

# St Joseph's Catholic Primary School: Newsletter 12.01.24

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:** A warm welcome back to all of our children and families after, what I hope has been, a lovely and peaceful Christmas break!

I certainly enjoyed the time after the hustle and bustle of Christmas and New Year, to have the opportunity to stop and unwind!

It has been lovely catching up with all of the children and hearing about their adventures over the holidays.

In Collective Worship, we talked about new beginnings and shared ideas of what we wanted to achieve this year. We talked about new chapters and new beginnings being like a blank page of a story book and we have the power to write and complete the story any way we want. As long as we give and do our best; get excited about new possibilities; try new things; say our prayers, knowing God is with us; then our future is bright with endless possibilities...

Wishing all of our families a happy and healthy 2024.



## Award Winners



CI R/1:

Dojo Champion: **Isaac**

School Values/Mission: **Fawn** for creativity

"Spotted": **Freddie** for his bravery and courage



CI 2/3:

Dojo Champion: **Tiffany**

School Values/Mission: **Sienna** for thankfulness

"Spotted": **Emily** for providing such a genuine and thoughtful answer when asked what she wanted from a new teacher



CI 4/5:

Dojo Champion: **Darcie**

School Values/Mission: **Emily** for creativity

"Spotted": **Stanley** for being kind to his peers, supporting them when needed



CI 6:

Dojo Champion: **Niah**

School Values/Mission: **Halle** for respect

"Spotted": **Ben** for great contributions during our WW2 discussion



This week spotted: **Emily B**

For always working out how to include others in games

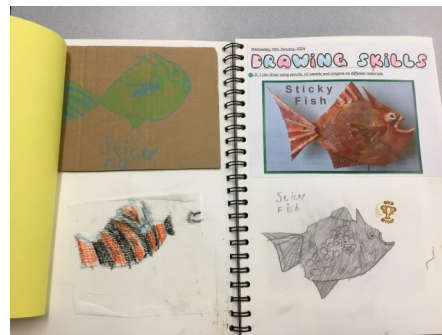
School Attendance: Here are our attendance figures for this week

Week Commencing: 08.01.24

	This Week	This Year
Yr R	91.7%	96.8%
Yr 1	99.2%	98.5%
Yr 2	100%	96.2%
Yr 3	99.1%	96.3%
Yr 4	100%	95.3%
Yr 5	100%	98.3%
Yr 6	100%	96.4%
Total	98.7%	96.8%

## Classroom Catch Up: Wow!

What a busy first week back we've had in Class R/1! It has been Art Week and the children have been busy exploring the artwork of Darrell Wakelam. They've been developing their drawing skills through using different media to draw on a range of materials whilst also



developing their knowledge and understanding of joining materials in different ways. It has been lovely to see how inspired the children have been by Wakelam's work and this has been reflected during the designing and making process of their own 3D model made from recycled materials. Class R/1 have also been getting creative in other areas of the curriculum such as computing, where they have been learning about animations. To end the week, we began our dance topic in PE which is always popular! The Year One children also participated in a TriKidz PE lesson on Friday which they thoroughly enjoyed, while Reception pupils completed an obstacle course.

It has been a fantastic first week back in Class 2/3, and it has been a pleasure to get to know the children. In maths, Year 2 have started their first unit of 2024, using money to solve problems, and Year 3 are doing some consolidation on addition and subtraction. We are linking our history and English topics, looking at The Great Fire of London, and using the book by Emma Adams to help it come to life.



We've had a wonderful first week back in Class 4/5. In English, we have been innovating and presenting our stories from before Christmas and the children have done an amazing job. In maths, Year 4 have been looking at multiplying by powers of 10, whilst Year 5 continue with the never-ending fractions unit. It has also been Art Week and we have been looking at the local artist Helen Bradley whose work is incredible. The children will be recreating a piece of their own and I cannot wait to see what they produce.



In Year 6, we have started our English unit, 'Stories with a Theme' by looking at Goodnight Mister Tom, an absolutely fantastic story which, after 42 years, still grips children and adults across the country. We are already looking at ways to rewrite the story with a twist, and I know Year 6's finished pieces will amaze me! In maths, we have finished our unit on, 'Converting Measures' and we are now ready to start our next topic on, 'Ratio and Proportion'. Pupils also completed their lighthouse dioramas.

