



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: 13

Friday 13th December 2024

Head's News...

We have had the best (and busiest week). Our children are quite simply the best, but they don't get all of the credit, as that must go to you as parents and to our fabulous staff. Early Years and Key Stage One have absolutely blown our socks off with their Nativity performances this week. The children (and staff) have all worked so hard and we have seen this in the outstanding performances they have given this week. The hall has been bursting at the seams for every performance. I am an incredibly proud, and very privileged, Headteacher!

🌞 🏃 Cross Country Champions 🏃 🌞

Wow!! I am so proud of all the children at Cross Country today. They all represented the school with pride. They encouraged one another and respected one another's placings. They all showed such grit, resilience and determination. We have now qualified for the next round as we came 4th overall. A special mention to two of our boys who came first and second out of 100 boys: Stelios came 1st and Alex 2nd!!!



Attendance to 29th November 2024 (we always report a week behind)

EYFS	89.6%	Year One	94.8%
Year Two	99.2%	Year Three	92.1%
Year Four	95%	Year Five	95.6%
Year Six	98%	Whole School	94.3%

Stars of the Week

Congratulations to the following people who received awards this week:

Nursery: Kayla

Reception: Hazel, Mohammad, Frankie

Year 1: Maya, Stephanie, Annliya

Year 2: Oran, Joseph, Rocco

Year 3: Zahfyre, Evelyn, Joe

Year 4: Andrea, Ruby, Mala

Year 5: Chidindu, Aibel, Amelia

Year 6: Jacob P, Mourad, Emmanuel

House Points
Earth: 310(3502)
Water: 350(3489)
Air: 282(3480)
Fire: 323 (3478)

190 Days 100%	184 Days 97%	180 Days 95%	175 Days 92%	171 Days 90%	19+ Days absence
Perfect Attendance!	You reached school target!	You are nearly there!	It will be hard for you to make progress	Persistent Absence!	
85% of children who are in school and on time every day will reach the expected standard or better in class	Keep up the great work! The more you are in school, the better your learning will be...	Keep coming to school everyday and on time... You have missed 10 days or 40 lessons...	We are worried about your attendance. You have missed 15 days or 60 lessons already...	You have now missed 19 days of learning or 76 lessons... You may not reach your OLOL potential!	Only 40% of children in this category will reach the expected standard in their class

Mercy

In this Sunday's Gospel, John the Baptist prepares the people for the coming of Jesus. He tells them to share with others and to show mercy – to put people (not money or power) first; to feel for those who suffer and to do something to help. Within the Catholic Church, these actions, attending to people's basic needs, are known as Corporal (or physical) Works of Mercy. Ask your child what the word 'mercy' means to them. You may want to share with your child what the word 'mercy' means to you. Can you or your child remember a time when you were merciful and gave someone another chance?



🌟 🌟 📄 We just wanted to share another HUGE, HUGE WELL DONE and AMAZING CONGRATULATIONS to MARGARET in YEAR 2 and MARTA in YEAR 5. They have been shortlisted to the next stage of the BBC's 500 Word Story competition! 📄 🌟 🌟 . We are SO, SO proud of you and everyone who submitted stories for this year's competition.

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:

Tommy – 15th December

Elsie – 15th December

Felicity – 18th December

Birthdays



Happy Birthday

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

Like KS1, Early Years have had an incredibly busy week, they loved watching KS1 performance and the fun of the Christmas dinner but the highlights of the week were performing our Nativity to the school and to parents. The children have been rehearsing for so long and were so excited to at last get into their costumes and onto the stage and present our play to everyone. We were so proud of them- they were not at all phased by the lights, the audience and the occasion. They did a great job of sharing the wonderful story of Jesus' first birthday!



Year One Class News

Our Nativity performance is always a highlight of the year, and this time was no exception! The children shone brightly, delivering their lines, songs, and actions with confidence and heart. It was a wonderful opportunity for them to build teamwork, creativity, and self-assurance while sharing the timeless message of hope and joy. The children did a fabulous job of delivering their lines and sang so beautifully!



Year Two Class News

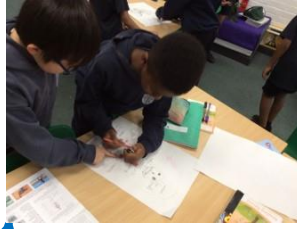
🌟 STAR PERFORMERS 🌟

WOW!!!! I am absolutely bursting with pride writing this. I could not be prouder of our Year 2 pupils in their Nativity show this year. They have worked so very hard on learning lines, songs and dances to perform The BIG Little Nativity so fantastically. We definitely have some actors, singers and dancers in the making!! 🌟.



Year Three Class News

In science this week Year 3 have been looking at the human Skeletal system. We learnt about how important bones were and how they help us move. I wonder what would happen if we didn't have any bones? We had lots of fun learning and creating fantastic informative posters about what we had learnt!



Year Four Class News



This week in RE, we have been looking at some of the stories about Jesus' ancestors. One which has stood out for us in Year 4 has been the story of David and King Saul. We learnt that God was unhappy with Saul as he disobeyed Him and asked Samuel to find him a new king. Little did we realise that David was only just a boy! Year 4 became reports for The Holy Gazette and documented this incredible event that happened. From David's brothers being in uproar because they weren't picked, to Saul's throne being taken from him, we have all learnt that the Lord doesn't look just at the outside of a person, but he looks at a person's heart.

Year Five Class News

Year 5 led the school Wednesday Worship, with an informative and prayerful celebration of two feast day's: St Juan Diego (9th December) and Our Lady of Guadalupe (12th December). We looked at work we had completed about pilgrimages around Europe with our ICT skills and shared our investigations into who Juan Diego was and the Miracles of the Tilma. We finished the assembly with a beautiful and very famous hymn to our Lady of Guadalupe: "La Guadalupeña".



Year Six Class News

This week, Year 6 enjoyed one of their "lasts"—their final Christmas dinner and jumper day of Primary School! The day began with watching the nativity play, setting a festive tone for the day. We loved pulling crackers, singing along to Christmas songs, and sitting with our friends and teachers during dinner. In the afternoon, we practised carols ready for the together, spreading even more holiday cheer. Everyone looked so festive in their Christmas jumpers and cracker hats—it was a day to remember!



Key Dates

4 th November 2024	School begins – School open at 8.45am
6 th November 2024	Whole School African Drumming
15 th November 2024	Break the Rulz Day
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
29 th November 2024	Advent Art Morning
30 th November 2024	Christmas Fayre and Nearly New Toy Sale 10.30am – 1.00pm
4 th December 2024	Year Four Class Assembly – All invited 9.15am
6th December 2024	Non uniform Day – please look out for a letter regarding raffle donations
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
11th December 2024	Christmas Dinner Day
11th December 2024	Wear a Christmas Jumper Day and donate £1.00 to Cafod
12 th December 2024	EYFS Nativity Play 9.30am
19 th December 2024	Key Stage Two Christmas Carol Concert @ St John's Church 6pm
20th December 2024	Break up for Christmas holiday School closes at 1.30pm

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:

Intentional and Prophetic

Intentional in the way they live and use the resources of the earth, guided by conscience; and **prophetic** in the example they set to others.

What does this mean?

At St John's we help our pupils grow by being a school community which is **intentional** in its way of proceeding to build-up quality of life; and which is **prophetic** in the way it offers an alternative vision of education and the human person rooted in the gospel.



The season of Advent is a time of preparation. One of the ways we can prepare ourselves for the coming of Christ during Advent is through reconciliation. How does this picture reflect this theme? How can we be inspired by the lives of the saints to set an example to others?