether they are near to us or far away. **Loving:** We are loving when we show our sympathy and concern for other people by our actions and by our words.

A Prayer of compassion (St Teresa of Calcutta)

Lord, open our eyes that we may see you in our brothers and sisters. Lord, open our ears that we may hear the cries of the hungry, the cold, the frightened, the oppressed. Lord, open our hearts that we may love each other as you love us. Renew in us your spirit. Lord, free us and make us one.

Amen

