



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: 23

Friday 14th March 2025

Head's News ...

📖❤️ WORLD BOOK DAY FUN! ❤️📖 (photos attached)

St. John's had marvellous fun celebrating our love of reading on World Book Day!

There was a real 'buzz' of positivity and lively energy around school and it was fantastic to see such amazing efforts with costumes from the children (and staff!). We welcomed the author John Dougherty into school to share his love of poetry and the importance of being a writer. He shared some of his poems in such an engaging, funny way - there were so many laughs from everyone! Some of the children purchased a book and John gave each a personalised message and signature. All classes joined in with MASKED READER, where we enjoyed guessing the staff member behind each animal mask! We definitely show cased our love of reading 📖

We are incredibly thankful to Miss Page for organising this wonderful experience for our children 🌟❤️



Stars of the Week

Congratulations to the following people who received awards this week:

Nursery: Eliza

Reception: Frankie, Rex, Zainab

Year 1: Jani, Safania, Evana

Year 2: Steven, Agnes, Evangeline

Year 3: Joe, Matthew, Olaf

Year 4: Ruva, Sienna, Aswathy

Year 5: Year Five, Azrin, Inayah

Year 6: Kingsley, Olivier, Austin

Today we send our love with Mrs Burton as she begins her maternity leave. We can't wait to meet Baby Burton soon. 👶👧 Mr Palmer will be taking over Year Three with Mrs Beech.

House Points

Earth: 315 (6283)

Water: 291 (6287)

Air: 393 (6210)

Fire: 357 (6512)

Attendance to 28th February 2025 (we always report a week behind)

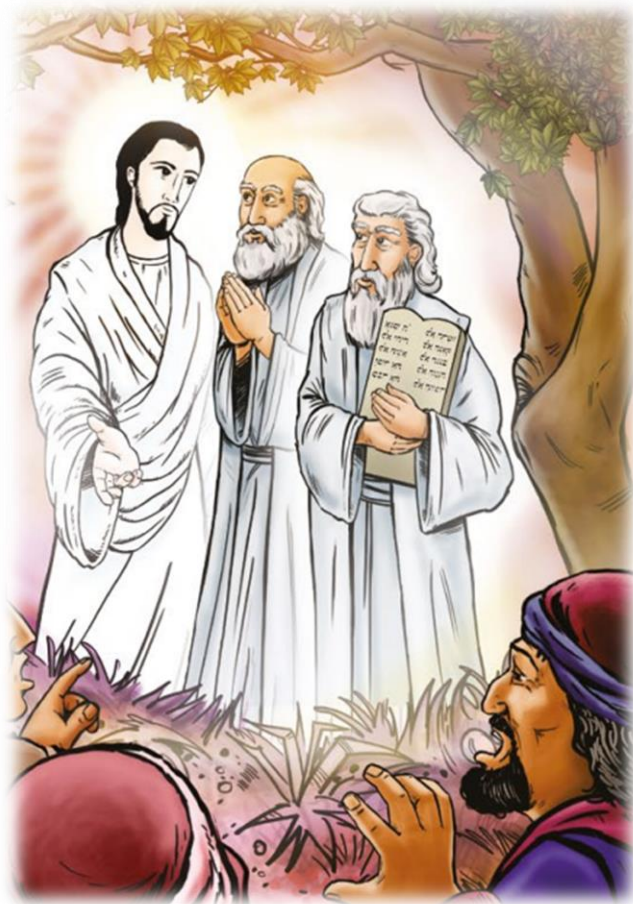
EYFS	90%	Year One	92.5%
Year Two	85.9%	Year Three	92.9%
Year Four	97.3%	Year Five	95.2%
Year Six	97.3%	Whole School	93.2%

Encouragement

There are times when we all need encouraging: that is, to be inspired with courage and to have our hope renewed, especially when we are going through difficult times.

The snapshot of Jesus' glory in this Sunday's Gospel was an encouragement to the three disciples. For the first time they received a glimpse of the awesome divinity of Jesus. But soon they would go through difficult times and see Jesus crucified. So beforehand, God tells them to listen to Jesus and allows them to see Jesus for who he really is.

Following Jesus isn't easy: it never was. But if, like the disciples, we too listen to Jesus, we will experience the encouragement that God offers freely to each one of us – today.



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:

Blake – 12th March

Oran – 13th March

Artur – 14th 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:

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

Early Years Class News

This week EY have had the huge excitement of an arrival of an incubator containing 10 chicken eggs. In our assembly today we acted out the chick lifecycle so that we would have a good understanding of what to expect when the eggs started to hatch. Monday and Tuesday were very quiet but on Wednesday morning we saw some cracks emerging and watched with great joy as the chicks began to emerge. We will be inviting the rest of the school to come and visit once the chicks are all out and ready for visitors.



Year One Class News

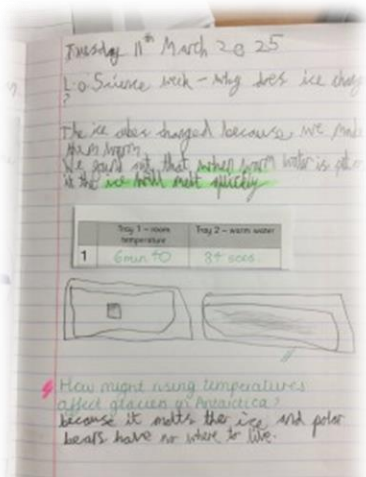
This week, we took part in an exciting Flushed Away experiment for World Science Week, investigating which materials break down in water and which do not. In our PE lesson, we also explored shadows, discovering how they change in different conditions. Additionally, we have been focusing on how we can help others during Lent and are thrilled to be participating in the CAFOD Lenten Walk!



