



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: 01

Friday 13th September 2024

Head's News...

Welcome back to another new academic year. The children have settled in beautifully and are happy in their new classrooms with their teachers. Our new children in nursery and reception have enjoyed their time at school and are getting to know the routines. We have had a busy summer and have completed many jobs around the school site. We have painted classrooms, outside of Early years we have painted all of the fences and Mr Stevenson has been busy making new gates. I would personally like to thank everybody, including my own children, William and Harrison, who gave up their free time to volunteer to do this. We are so grateful to everybody, as the children have loved being in their newly refurbished environments. We are lucky to have such a fantastic team who are so willing to give up their time to help the school and the children – a heartfelt "thank-you" to you all.

All the carpets in the school had a deep clean and all our areas are once again sparkling. Our site manager and school cleaners have worked so hard to ensure that everything was cleaned from top to bottom! Teachers and teaching assistants were all in during the holiday to make sure that the classrooms were fully prepared for this term. We thank everyone for their commitment to our children.

This week we had our first whole school Mass, where all the staff from the school came together. It was a wonderful celebration and a time to reflect, as a Catholic community, about the important and privileged role we have working with children in school. It was fantastic to see some of our parents attending too. My heart was bursting with pride as the children were so reverent and respectful and their behaviour was impeccable.

Attendance to 6th September 2024 (we always report a week behind)

EYFS	96.4%	Year One	94.2%
Year Two	100%	Year Three	91.4%
Year Four	91.7%	Year Five	85.3%
Year Six	94.4%	Whole School	93%

Stars of the Week

Congratulations to the following people who received awards this week:

Nursery: Chile, Ivy

Reception: Aithan, Rex

Year 1: TK, Ava, Evana, Elias

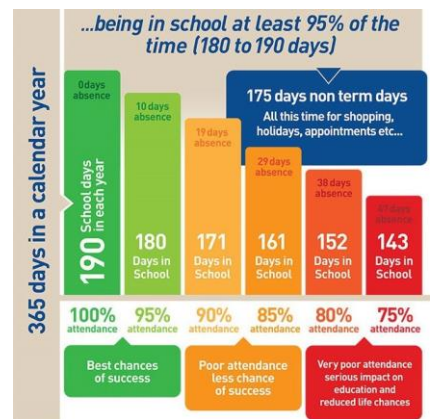
Year 2: Neo, Rocco, Oran, Evie

Year 3: Bella, Millie, Sophia, Irena

Year 4: Riby, Kevin, Aswathy, James
Mc

Year 5: Azrin, Rehan, Connie, Sammi

Year 6: Matthew, Holly, Alex, Austin



House Points

Earth: TBC

Water: TBC

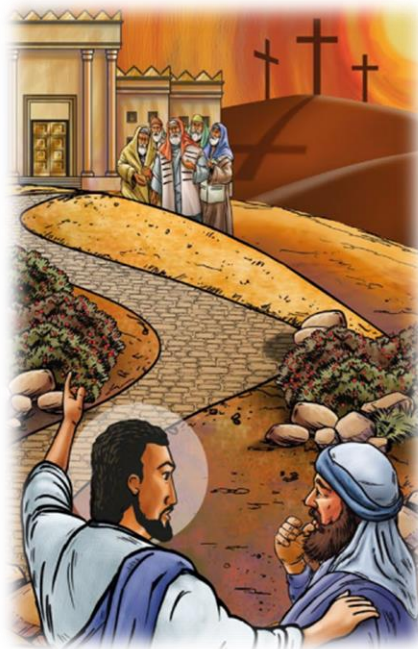
Air: TBC

Fire: TBC

Welcome

This Sunday's Gospel reminds us that, during his time on earth, Jesus was many things to many people. He was a teacher, a healer, a leader and, to some people, simply a very good person. But Peter finally realises the truth about Jesus and professes his faith in him as the Christ – the Son of the living God.

Even though the disciples had witnessed Jesus' many miracles, they were still slow to understand Jesus' true identity. For us too, it takes time to get to know who Jesus really is, just as it takes time to get to know other friends.



