

St Joseph's Catholic Primary School: Newsletter 17.05.24

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: Today in school we celebrated Mental Health Awareness Week, which I have to say feels a little ironic considering it has also been SATs week. Our Year Six children, however, should be as proud of themselves as we are, for demonstrating resilience, determination and sheer effort and hard work. A big thank you to the rest of the school for supporting them, working quietly and changing their timetables slightly too. We have come together

today to remind ourselves of the importance of mental health and learn about the things we can do to have a healthy body and mind.

Days and weeks like this one, highlight, as always, how close we are as a school family sharing our values of collaboration, friendship and thankfulness. All of our learning and efforts this week are truly apt as this Sunday's Gospel marks the beginning of when the mission of the church really began, over 2000 years ago. We learn about Pentecost, where the Holy Spirit came to give courage to Jesus' disciples, allowing them to go out and spread the message Jesus taught. In assembly today, we discussed how, as a school, we can always make sure we do this too, by showing kindness, care and patience towards each other and making sure we always give and try our best.



Sunday Gospel: In the evening, the disciples were gathered in a room. They had locked the doors because they were afraid of the people who had crucified Jesus. Jesus came and stood among them. "Peace be with you," he said to them. He showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples were filled with joy when they saw the Lord. "Peace be with you," Jesus said to them again. "As the Father has sent me, so I now send you." When he had said this, he breathed on them. "Receive the Holy Spirit," he said to them. "If you forgive the sins of anyone, then they are forgiven. If you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven."

John 20: 19-23 (Wednesday Word)

W/C 20.05.24 BRINDLE ST JOSEPHS COME, GROW AND EXPLORE WITH US!



MONDAY
WORLD
BUMBLE BEE
DAY

TUESDAY

CHOCOLATE
COVERED
APPLE AND
BANANAS

WEDNESDAY
CLAY
MAKING

THURSDAY

WORLD
TURTLE
DAY

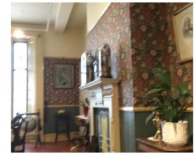
FRIDAY

PARTY DAY!

FUN!

PLUS ARTS AND CRAFT SESSIONS

Classroom Catch Up: On Tuesday, Class R/1 visited Fleetwood Museum to participate in their Victorian Seaside special event. The class had the opportunity to dress up, just like Victorians and pose for a group photograph! They discovered how Victorian children would have entertained themselves on a rainy day by the sea and made their own pebble picture as a souvenir to take back to school. In addition, they learnt about Victorian toys and pastimes. A highlight of the visit for many of the children was watching the Punch and Judy show at the end. After a busy morning in the museum, we enjoyed a picnic lunch by the beach and had lots of fun collecting shells and building sandcastles. It was a fantastic trip which ended with a delicious ice cream and a surprise treat of a goody bag to take home. The children represented St Joseph's brilliantly and demonstrated many of our school values throughout the day. Well done, Class R/1!



Class 2/3 have started their new topic on Pentecost this week, looking at how the Holy Spirit renewed the faith of Mary and the 12 apostles after the Ascension of Jesus. In science, we have been looking at what humans and animals need to survive. We had an interesting conversation about how long you could go without eating!!! The Year



Two's used all their skills this week in PE when they played a full game of rounders with Year Six—the year groups were mixed up and Year Three are continuing to enjoy going swimming.

We've had an incredibly productive week in Class 4/5. In English, we have finished off our biographies unit by writing our own biography based on one of the influential women in our text 'Hidden Figures'.

In maths, we have finished our decimal and fractions unit and moved onto angles for both year groups – a unit which the children always enjoy. In R.E., we have started our unit of Pentecost by thinking about the energy that is available to us in the world and how it changes our lives. Finally, in worship this week we have been thinking about the tools we are equipped with for when things becoming challenging in life (particularly apt with this week being SATs week for Year Six) the children had some very well thought out responses which mostly linked to faith and their support network both in school and at home.

It has been Year 6 SATs this week! There were some challenges along the way and some very tricky questions to answer, but pupils never gave up & never lost hope! They have done our school community proud and can now look forward to enjoying their final weeks in school. I (Mr Astle) would also like to thank the whole school, pupils, staff, parents and governors for their support throughout this week—it's definitely been a team effort!



Parking: As school is located on a residential street, could we remind all parents and families who drive up Bournes Row to be mindful of our neighbours. On a number of occasions cars have been parked in such a way that they have blocked driveways and prevented residents from leaving or entering their drives. If you can, we would encourage you to park away from school and walk where possible.



