



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 25

Friday 26th April 2024

Head's News...

You may have recently heard about the amazing achievement of a 27-year-old extreme runner called Russ Cook who has become the first person to run the entire length of Africa. He crossed the finish line in Tunisia on 7th April, having run a total of 10,000 miles in 352 days, averaging nearly 30 miles per day, having faced numerous challenges along the way including being robbed at gunpoint in Angola. He has raised nearly £600,000 for various charities and until a few years ago hadn't really run more than a few miles. Whilst he was being interviewed by a news reporter close to the finish line, he was asked what message he wanted others to take from his incredible run. He replied, "You only get one chance at life, so go out there and get stuck in". I think this is a philosophy that we can all apply in our own lives, even if we aren't running the length of Africa!

We had a Safeguarding Audit from the local authority recently. They completed checks on our website as well as observing our practices within school. They were very impressed with all our children as well as the staff. Thank you to the dedicated school team that we have at St John's who care for our children in such a unique way.

Attendance

On the 29th February, the DfE confirmed that the attendance guidance launched in May 2022 will become **statutory** for August 2024. This has a focus on fines, For example: from August 2024, the fine for school absences across the country will be £80 if paid within 21 days, and will double if not paid within 28 days. We always ask that children are not taken out of school in term time as they will be losing valuable learning time.

Our overall attendance this week as a school is **92.2%**, our target is a minimum of **97.5%** - please do send children in for every learning opportunity. Our attendance has dropped significantly, every child should be in school for every learning opportunity.

Attendance to 19th April 2024 (we always report a week behind)

EYFS	91.4%	Year One	94.8%
Year Two	97.9%	Year Three	94.7%
Year Four	91.9%	Year Five	90.7%
Year Six	88.2%	Whole School	92.2%

Stars of the Week

Congratulations to the following people who received awards this week:

EYFS: Rex, TK

Year 1: Miles, Theo, Kiri

Year 2: Helenka, Ugom, Joe

Year 3: Charleigh, Ryan, Stefan

Year 4: Khadijah, Freddie J,
Sean

Year 5: Nathan, Jack, Olivier

Year 6: Krupa, Precious, Sophie

House Points

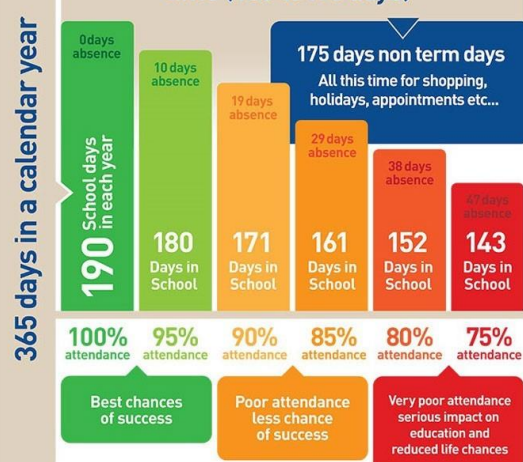
Earth: 328 (2959)

Water: 241 (2958)

Air: 406 (3397)

Fire: 348 (3053)

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

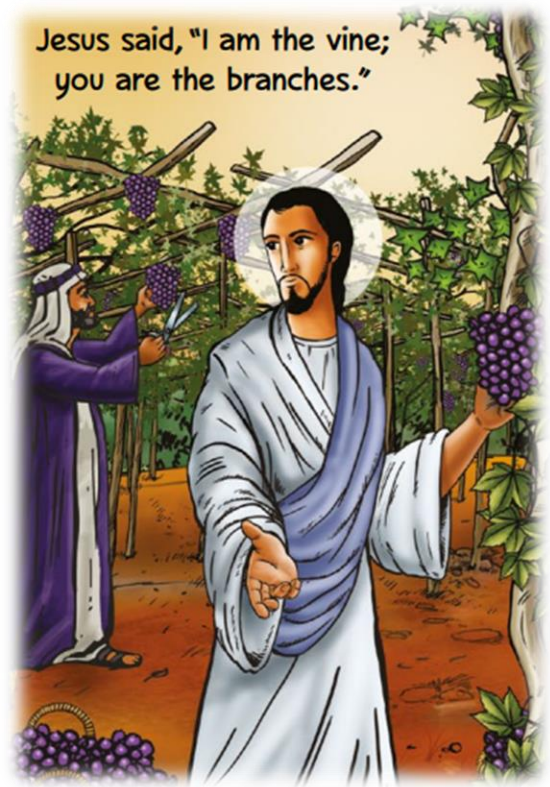


Growing

All parents want to help their children to grow into the best people that they can be. Growing in goodness is for parents and children alike.

In this Sunday's Gospel, Jesus uses an image that would have been familiar to people of his time and he reminds us that we all depend on God for life. We all make mistakes, but God is loving and patient and gives us time to grow into the people we were created to be.

God loves us, and wants us to live and grow in him – just like a branch grows on a vine – to be full of God's own energy. Keeping lively contact with Jesus helps us to grow in goodness and to live fruitful family lives, filled with peace, kindness and love.



