

St Joseph's Catholic Primary School: Newsletter 15.12.23

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



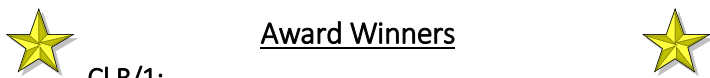
A Message from Miss Dewhurst: This week has been a very exciting one as we have had a very special visitor in school, Bishop Tom. Bishop Tom has been visiting all of the Catholic schools in the Chorley area. As we said to him, he has obviously saved the

best one until last!

The children, as always, were amazing! They celebrated and promoted our school and everything we stand for. Bishop Tom talked to staff and governors; visited classrooms and took part in Collective Workshops; he also answered some very well thought out questions from the children about his vocation. Mini Vinnies sat with him and talked about the work they do in school and in the community and the charities they help raise money for. It was a very special day and a lovely way to share our Catholic faith as a community.

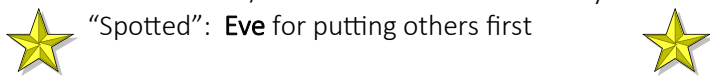


Award Winners



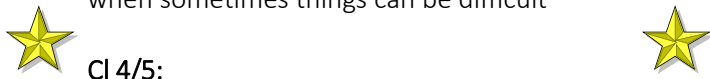
CI R/1:

Dojo Champion: **Mary**
School Values/Mission: **Marnie** for creativity
"Spotted": **Eve** for putting others first



CI 2/3:

Dojo Champion: **Elliott**
School Values/Mission: **Sebby** for creativity
"Spotted": **George** for working hard even when sometimes things can be difficult



CI 4/5:

Dojo Champion: **Dexter**
School Values/Mission: **Freddie** for resilience
"Spotted": **Niamh** for being a fantastic role model and helping others understand our school values



CI 6:

Dojo Champion: **Niamh**
School Values/Mission: **Niamh** for every single one!
"Spotted": **Layla** for being a fantastic friend to others on the playground



Sunday Gospel: A man who was sent by God.

His name was John, John the Baptist. He came as a witness—as a witness to Jesus Christ. Priests were sent from Jerusalem to ask John, "Who are you?" John replied, "I am not the Christ." "Are you the prophet Elijah then—or the Prophet?" they asked. He answered, "No." "So, who are you?" they asked. "What have you to say about yourself?" John replied. "I am the voice of the one who cries in the wilderness: 'Make the Lord's way straight.'" Finally they asked him, "Why are you baptising if you are not the Christ, nor Elijah, nor the Prophet?" John said, "I baptise with water. But someone is coming soon who is more powerful than I am." This happened at Bethany, on the far side of the River Jordan, where John was baptising.
John 1: 6-8

This week spotted:

Ruby

For being kind to everyone at St Joseph's

Happy Birthday

Darcy F

Classroom Catch Up: Excitement is mounting in Class R/1 as we get closer to Christmas. During our walk of the local area on Tuesday, the children enjoyed spreading some Christmas cheer by delivering their hand made Christmas cards to members of the local community. We also enjoyed carrying out a traffic survey whilst on the walk which was linked to our geography topic 'My Local Area'. In Design Technology this week, Year 1 have been busy planning and designing a moving Christmas Card, while Reception have been busy making Christmas decorations for the class tree. It was lovely to see so many of you at this afternoon's festive stay and craft session. Class R/1 would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas!



We have had such a lovely week in Class 2/3 and the children are getting more and more excited as the special day approaches. In our Collective Worships this week we have focused on 'Joy' and

how we can spread happiness and joy at Christmas time. The school had a very special visitor this week when Bishop Tom



popped in. He chatted with the Year 2/3 children about all the lovely things they had planned over this special season. In our English lessons, we finished writing our story about a lonely Christmas reindeer. It has been Design Technology Week, and in

Year 2/3, we designed, baked and decorated our own gingerbread men.



WOW! What a fantastic final full week of term we have had in Class 4/5. The children have finished all of their end of term assessments and I couldn't be prouder of them and the effort they put into showcasing all that they have learnt. In English, we have started to write our own version of the story 'Tyger' which we have been studying this half term. The children have blown me away with their use of vocabulary and sentence structures - I cannot



wait to read the final product. Excitingly, Christmas has slowly been sneaking into our classroom as we have started our Design and Technology unit which is based on designing and creating a light-up Christmas card - watch this space!



