

St Joseph's Catholic Primary School: Newsletter 06.10.23

Mission
Together we love, learn, follow Jesus
Vision
At St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, through an open and generous heart, we learn together as a family in faith, following the gospel values of love.
Values
Hope Thankfulness Collaboration Compassion Friendship Resilience Empathy Creativity Justice Respect



A Message from Miss Dewhurst: Today, myself, Ms Grogan, one of our governors, and Mrs Cox, listened to speeches for our new Head Boy and Head Girl. I can honestly say that the calibre of effort, determination and resilience shown from all of our children was second to none. All of the children really moved us with their personal touch and abundant understanding of our school and the ethos and values we keep at the heart of it. I am so proud of each and everyone of them and we have had one of the toughest decisions to make!

Whilst some children will go away disappointed, as I have already said to them, they need to be extremely proud of themselves, as we are, for getting out of their comfort zone and giving it a go! They are all amazing!



Award Winners

CI R/1:

Dojo Champion: **Mary**

School Values/Mission: **Cal**—collaboration

"Spotted": **Valentina** for demonstrating excellent manners

CI 2/3:

Dojo Champion: **Sebby**

School Values/Mission: **Annie-Rose** — friendship

"Spotted": **Layla** for helping others in class

CI 4/5:

Dojo Champion: **Darcie**

School Values/Mission: **Peggy** — collaboration

"Spotted": **Dexter and Charlie** for being kind, calm and understanding at playtime when trying to involve a peer in their game so that they felt included

CI 6:

Dojo Champion: **Halle**

School Values/Mission: **Yr 6** — hope & friendship

"Spotted": **Seren** for never giving up on her chunking division, despite it taking a huge amount of time and effort

Open Mornings: Parents with children who are due to start school next September are invited to look round on **Tuesday, 10th October or Tuesday, 31st October between 9.30am and 11am**. Please feel free to share this information; more details are also available on our school website—www.stjosephsbrindle.com

Sunday Gospel: Jesus said, "There was once a landowner who planted a vineyard, rented it to some tenant farmers and then went off far away. When the fruit season came, he sent some of his servants to the farmers to collect his fruit. But, the farmers seized his servants. He then sent his son to them. 'They will respect my son,' he said. But the farmers said to one another, 'Look—here's the heir: come on, let's take over his inheritance.' So they seized the son, threw him out of the vineyard and killed him. Now, when the lord of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those farmers?" "He'll bring those bad men to a bad end," was the reply. "Then he'll rent the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the fruit at harvest time." Matthew 21: 33-43

This week pupils spotted:

Layla

For being nice, and sharing

Classroom Catch Up: This week in Class R/1, we welcomed Father Raphael into our class. He talked to the children about Baptism. The children enjoying asking lots of interesting questions. Father Raphael was very impressed with the children's knowledge! Maths wise, Year One have moved on to comparing and ordering numbers, while Reception have been comparing size and mass. On Friday, we got creative and the children enjoyed illustrating how the trees change with the seasons. We ended the week with a class Collective Worship based on the theme of Our Lady.



This week in Class 2/3 have continued to look at the importance of family and relationships in our R.E. lessons and have enjoyed making a recipe for a 'Happy Family'. Our Collective Worships have been linked to the Sunday Gospel and have looked at 'messengers' and the importance of spreading the good word.

In our science lessons, we have continued looking at our topic of 'light' and have been investigating shadows. However, the weather was not on our side this week and therefore we created our own puppets to explore how shadows are created. Our shared write this week, which is an incredible adventure story, has demonstrated how imaginative the children are and they will get the opportunity to show off their independent story writing next week.



We have had a brilliant week in Class 4/5. The children have now finished their diary entries in the role of Jim and have done an amazing job of showing and not telling emotions! In French, we have been consolidating our understanding of numbers whilst also learning to say how old we are. BUT the highlight of the week was when the children worked in groups to create their own models of the digestive system – we had SO much fun! The children then used this knowledge to write in the role of a piece of fruit travelling through the digestive system – they did a fantastic job!

Firstly, I would like to thank the friends and families who came to share in the Class 6 Collective Worship today. It was wonderful to see everyone come together to celebrate and reflect on how we - as a staff, as children, as parents and as friends - belong together. This week has also been very exciting for Year 6, as they have been working on their Head Boy / Head Girl speeches. They have shown our School Values of 'Hope' and 'Friendship', wishing each other good luck before each interview took place.

Pope Francis:

*„Jesus’ gaze that blesses, invites us to be a church that does not face today’s challenges and problems with a divisive and contentious spirit but, turns its eyes to God who is communion and, with awe and humility, blesses and adores him, recognising him as its only Lord.
(Taken from X)*



School Attendance: Here are our weekly attendance figures for this week

Week commencing 02.10.23

	This Week	School Year
Yr R	95%	98.9%
Yr 1	100%	99.7%
Yr 2	98.9%	98.5%
Yr 3	92.7%	96%
Yr 4	91.9%	94.6%
Yr 5	98.7%	99.5%
Yr 6	94.7%	96.9%
Total	95.8%	97.6%

Children’s Liturgy: This Sunday 27th Sunday of the year we hear another parable that Jesus told the people. Jesus talks about a man who had real trouble with the people who are looking after his vineyard. These people are called tenants. The tenants wanted to keep all the grapes for themselves. When the time comes for the wine to be ready, the man sends his people to collect it. But the tenants do not want to share and they hurt those who have been sent. Eventually the man sends his son because he thinks the tenants will respect and listen to him. But the tenants treat the son no better than they treated the others.