It is important to us as a school that your concerns are listened to and are quickly and effectively resolved. A reminder that we have a clear pathways to ensure that this happens. The pathway is:

Stage 1: Discuss your concern with your child's **class teacher**. They will work with you to discuss and resolve your concern. Please allow sufficient time for this process to be completed.

Stage 2: Please escalate your concern to your child's **Phase Leader** who will consider your concern and review the response given by your child's class teacher.

The Phase Leaders for academic year 2024-2025 are:

Early Phase (Nursery and Reception) Mrs Trivett

Lower Phase (Year 1 and Year 2) Miss Page

Middle Phase (Year 3 and Year 4) Miss Bingham

Upper Phase (Year 5 and Year 6) Miss Callan

Stage 3: Please escalate your concern to Miss Bingham, **Assistant Headteacher**.

Stage 4: Mrs Collier, **Headteacher**, will consider your complaint and review the responses given by Miss Bingham, your child's Phase Leader and their class teacher.

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:

Sean – 1st September

Kiri, Aswathy, Purvika – 2nd September

Ummayah – 7th September

Godswill – 9th September

Gracie, Maximilian – 13th September

Birthdays



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:

familysupport@st-johns-Banbury.oxon.sch.uk

Early Years Class News

The new Reception and Nursery children have had a brilliant start to the year, EY staff have all been so impressed by how quickly the children have settled into routines! Grace our new Nursery apprentice has been really getting stuck in and we have all had a lovely time getting to know all the new children.

This week Early Years have been working very hard getting into new routines and embedding listening skills and independence. Reception were very well behaved in their first ever school Mass and they have enjoyed getting to know the new Nursery children who are settling in beautifully.



Year One Class News

Year One have had a fantastic first week back after the summer holidays! We have all enjoyed our new wiggle dance and reading new stories. We have started our Creation topic in RE which the children are really enjoying! This week we went on our creation walk around the school gardens to see Gods nature creations and Gods creation of the rain 😊



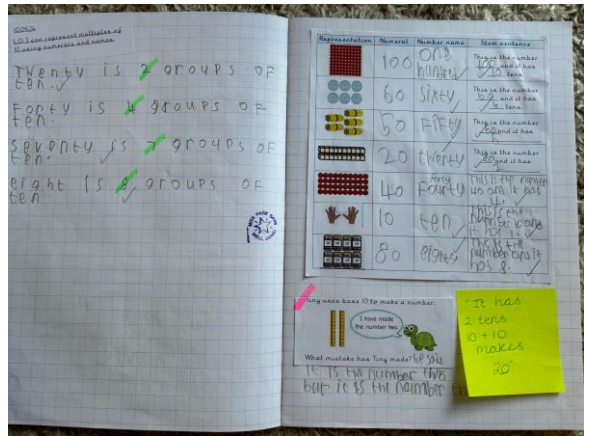
Year Two Class News

★ SUPER STARS ★

Year 2 have settled in exceptionally well to their new Year Two classrooms and routines. They have been polite, resilient and all-round brilliant learners. I can't wait to see more of what they can do!

100 ✨ SUPER MATHS ✨ 100

Year 2 have made an excellent start to their Year 2 Maths learning. We have busy making and identifying groups of 10 with base 10, counting in multiples of 10, writing multiples in numerals and names and recognising the number of tens using place value charts. They have WOWed me with their knowledge and brilliant explanations!



Year Three Class News

In Maths this week Year 3 have representing numbers to 100! We had a lot of fun using base 10 for this lesson.

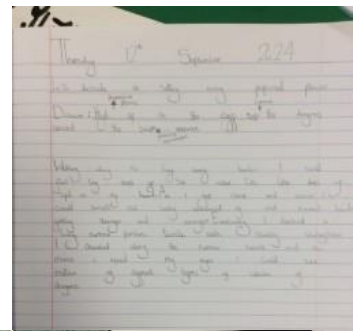
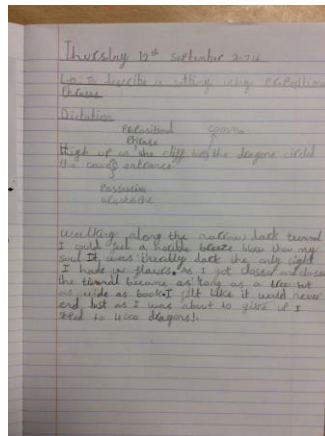
In PE this week we enjoyed playing team games. Mr Mawn has taught us lots of different skills including how to correctly throw and catch a rugby ball! We had such a fun time, and we loved working as a team; we cannot wait to see what we learn next week.



