



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 20
Friday 8th March 2024

Head's News...

What an absolutely amazing World Book day we have had today!!! A huge amount of thanks, as always go out to the superb team we have here, but special thanks must go to Miss Page. Without her dedication and organisation, none of this would be possible. I cannot wait to share our whole school Octopus in the Sink story with you all.

Don't forget that the next two Friday's are all about us 'giving more' as part of our fund raising for our Lenten charities: Father Hudson and the Katherine House Hospice.

Date	Class	What is needed
Friday 15 th March 2024	All Classes	Break the Rules 50p payable per rule break – a maximum limit of £2.50 per child to be imposed
Friday 22 nd March 2024	Led by the Growing In Faith Together Team	Cake sales and Crazy Hair Day 50p per cake – cakes (no nuts please) to be brought in by all children and Year Three will sell them. How crazy can you make your hair?

Attendance

We endeavour to provide an environment where all pupils feel valued and welcome. Everything we do is based on our core Gospel values of compassion, respect, truth, service, forgiveness.

For a child to reach their full educational achievement, a high level of school attendance is essential. We will consistently work towards a goal of 100% attendance for all children. Of course, all students can become ill or need to miss school for another reason at some point, but our expectation is that all students will achieve at least 97% attendance each year. It is very important therefore that you make sure that your child attends regularly and our Attendance Policy sets out how together we will achieve this.

Our overall attendance this week as a school is **92%**, 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 1st March 2024 (we always report a week behind)

EYFS	93%	Year One	89.9%
Year Two	94%	Year Three	91.7%
Year Four	96.8%	Year Five	88.2%
Year Six	94.3%	Whole School	92%

Stars of the Week

Congratulations to the following pupils who received awards this week:

EYFS: Jessica and Litta

Year 1: Sofia, Reina, Jesse

Year 2: Evelyn, Jackson, Uzundu

Year 3: Jack, Charleigh, Mollie and Eli C

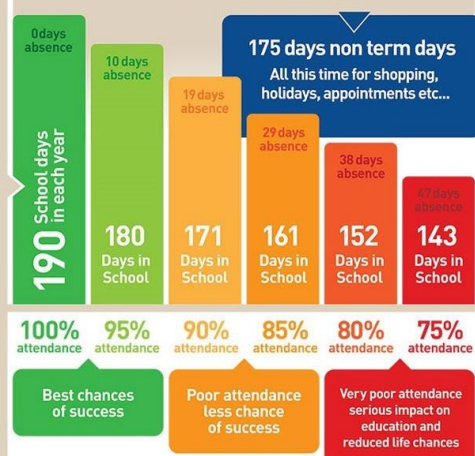
Year 4: Amelia, Macey Rae, Chidindu

Year 5: Jacob D, Mourad, Elaina

Year 6: Frankie, Precious, Eva

...being in school at least 95% of the time (180 to 190 days)

365 days in a calendar year



House Points

Earth: 243(1742)

Water: 258 (1786)

Air: 265 (1904)

Fire: 175 (1652)

Self-giving

In this Sunday's Gospel, we read about the 'light' that has come into the world. Pope Francis reminds us, "Jesus is the light who brightens the darkness." Letting Jesus' light shine in our lives provides a secure foundation for our lives and for the lives of our children too.

This Gospel also reminds us that God loves us so much that he gave his only Son for us. Jesus' great act of love, of self-giving, on the cross, has paved the way for us to share in the true richness of God's love in this life, and also in the life to come.



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:

Maya – 5th March

John – 6th March



Safeguarding

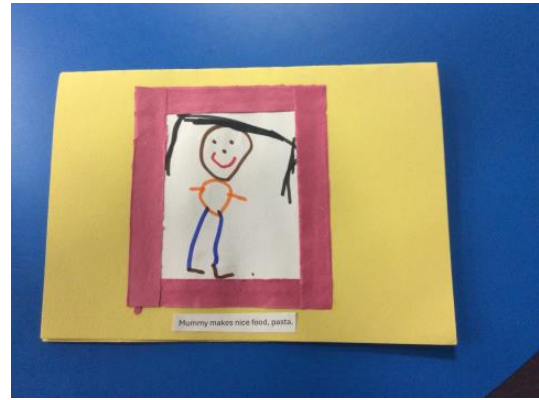
If you have concerns that a child may be in immediate danger, call the police on 999 or MASH on 0345 050 7666.