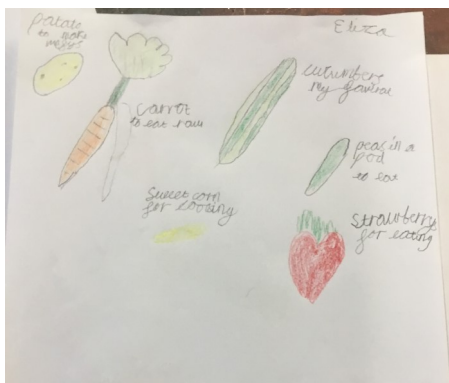
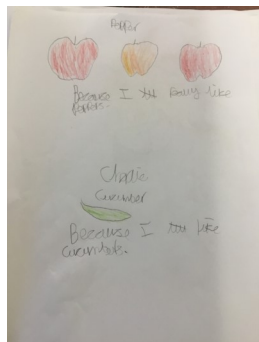


**Pope Francis:** *One word in particular resounds in the two principal Christian feasts. That word is "peace". Peace is primarily a gift of God, but it is also a responsibility incumbent upon all of us. (Taken from X)*



**Sunday Gospel:** As John stood with two of his disciples, Jesus passed, and John stared hard at him and said, "Look, there is the lamb of God." Hearing this, the two disciples followed Jesus. Jesus turned round, saw them following and said, "What do you want?" They answered, "Rabbi," - which means Teacher—"where do you live?" "Come and see," he replied; so they went and saw where he lived, and stayed with him the rest of that day. It was about the tenth hour. One of these two (who became followers of Jesus after hearing what John had said) was Andrew, the brother of Simon Peter. Early next morning, Andrew met his brother and said to him, "We have found the Messiah," - which means the Christ—and he took Simon to Jesus. Jesus looked hard at him and said, "You are Simon son of John; you are to be called Cephas," - meaning Rock. John 1: 35-42 (Wednesday Word)

**Stanley Grange:** This week's group have started work on planning what should be grown on our plot. Looking at what grew well last year, and what didn't, they came up with some ideas for the different fruit and vegetables that would grow well in our local environment.



**Forest School:** In Forest School this week, Y4 enjoyed sharing their New Year resolutions around the fire pit. Some of the children had fun writing their resolutions on fallen leaves and tying them to their favourite trees. Working in teams, the children enjoyed using the tarpaulins, paracord and ropes to build a group shelter. It was lovely to see the children's creativity, problem solving skills and independence develop during the session. Y4 demonstrated our school value of resilience brilliantly throughout the session. When their shelter was too low or too small, they didn't give up! They worked together to transport branches to increase the central height of the shelter. Some groups further demonstrated determination to succeed by searching for a new location to build their shelter.





## Mutual Respect and Tolerance

We are all different. Learning about each other can help us understand and respect one another. Emojis should represent our diverse world and be inclusive.



© Picture News 2024

**PTFA Meeting:** The next meeting will take place on Tuesday, 23rd January. Everyone is welcome to go along to the Old Oak at 7.15pm.

### Recent Correspondence

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

- CI 2/3 Information
- Wednesday Word
- PE & Forest School Updates
- First Communion: January 2024
- Art Week Materials: Yr 1
- School meals w/c 15.01.24

**Reminders:** Can we please remind you to label your children's clothing, especially sweatshirts, cardigans and PE hoodies. As you can appreciate, when children take off their sweatshirts, cardigans and hoodies, it is difficult to return the correct item if they are unnamed. Yet again, we have a huge amount of lost property at the front of school, the majority of which is not named. If your child is missing an item, please do have a look in our box. Further to this, please ensure your child comes to school dressed in the appropriate uniform, this includes school PE uniform. If you are unsure, a full list of information about uniform can be found on our website. Please note, football and gym clothing is not part of our uniform. However, pupils can wear plain navy track pants or long leggings. As per our uniform policy: "long hair should be tied up at all times and any hairbands must be in school colours and of a very simple design". Similarly, "In the interests of safety, security and uniformity, the only jewellery children can wear is an inexpensive watch. Children must not wear any watch that can take / receive photos or messages. However, a watch that counts steps e.g. a Fitbit can be worn."

### Happy Birthday

Harley, Esmail, Emelia, Arthur M & Phoebe

**PE and Forest School:** Just a reminder, classes will be having sessions on the following days.

**Monday** Forest School—CI R/1  
PE—C 4/5 & CI 6

**Wednesday** Forest School—Yr 4

**Thursday** PE—all classes

**Friday** PE—CI R/1 & CI 2/3

If there are any changes, or additional sessions, messages will be sent out via School Spider.

**Children's Liturgy:** We do hope you all had a good break. Sunday is 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Ordinary time. The gospel tells us about how some of the disciples first became followers of Jesus. Jesus looked at Simon and decided he should be called Peter, which means "rock". Why do you think Jesus chose this name for Simon Peter? Simon Peter was strong and dependable (like a rock) and he was the foundation for the Church. (Buildings are built on rock foundations so that they do not fall over).