The tenants were greedy and wanted to keep all the wine for themselves. They didn’t want to share it with anyone, not even the man who owned the vineyard. Do you think this is what Jesus wants us to be like? No? What does Jesus want us to do?

Jesus told this story so that people could understand more about God and what Jesus had come to do on earth. Like the man who gave the vineyard to his tenants to look after, God has given us the earth and all that is in it. God also sent his son Jesus to show us how to live. This week how will you listen to God’s word and how will you take care of God’s creation?

We do hope you can join us at 9:30 Mass - it would be lovely to see you. Children’s Liturgy Team

School Places: School admissions are now open for children due to start primary or secondary school in **September 2024** at: <https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/children-education-families/schools/apply-for-a-school-place/>

Before you apply, research the schools in your area:

Check school websites for up-to-date information about open days/evenings

Read the school's most recent Ofsted reports at: www.ofsted.gov.uk.

#SchoolAdmissions #LCCSchoolAdmissions

Please contact your Area Pupil Access Team at any time for assistance or email pupilaccess.central@lancashire.gov.uk This can be particularly useful if you are new to the role of Bursar or School Business Manager, or just want to check out some facts.

Please also note the online system is now live. Research shows that the support parents receive from school is the single most important factor for an on-time application.

For more information, please refer to the posters which can be found later in the newsletter.



Friends of
Brindle
St. Joseph's
Primary School

AGM

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING



The Oak, Hoghton Lane



7:30pm, Tuesday 7th November

EVERYONE WELCOME!

Mission	
Together we love, learn, follow Jesus	
Vision	
At St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, through an open and generous heart, we learn together as a family in faith, following the gospel values of love.	
Values	
Hope	Thankfulness
Collaboration	Compassion
Friendship	Resilience
Empathy	Creativity
Justice	Respect
October	
6 th	CI 6 Collective Worship at 9.15am
10 th	Open Day – 9.30am to 11am
10 th	Multi-skills event for KS1
11 th	CI R/1 Stay & Play from 2pm to 3pm
12 th	CI R/1 Phonics Workshop
	Mixed team football league
13 th	CI 2/3 Collective Worship at 9.15am
16 th	Mindfulness Day
17 th	Girls football league
18 th	Maths Workshop at 9am to 9.45am
19 th	CI 4/5 assembly at 9.15am
	Jam Coding in school to film
	Mixed team football league
20 th	Nasal flu vaccines – more details to follow
	School closes at 3.20pm for half term
23 rd to 27 th	Half Term Holiday
28 th	School re-opens at 8.50am

**Please note, these dates may be subject to change with as much notice given as possible*

Can you help? Would you be interested in listening to children read? If you have a spare hour and would like to join our team of volunteers, we would be pleased to hear from you. Please speak to Mrs Cox in the first instance. Many thanks to those parents who have already offered to be part of our forthcoming Careers Week. If you would be happy to come into school and talk to the children about your job, please speak to a member of staff.

Happy Birthday
Rohan & Stanley

Homework reminder: Just a reminder, homework for every class is given out every **Friday** and should be returned to school on a **Thursday**.

Forest School: We would like to build some new structures in Forest School including a mud kitchen and den/house. If you can help in any way, please speak to Miss Ollerton.

Stanley Grange: This week's group were the last to draw their Halloween designs on the wooden pumpkins made by Ben. Now they are all finished, he is going to carve them out ready for painting!



Change of dates: Please note, we have had to change the date of the maths workshop. Instead of taking place on Monday, it will now take place at **9am on Wednesday, 18th October**.

Class Photos: Your child should have brought home a copy of their class photograph. Orders can be placed online directly with Tempest. However, you can also return your order to school. The last day for sending orders to the office is next Friday (October 13th).



Mutual Respect and Tolerance

The Guinness World Records provides a fantastic opportunity to see the gifts, talents and interests other people living all over the world have. I understand and respect that not everyone is the same as me.

Class R/1 Updates: As well as the Stay and Play on Wednesday at 2pm, Miss Ollerton would like to invite parents to attend a Phonics Workshop on Thursday (October 12th) after school. She would also like to make some special displays in class using photographs of the children. If you are happy to send in pictures, she would like the following:

- ⇒ Photographs of the children with their families for the Home Corner
- ⇒ Photographs of children reading/enjoying books for the Reading Corner



What Parents & Carers Need to Know about AMONG US

A multiplayer 'social deduction' game set in outer space, Among Us enjoyed a surge in popularity in 2020, and has since maintained a dedicated fan-base (globally, around 60 million regular players each month) thanks to its unique nature, simple premise and ease of access across numerous platforms. The game's on-screen action revolves around danger, disguise and deception – and there are certain parallels to be drawn with some of the real-life risks that parents and carers of young Among Us players need to be aware of.



WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

SENSITIVE PREMISE

In Among Us, up to three players are secretly assigned to be alien imposters, tasked with murdering their colleagues while the survivors try to unmask them. While the concept's not far removed from traditional games like Wink Murder or TV shows such as The Traitors, some parents may feel uncomfortable about their child playing a video game in which deception and killing are prioritised.

VIRTUAL VIOLENCE

The on-screen death of characters may be fundamental to the gameplay of Among Us, but the majority of the animations depicting this are deliberately cartoonish and only appear very briefly. However, it is worth bearing in mind that the game has a PEGI age rating of 7 – meaning that certain elements (however heavily stylised they may be) could still upset some younger players.

CHAT BETWEEN PLAYERS

With up to 15 people participating in each game online, a large part of Among Us' appeal is speculating with fellow players who the imposters might be and making accusations. This dialogue through the in-game text chat can occasionally become heated – and could, of course, involve your child being put into contact with people (including adults) who they don't know in real life.

GOING OFF PLATFORM

While Among Us provides basic ways to communicate, many gamers prefer to use external services such as Discord: a popular app which offers voice and video chat functions. These undeniably make cooperation easier, but also create a potential route for children to hear inappropriate language – or for strangers to message them privately in an environment which isn't regulated by the game itself.

IN-GAME PURCHASES

Among Us is free to download on mobile devices, and costs less than £5 to obtain on console and PC. A related longer-term pitfall, though, is that the game also includes options to pay for upgrades such as removing ads on the mobile version or adding cosmetic touches to characters (such as different costumes). It's certainly possible that a child could spend a significant sum without realising it.

Advice for Parents & Carers

CONSIDER SOFTER ALTERNATIVES

Although Among Us is hugely popular with young gamers, it's possible that some children might find the murder themes unsettling. If so, plenty of similar social deduction games are available (in both digital and traditional board game formats) which downplay the potentially grislier elements: some centre around undercover spies, for instance, and there's even a Marvel superhero-themed variant.

CHAT ABOUT CHATting

You might feel it's prudent to talk to your child about the risks associated with voice chat while gaming, explaining in particular that strangers online aren't always who they claim to be. Keeping the conversation relaxed will reinforce your child's confidence that they can always come to you with any online concerns – not just about Among Us, but any potential future issues as well.

DISCUSS DISCORD

In general, Discord is an excellent app for keeping online communities together because of its use of dedicated individual servers, which allow comprehensive control over who can join – and who can't. Once you're familiar with the platform, you could set up a secure server for your child and their friends to communicate during games of Among Us, with no access for people they don't know.

AMONG US, AMONG FRIENDS

When your child and their friends get together, they can enjoy a private game of Among Us by choosing a 'local' lobby – that is, only people connected to the same WiFi (your home network, for example) can enter. This prevents any random online users – who may be total strangers – from joining and removes the need for voice chat, as the players are all physically in the same location.

STOP SURPRISE SPENDING

If you're concerned about the possibility of your child racking up an unexpected bill on Among Us' microtransactions, you could consider using a prepaid card with a set limit. Likewise, you could specify in the game's options that adult authorisation is required for every purchase – or you could make sure that no payment methods are enabled on the device that your child plays the game on.

Meet Our Expert

Lloyd Coombes is Editor in Chief of gaming and esports site GGRecon and has worked in the gaming media for around four years. A regular visitor to the App Store to try out new tools, he's also a parent who understands the value of online safety. Writing mainly about tech and fitness, his articles have been published on influential sites including ION and TechRadar.



**SCHOOL
ADMISSIONS
PRIMARY**

APPLY NOW!
at lancashire.gov.uk/schools

School and Academy places September 2024

You must apply if your child has a 4th birthday between 1 September 2023 and 31 August 2024.

You must apply even if an older brother or sister is already at the school, or the school is linked to your child's nursery.

If you're a non-Lancashire resident apply through your own local authority.

Please read the admission criteria for your chosen schools on the website or get a copy from them.

School transport

Need transport to school?
Please don't forget to check your eligibility for free transport.
Search 'school transport' at lancashire.gov.uk

**CLOSING DATE
15 JANUARY 2024**

lancashire.gov.uk



Comms 8740

**SCHOOL
ADMISSIONS
SECONDARY**

APPLY NOW!
at lancashire.gov.uk/schools

School and Academy places September 2024

You must apply if your child is in their last year of primary school (year 6) from September 2023.

You must apply even if an older brother or sister is already at the school.

If you're a non-Lancashire resident apply through your own local authority.

Please read the admission criteria for your chosen schools on the website or get a copy from them.

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CLOSING DATE
31 OCTOBER 2023

lancashire.gov.uk



Lancashire
County
Council



0204 8740