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

This week in EYFS the children have been very busy with Mother's Day surprises for Sunday. Our lent focus this week has been on listening so we have been undertaking lots of tasks requiring co-operation and teamwork. Den building needed the children to listen carefully to each others ideas and try to work together to stop them falling over.



Year One are enjoying our topic all about the Great Fire of London. This week we have looked at how the fire spread so quickly and how they put it out. The children did not like that they used manure and hair to build houses. This week we visited the library and had some time to relax and read a book.



Year One Class News

Year Two Class News

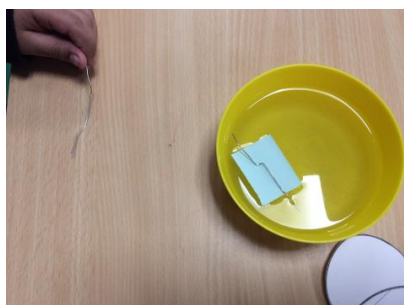
This week we had a beautiful worship service. We took part in the first part of Stations of the Cross. We learnt about Roman numerals and stopped at each station to see how the image of Jesus and his passion related to our own lives. There is a link to a child friendly stations of the cross here if you wish to reflect at home. You could put the stations up around the house and journey to each one in these last weeks of Lent. We will continue from the 7th Station next week.

[Childrens-Stations-of-the-Cross-for-Coloring.pdf \(dmsbcatholic.com\)](https://www.dmsbcatholic.com/Childrens-Stations-of-the-Cross-for-Coloring.pdf)



This week in Science, Year Three have been making their very own compasses! We used everyday materials and our knowledge of the earth's magnetic field to navigate our way north. I'm sure they could become teachers themselves and show you all at home how to make your own compass as well!

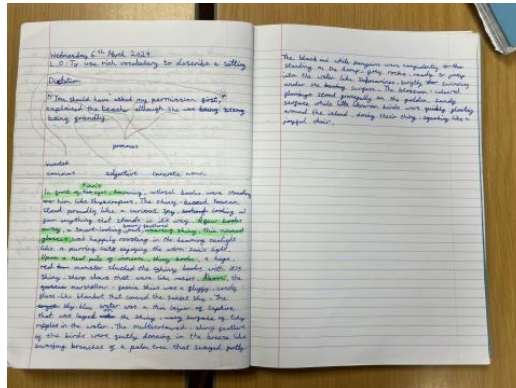
Year Three Class News



★ STAR WRITERS ★

Since the start of term 4, Year 4 have amazed me with their enthusiasm, determination and stamina for writing. We have been exploring the lovely book 'Ocean Meets Sky' to make predictions, write character and setting descriptions and diary entries in the role of characters. The writing the children have produced has blown me away! It has been full of fronted adverbials, metaphors and stunning vocabulary using a thesaurus! Something we are working really hard on is reading our writing and checking it ourselves for small errors. Just simply wonderful! ★

Year Four Class News



It's been an incredibly busy time in Year Five again this week!

In our English lessons we have been learning about relative clauses and how to place them in our sentences. We've learnt that a relative clause is a type of subordinate clause, relying on the main sentence to add extra detail. Excellent learning, Year Five!

In our maths lesson this week we have started to use a formal written method when multiplying numbers. We revised how to multiply 4-digit numbers by a 1-digit number but this week we have moved on to multiplying 2-digit numbers by 2-digit numbers - a challenging task! BUT we have persevered. We also THOROUGHLY enjoyed dressing up as adjectives and welcoming brothers, Greg and Myles into school for our own workshop too. A fantastic week in Year Five! 😊

Year Five Class News

Year Six Class News

In our "Inuit Art" topic, Year 6 have been looking in detail at "The Enchanted Owl" - a colourful print created by Kenojuak Ashevak. Inspired by the way the coloured inks blended together, we experimented with blending colours on top of sketched sections of the print. We then decided which colour combinations worked best together.



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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	Confirmation Commitment Mass and 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:

Faith-filled and Hopeful

Faith-filled: We are faith-filled when we are living life as God inspires us to live it, putting the Gospel into action through our deeds. Faith gives us belief and trust in God and in other people. We have to build on it every day through prayer, being part of a faith community and living out the gospel values. Faith gives us hope. **Hopeful:** We are hopeful when we are optimistic about the future, we trust ourselves and others, and we don't give up. Our faith teaches us that God is hope – that Christ walks before us and gives us the courage to follow. Hope makes us unafraid to step into the unknown and face challenges. Hope can deepen or restore our faith.