Names are very important. We all have one, or two, or maybe even three. And some of us have a nickname that we like to be called by our family or our friends. How many names do you have? What are they? Do you know what your name means? What do you like about your name? We are all part of God's family and so God knows us all by our name and loves and cares for us wherever we are in the world. God's family spreads out all over the world and includes all kinds of different people. God wants us to treat each other fairly, with love and respect and to care for one another. So, how will you treat your brothers and sisters here and around the world in the coming week? We do hope you can join us at 9:30am Mass - it would be lovely to see you

# What Children & Young People Need to Know about

# FREE VS HATE SPEECH

Everyone in the UK has the right of "freedom of expression". That's the right to voice your opinions and share information and ideas with others. It's *not* the right to say whatever you want without regard for others' feelings and values. We all have a responsibility to use this right properly: being respectful and inclusive to those around us, rather than making offensive and threatening remarks. That's called 'hate speech' and knowing the difference is incredibly important.

Free speech is a person's legal right to share information, opinions and ideas without fear of retaliation, censorship or legal consequences. This freedom of expression is recognised in international human rights legislation, and here's what it does for us in our day-to-day lives ...

The Human Rights Act 1988 states that everyone has the right to express themselves freely – even if their views are unpopular and might offend others.

Freedom of expression encourages listening to others and allowing opposing views to be heard. It's important to respect someone's opinion, even if we disagree with it. Free speech lets us engage in meaningful discussions with people who feel differently.

Any concept could potentially offend someone. Galileo's theories were incredibly offensive to many at the time, while not everyone agrees with Darwin, even today. A frequent exchange of ideas is vitally important for a healthy society.

Free speech allows us to engage people we disagree with in a debate. The ability to challenge others' views is healthy – while having *ours* challenged helps us learn how to deal with criticism and think deeply about what we say and believe.

Freedom of expression includes the right *not* to do something, like not standing up for – or singing – the national anthem. Even though some people would find that offensive, it isn't illegal. By law, nobody can force you to say anything you don't want to.

Free speech is a powerful tool for change, justice and reform. Many modern UK rights – such as women being allowed to vote, decent working conditions or same-sex marriage – couldn't have been achieved without it.

Hate speech refers to any communication – like talking, texting or posting online – that negatively targets a group or an individual because they are perceived to be different in some way. Demonsing and dehumanising statements, threats, identity-based insults, offensive name-calling and slurs would all count as hate speech. Here are some common forms it takes...

Targeting people or groups because of a protected characteristic – like race, gender identity, sexuality, nationality, religion or a disability – and verbally abusing them with slurs and name-calling. The Equality Act 2010 has more information on this.

Content that dehumanises people based on the same characteristics: referring to them as if they were animals, objects or other non-human entities, for example. Separating the target from other human beings is usually an attempt to justify the speaker's bigotry.

Calling for violence or hatred against certain people or groups and justifying and glorifying those actions. Suggesting that a certain group should be removed from society could be seen as a call to arms, for example – potentially putting people from that group in danger.

Claiming that specific types of people are physically, mentally or morally inferior (or even that they are criminals) to encourage others to view them in the same way. This kind of thinking is always incorrect – but can be incredibly harmful to the group in question.

Spreading damaging misinformation about a person or group that the speaker views as "different" – essentially, trying to turn others against them by lying. Someone might claim that a recent tragedy is the fault of this entire group, when this is simply not possible.

Promoting the segregation of certain groups, or discrimination against them, because of who they are. This has been illegal in the UK for a long time – but some people still try to promote the exclusion of others, which can cause a huge amount of distress.

## Meet Our Expert

The Global Equality Collective is an online community for homes, schools and businesses, a collective of hundreds of subject matter experts in diversity, equality and inclusion, and the organisation behind the GEC app, the world's first app for diversity, equality and inclusion.

GLOBAL  
EQUALITY  
COLLECTIVE

The  
National  
College



National  
Online  
Safety

#WakeUpWednesday

Source: <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2010/15/contents>  
<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1998/42/schedule/14/text-1/Everyone%20has%20the%20right%20to%20freedom%20of%20expression>

@natonlinesafety

/NationalOnlineSafety

@nationalonlinesafety

@national\_online\_safety

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 10.01.2023

**SCHOOL  
ADMISSIONS  
PRIMARY**

**APPLY NOW!**  
at [lancashire.gov.uk/schools](https://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](https://lancashire.gov.uk)

**CLOSING DATE  
15 JANUARY 2024**

[lancashire.gov.uk](https://lancashire.gov.uk)



**Lancashire**  
County  
Council



© Crown 8/20