It is our final full week of the first term, and I think Class 6 are all in need of a well-earned break! We have finished our geography topic on 'Climate Change' and the class have produced a fantastic 2-page spread to show their understanding of fossil fuels, global warming effects and



COP28. We also had a very exciting visit from Bishop Tom - he shared a Collective Worship with the class, before agreeing to an hour long Q&A session! The children asked some wonderful, deep and meaningful questions, which Bishop Tom answered with genuine honesty and enthusiasm.

Pope Francis: *Jesus entered into our human history in order to tell us that the Most High cares for us, and to remind us that being on God's side involves caring for someone, especially for those who are in greatest need. #Advent (Taken from X)*



Individual Liberty

We can choose what we do with our rubbish. Some of our choices and actions can have a more positive impact on the environment and our health than others.

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Diary Dates

Monday, 18th PTFA Santa Dash
Christmas lunch
Christmas jumper day*
**donations for the Foxtan Centre please. For ideas, of what the centre needs, please refer to the notice on the next page*

Tuesday, 19th Class parties (non-uniform)

Wednesday, 20th Christmas celebration at 10.45am*
School closes at 1.15pm
**all pupils to wear school uniform please*

Stanley Grange: Instead of painting festive windows, this week's group joined Kevin and his band to lead the carol singing at Stanley Grange. They also performed "It was on a starry night"!



School Attendance: Here are our attendance figures for this week
Week Commencing: 11.12.23

	This Week	This Year
Yr R	94.2%	97.3%
Yr 1	93.3%	98.4%
Yr 2	96.7%	96%
Yr 3	96.4%	96%
Yr 4	87.1%	95.2%
Yr 5	97.3%	98.4%
Yr 6	94.7%	96%
Total	93.8%	96.7%

PE and Forest School: When we return in the New Year, PE days will remain the same. However, Year 4 will be having Forest School on a Wednesday morning. Pupils should come to school in the appropriate kit on the following days:

Monday CI R/1 Forest School
Wednesday CI 6 PE
Yr 4 Forest School
Thursday All classes PE
Friday CI R/1 PE
CI 2/3 PE

JOSEPH & NIAMH'S CHRISTMAS APPEAL FOR THE FOXTON CENTRE – PLEASE HELP THE HOMELESS & FAMILIES IN NEED

WE ARE COLLECTING FOR THE
FOXTON CENTRE AGAIN THIS
CHRISTMAS – PLEASE HELP:

TINNED FOOD
WARM CLOTHES (clean/used)
TOYS AND GIFTS
TOILETRIES
LONG LIFE MILK & JUICE
RICE & PASTA
CEREAL BARS



Claire - 07968 254860
29 Bank Head Lane

Made with PosterMyWall.com



Rock Steady:

On Wednesday morning, three bands performed in front of the whole school. Having rehearsed with band leader Alex

over the past term, the children showcased their vocal and musical talents.



Recent Correspondence

Please find below a list of information that has recently been sent out:

- Christmas celebration 20.12.23
- Mini Vinnies visit 19.12.23
- Wrap around provision
- PJ Day 15.12.23
- CI R/1 Festive Stay & Play
- PTFA Santa Dash: 18.12.23
- Stanley Grange: 14.12.23
- Wednesday Word: 13.12.23
- Yr 6: Permission to watch Hunger Games
- Christmas Event reminders
- CI R/1 Walk: 12.12.23

Laps to Lapland:

This morning, Mrs Latham led the last of our laps to Lapland. The whole school went out to complete the final 10 laps of the playground. We made it in time for Christmas!



Children's Liturgy: Sunday is the 3rd Sunday of Advent. It is called Gaudete Sunday where we celebrate all about the joy that Jesus will bring. We light the pink candle on the Advent Wreath.

In the Gospel we hear that John the Baptist came to tell everyone Jesus was coming. Jesus is the light of the world. Why do you think Jesus is called the light of the world? - Jesus is the Son of God and he shows us how we should live – he is a shining light in the darkness for us to follow. A small candle gives out a lot of light. This is like Jesus – shining his light for all to see. But if we share the light we can see so much more! If we share the light of Jesus we can light up the whole world.

How do you think we can share the light of Jesus with others this week?

We do hope you can join us at 9:30am Mass - it would be lovely to see you .