Year Four Class News

We've had a lovely few days settling back into new routines and expectations in Year 4. From learning about our patron saint, St. John, to finding out all about our new class saint, St. Bernadette, we've had lots of fun seeing our friends and getting to know our new teachers and reflecting on our school saying "Love one another as I have loved you". We've made Viking longboats and Anglo-Saxon shields ahead of our new history topic. A truly busy few days!! We've also perfected the group selfie!

Ever wondered how to train a dragon? Well, Year 4 are certainly becoming experts at this! We are loving our English text, How to Train Your Dragon and have met some interesting characters so far! We've been immersing ourselves in the text, read chapters and written setting descriptions using a range of prepositions. We are really trying to take so much pride in our work and focus on our handwriting and presentation too. Keep up the wonderful work, Year 4!



Year Five Class News

Welcome back to school and to a new year in Year Five. It is a pleasure and a privilege to teach your wonderful children, and we have already cracked on with our learning finding out more about our School Patron, St John the Evangelist. We have investigated the symbols that represent him and looked at the different ways he is portrayed in art. We will take his lead in spreading the gospel in our words and actions as we continue with our learning in Upper Key Stage 2. We have so many fabulous things planned for this year and after only a few days with your children I am already excited to see what the year brings.

Year Five have started the week back in boast mode, packing as much as possible into the day. One really challenging activity was in art, where we looked at Tint and Shade. Adding white to a base colour to lighten the shade took a lot of white paint...but adding black? We quickly realised that you only need a little black to darken your base colour. Mrs Avilez also realised that you only need a little black paint to create a right mess in the classroom too. 😊



Year Six Class News

Year Six have had a fabulous week, learning about our novel "Letters from the Lighthouse". We recapped features of a letter and had a go at writing our own letters home from the point of view of an evacuee. In Maths we have been busy learning about place value up to ten million - we even looked at negative numbers! It has been lovely seeing Year Six hit the ground running with their learning.

Year Six have kicked off our whole school project on the Our Father by looking in detail at the line "Hallowed be Thy name". We discussed the meaning of this line and looked at a variety of Bible quotes that linked to praising God's name. Children then created beautiful artworks inspired by their learning.



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:

Active and Curious

Active: We are active in our engagement with the world, changing what we can for the better. We do this as God's children and to make the world a better place.

Curious: We are growing to become more curious about everything in God's world.



Key Dates

4 th September 2024	School begins – School open at 8.45am
4 th and 5 th September 2024	Reception Parents Meetings
9 th and 10 th September 2024	Year Five - Bikeability
10 th September 2024	Siblings and Individual Photographs
12 th September 2024	Whole School Mass
18 th September 2024	Reception Parents – Phonics Meeting 3.30pm
20 th September 2024	Year Two Carbon Monoxide Workshop
27 th September 2024	Year Five Carbon Monoxide Workshop
8 th and 9 th October 2024	Parents Evening from 3.30pm
9 th October 2024	Year One Class Assembly – All invited 9.15am
16 th October 2024	Reception Class Assembly – All invited 9.15am
23 rd October 2024	Year Three Class Assembly – All invited 9.15am
16 th October 2024	Police visit to Year Two
17 th October 2024	Flu Vaccinations
23 rd October 2024	Reception Open Morning
25 th October 2024	Break up for Half Term at 3.20pm
4 th November 2024	School begins – School open at 8.45am
6 th November 2024	Whole School African Drumming
20 th November 2024	Year Six Class Assembly – All invited 9.15am Reception Open Morning
27 th November 2024	Year Two Class Assembly – All invites 9.15am
4 th December 2024	Year Four Class Assembly – All invited 9.15am
10 th December 2024	Year Five Class Assembly – All invited 9.15am
11 th December 2024	Key Stage One Nativity Play – 9.30am and 6.00pm
19 th December 2024	Key Stage Two Christmas Carol Concert @ St John's Church 6pm
20th December 2024	Break up for Summer holidays School closes at 1.30pm