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 – 22nd April
Constance – 23rd April
Ryan – 24th April
Jagoda – 25th April
Julianna – 25th April
Anliya – 26th April
Hazel – 28th April



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, Early Years have been delighted and inspired by the 10 chicks. We have enjoyed listening to lots of chicken stories and created drawings and collages and Reception have done some lovely writing. Best of all... we got to hold the soft, fluffy chicks. We shall miss them very much when they depart at the end of this week.



This week in History we have been learning about what it would be like to go to school in the Victorian times. We have learnt all about the different types of punishments the children would get and also what they would have done in PE. We went outside, and in rows we did some stretching, marching and jogging. We all agreed that we wouldn't want to go to school in those times.



Year One Class News

Year Two Class News



We have started our new History Topic, Magnificent Monarchs.

Our first few lessons have been getting our heads (yes we haven't lost them yet) around just how many monarchs there have been. Did you know there are 60!

We got into periods of history based on the houses the monarchs came from and then made a huge timeline to go up in a classroom. We realised that although there have only been a few Queens in history they have reigned for longer periods of time and often had a bigger impact. Girl Power 👑



Year Three Class News

This term we are looking at beautiful botanicals in art and the children have been out exploring their environment and looking at the beauty around us! We then took some time and sketched our discoveries.



Year Four Class News

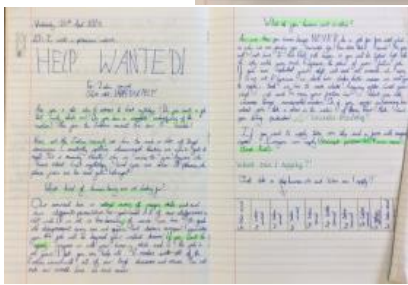
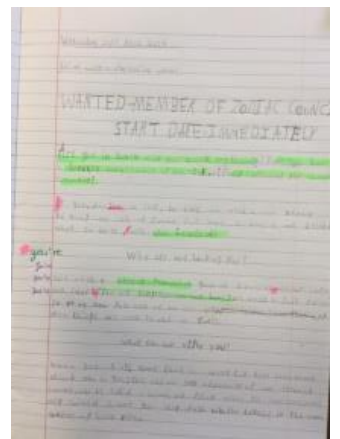
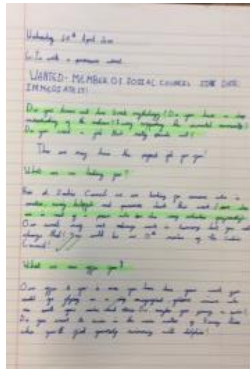
☀️ HE HAS RISEN! ☀️

This week, the children have created some stunning pieces of artwork to showcase that Jesus has risen! We studied some famous pieces of artwork and discussed what we found interesting, peculiar and pointed out things we could see that related to the Resurrection. The children then spent time creating their own triptych. This is a piece of artwork that involves 3 important panels. Their creations are just simply beautiful! ⭐



Year Five are embracing our new book for English, 'Who Let the Gods Out?' and are thoroughly enjoying it! We've been reading chapters each lesson and have already created some fantastic pieces of work linked to the text. This week we met the Zodiac Council, who required a new member to join them. So, Year 5 got straight on with the important task of writing a persuasive advert for this very special role. Who wouldn't want to live in Elysium and take a unicorn and fly across the marshmallow meadows? Or, if swimming is more your thing, splash with the dolphins in the warm waters of Honey River!

Year Five Class News



Year Six Class News

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This week Year 6 have turned their hand at some creative writing. Using the stimulus "The Cave" children wrote stories, play scripts and newspaper reports in response. We really enjoyed sharing our writing with our peers!



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Key Dates

15 th April 2024	Summer Term begins and chicks arrive in EYFS
17 th April 2024	Year Five STEM Event
25 th April 2024	Year Two Cricket at BGN
30 th April 2024	Guitar demonstration for Music Lessons
2 nd May 2024	Years Three and Four Boys Football at BGN
6 th May 2024	Bank Holiday – SCHOOL CLOSED
10 th May 2024	Class Photographs
13 th – 17 th May 2024	Year Six SATS week – Breakfast club
17 th May 2024	Disco led by the PTFA: EYFS and KS1 4.30pm – 5.30pm KS2 6.00pm – 7.00pm
20 th May 2024	Vision Screening – Reception Children
22 nd and 23 rd May 2024	Year Four residential trip to Youlbury
22 nd May 2024	Confirmation Mass for Year Six at 6.00pm
24 th May 2024	INSET Day – SCHOOL CLOSED
27 th May – 31 st May 2024	Half term holiday
3 ^{rs} June 2024	Summer 2 term begins – School open at 8.45am
20 th June 2024	Year Three Multi-skills at BGN
5 th July 2024	Sports Day at 1.15pm and Summer Fayre after
8 th – 12 th July 2024	Space Week

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:

Eloquent and Truthful

Eloquent: the ability to speak or write fluently, persuasively and appropriately. We are eloquent when we use language to express our ideas or opinions clearly and with conviction. When we choose our words, we should do so carefully so they are kind and compassionate, and don't hurt others.

Truthful: God wants us to be truthful in all we do. Jesus said, 'I am the way, the truth and the life', so being honest and truthful means we are following in his footsteps and living life the way God wants us to. Being truthful is being faithful to ourselves and to Jesus. We should stand up for the truth.