Christmas Masses:

4th Sunday Advent , December 24th at 9.30am

Family Christmas Mass, December 24th at 6pm

Christmas Morning Mass, December 25th at 9:30am

A very Happy Christmas from all Children's Liturgy Team

St Joseph's Christmas

Art Competition

Let us spread the jolliness of Christmas through Art!

Children are invited to create a piece of artwork based on the theme 'An Eco-Friendly Christmas'.

This year's theme is inspired by the letter 'Laudato Si' by Pope Francis which remains a profound invitation for everyone on the planet to care for, respect and value our common home.

All entries must be handed into Miss Ollerton by Monday 18th December. Your child's name and class should be clearly labelled on their entry.

A **Bronze**, **Silver** and **Gold** prize will be awarded. All entries will receive a certificate of participation.



12 Top Tips for Children and Young People to Enjoy a TECH-FREE CHRISTMAS

The Christmas holidays are tailor made for families to enjoy relaxed quality time in each other's company – but with distractions like pinging phone notifications, the lure of games consoles and online Boxing Day sales, that can be more difficult than it sounds. Staying off our phones, laptops and tablets, however, can really help us to appreciate the things that genuinely matter at this special time of year. Follow our 12 top tips for a tech-free festive season ... Yule be glad you did! Merry Christmas!

CHRISTMAS CRAFTING

Get out the paper, glue and scissors and have a go at hand-making cards or gift tags. You could also create your own decorations to add a uniquely personal touch to the Christmas tree.

NATURE QUEST

Try a scavenger hunt in the garden or your local park. Challenge yourself and your family to find natural treasures that are symbolic of this time of year – like holly or pinecones, say.

CAROL KARAOKE

Sing your hearts out with a Christmas carol karaoke night. Pick out your favourite tunes and enjoy a musical celebration with family and friends.

WANDER DOWN MEMORY LANE

How about making a scrapbook filled with your favourite memories from Christmases gone by? Unleash your creativity while you enjoy reliving those magical holiday moments.

TRY REFLECTIVE JOURNALLING

Jot down your thoughts, feelings and reflections on the holiday in a notebook or diary – you could also list some of your main goals for the new year.

WRAP IT UP

Take time to get inventive with some luxurious gift wrapping. Break out the wrapping paper, ribbons and bows to make parcelling up those presents into a creative adventure.

WALK IN A WINTER WONDERLAND

Delight in the great outdoors with some gentle walks over the holiday. The family can all wrap up warm as you add to your step count and savour the crisp winter air together.

BE A SEASONAL CHEF

Get the whole family working together in the kitchen for some Christmas cooking. Choose a recipe and whip up a festive feast that all of you can enjoy.

ENJOY A CHRISTMAS STORY

Christmas is a perfect time for sparkling stories. Get cosy and lose yourself in a brilliant book, from Dickens to Dr Seuss or a more modern favourite by Chris van Allsburg or Tom Fletcher.

SNOWY SCULPTURES

If we're fortunate enough to get a white Christmas this year, make the most of the opportunity by having a family snowman-building competition!

GAMES NIGHT GALA

Dive into some old-school fun with a tech-free games night. Classic board games and card games have stood the test of time for a reason!

GOODWILL TO ALL

You and your family could spend a day volunteering – perhaps at a food bank or helping a local charity. After all, kindness and thinking of others are part of what Christmas is all about.

Meet Our Expert

Minds Ahead design and deliver the UK's only specialist postgraduate mental health qualifications. They also provide training and support to education organisations and local authorities – empowering school leaders and staff with the knowledge and tools to shape their settings into inclusive communities where the mental health of pupils and personnel is prioritised.



The National College



National Online Safety

#WakeUpWednesday

[@natonlinesafety](https://twitter.com/natonlinesafety)

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[@nationalonlinesafety](https://www.instagram.com/nationalonlinesafety)

[@national_online_safety](https://www.tiktok.com/@national_online_safety)

**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



Lancashire
County
Council



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Gregson Lane JFC Players Required U8's Y3

Our U8's (Y3) are looking for new players to join the team immediately to strengthen the team.

If you are interested in joining a team, we have a great set of players and parents who are waiting to welcome you!

Contact Paul for further information:

Email: paulbolton1272@gmail.com

Call/Text: 07715760720



Gregson Lane JFC

Training is on a Tuesday evening 6-7pm
at Walton-Le-Dale High School and the
team plays on Saturday mornings.

All Coaches are DBS Checked.

If you are interested in coaching an U8's team please reach out