Year Two Class News

❄️ 🧊 Year 2 SPECTACULAR SCIENCE! 🧊 ❄️ (photos attached)

Year 2 are busy celebrating Science Week focused around 'Change and Adapt'. We have had some interesting discussions about what change and adapt means. This week, we have thought about how changing the temperature of ice, can change its state. We have thought about how the melting glaciers in Antarctica are affecting the wildlife that live there! We were amazed at how quickly the warm water made the ice melt!



Year Three Class News

This week we have been embracing the cold weather and carrying out our Big Lenten Walk. We are fund raising for CAFOD this Lent and remembering those most in need! We have a challenge ahead of us as Year Three are committed to doing 120 laps!!! So far we have done 12... As we have been learning about fractions in Year Three also that is $\frac{1}{10}$ only $\frac{9}{10}$ before the holidays!!! We've got this Year 3.



✚ The season of Lent is well and truly upon us and we have been learning about one particular parable Jesus taught which is the Parable of the Pharisee and Tax Collector. We explored what Jesus was trying to teach us and how the Pharisee was boasting about his actions. As a class, we considered how the tax collector was remorseful and sought mercy for his actions. We role played the parable before writing a reflection about which person was the better follower of Jesus. In Year 4, we think Jesus is trying to teach us the importance of praying with the right attitude and considering those who think they are very righteous by looking down on others ✚

Year Four Class News



Year Five Class News

Year 5 have had the pleasure of Miss Cladingboel working with us for the last 8 weeks and as part of our topic on Sow Grow Farm, they have learnt life skills of being able to safely make a healthy soup recipe using seasonal vegetables. Many key skills of peeling, chopping and cutting were used and the onions brought tears to our eyes. Then the cooking began. The delicious aroma of carrot, sweet potato and garlic wafted through the corridors. The class discussed how they could change and adapt the recipe by adding flavours and ingredients and we all enjoyed tasting it and sharing our opinions. We will definitely miss Miss Cladinboel as she leaves today, but we thank her for all her hard work and wish her well as she continues her University studies.



Year Six Class News

This Lent as a school we are taking part in CAFOD's Big Lent Walk, where we have been challenged to walk 200km (roughly 125 miles) in 40 days to help fight global poverty. Year 6 were challenged to walk 25 miles to contribute towards the school's total. We felt particularly inspired to take part in this challenge and earlier on this week worked together as a class to complete our steps. In only 20 minutes, we managed an incredible 216 laps of the school field, which measured 36 miles! This was an absolutely amazing achievement and meant we had already achieved our target. Feeling inspired, Year 6 are now challenging themselves to walk the full 125 miles as a class. Please do remember to sponsor us for our amazing fundraising efforts! The link can be found on ParentHub.



Key Dates

25 th February 2025	School begins – School opens at 8:45am
4 th and 5 th March 2025	Parents' Evening
5 th March 2025	Year Three Class Assembly – all invited 9:05am
5 th March 2025	Ash Wednesday – KS2 Mass at 10.30am
7 th March 2025	World Book Day and Author Visit
WC 10 th March 2025	Science Week
12 th March 2025	EYFS Class Assembly – all invited 9:05am
13 th March 2025	Athletics Finals!
19 th March 2025	Year Six Class Assembly – all invited 9:05am
20 th March 2025	Year Three Sacrament of Reconciliation
24 th March 2025	Reception and Year 6 Vision Screening
26 th March 2025	Year Two Class Assembly – all invited 9:05am
29 th March 2025	Year Six Sacrament of Confirmation at St. John the Evangelist at 10.00am
2 nd April 2025	Year Five Class Assembly – all invited 9:05am
4 th April 2025	School finishes for Easter half term at 1.30pm
7 th – 21 st April 2025	EASTER HALF TERM
TUESDAY 22 nd April 2025	School begins – School opens 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: **Attentive and Discerning**
Attentive: We are attentive when we listen to our calling from God to love and serve one another in all that we do. We are attentive to our experiences and can see where they will take us in our future vocations. **Discerning:** We are discerning when we decide to do the right thing in the interest of the needs of others because we know the positive impact that will have on their lives.

A Prayer for Attentiveness

Lord God, Give us a spirit of attentiveness to turn our attention to those who we can help with the gifts and talents you have given us. Show us how, with your assistance, we can learn to draw them closer to you, day by day, through kind acts of service. **Amen**



Extreme Reading Winners ...



EXTREME READING WINNERS!

Thank you ALL for such a positive, lively World Book Day on Friday. The children (and staff) had such wonderful fun! Thank you to everybody who submitted a photo for EXTREME READING. It was great fun to showcase these in our assembly on Friday and on our school newsletter! You all did such a superb job!

👑 ★ The WINNERS are Eli (Year 4), William (Year 4) and Amare (Reception) 👑 ★