School Uniform: Please can we remind you that the only jewellery pupils can wear is an inexpensive watch or Fitbit equivalent but nothing that takes or receives photos or messages. Long hair should be tied up at all times and any accessories must be of a simple design and in school colours. Our PE kit comprises shadow striped navy shorts and a navy dri-cool t-shirt with trainers. In addition, pupils can wear plain navy track pants or long leggings and a sky blue hoodie. Please remember to name every item of your child's uniform as we continue to have a number of unnamed sweatshirts, cardigans and hoodies in lost property.



Award Winners



CI R/1:

Dojo Champion: **Riley**

School Values/Mission: Collaboration—



Oscar for always working well in a team during Forest School sessions, suggesting great ideas to his friends and listening to the opinion of others



“Spotted”: **Fawn** for asking and answering lots of interesting questions during the trip to Fleetwood



CI 2/3:

Dojo Champion: **Tiffany**

School Values/Mission: Friendship—**Sam** for always looking after his friends and making sure they are all ok



“Spotted”: **Rowan** for working hard in all subjects this week



CI 4/5:

Dojo Champion: **Darcie**

School Values/Mission: Creativity—**Eliza** for ensuring that her work is always the best that it can be



“Spotted”: **Leon** for working independently and showing a love for learning



CI 6:

School Values/Mission: Resilience & Hope—**Year 6** for never giving up!



“Spotted”: **Rowan** for recognising the three key elements of the Holy Spirit, the dove, fire and wind



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Pope Francis: *Christian #Hope does not deceive or disappoint. It is based on the certainty that nothing and no one can ever separate us from the love of God. Hope perseveres in the midst of trials, and is founded on faith and nurtured by charity. It enables us to press forward in life.*
(Taken from X)

Recent Correspondence

Please find below a list of information that has been sent out this week.

Remember to check School Spider for all communication from school:

Leavers Mass: 12.07.24

Kidsafe Day: 17.05.24

Stanley Grange: Group 1 16.05.24

Wednesday Word

Telephone system

CI R/1 Fleetwood Trip

School Meals: Week Commencing 20.05.24

School Attendance:

	This Week	This Year
Yr R	96.7%	99.2%
Yr 1	97.7%	100%
Yr 2	94.8%	98.9%
Yr 3	94.5%	95.5%
Yr 4	95.2%	100%
Yr 5	97.9%	97.1%
Yr 6	96%	98.7%
Total	96.2%	98.5%

This week spotted: Florence

For always smiling and making others feel better

Happy Birthday:

Marnie-Mae, Charlotte, Rory & William P

PTFA raffle: Every child will be bringing home some raffle tickets which cost £1 each. Counterfoils and money should be returned to school no later than Wednesday, 13th June. Additional tickets are available from the school office. The raffle will be drawn at the Parish Hall on Saturday, 15th June at 4.30pm as part of our fund-raising family fun day.

Children's Liturgy: Sunday is the feast of Pentecost. The disciples were filled with the Holy Spirit and this gave them the courage to go out and tell everyone about Jesus. The disciples were scared of people they thought would hurt them and so they were hiding away. But when Jesus came, they rejoiced, and he gave them a very special gift, the gift of the Holy Spirit.

We cannot see the Holy Spirit, like we can see each other. The Holy Spirit is like the wind. We cannot see the wind, but we can certainly feel it on a windy day. We can see the leaves moving in the trees because of the wind, or a kite flying high in the sky. The wind can be very strong and powerful. Just like the wind, we can see the effects of the Holy Spirit. Can you think of how we might see the Holy Spirit moving in our world?

The Holy Spirit can work through us when we are kind to our family and friends, when we think about other people around the world, and when we work together with people who need our help.

The Holy Spirit can also give us courage to speak out, just like the disciples in today's readings. Can you think of a time when it might be difficult to say what you really think?

What will you do this week to show the effects of the Holy Spirit in your life?

We would love to see you at 9:30am Mass on Sunday for Children's Liturgy. St Joseph's Children's Liturgy Team

Stanley Grange: This week's winners of the crazy golf competition were Lavinia for the girls and James for the boys. Well done to both!

There will be no visit to Stanley Grange on Thursday. Sessions will start again after half term with Group 2. A reminder will be sent out on School Spider.



**SUMMER
FAMILY FUNDAY**

Saturday 15th June
2pm to 5pm

**FREE ENTRY
FREE PARKING**

- fun & games •
- bar & refreshments •
- inflatables •
- raffle •
- entertainment •
- market stalls •
- face painting •
- and much more!

PARISH HALL, PRIVATE ROAD, HOGHTON, PR5 ODE



What Parents & Educators Need to Know about SCHOOL AVOIDANCE

Emotionally Based School Avoidance is a term used to refer to reduced attendance or non-attendance at school by a child or young person. It's often rooted in emotional, mental health or wellbeing issues. The rate of children who miss school more than 10% of the time in England has more than doubled since before the pandemic: rising from 10.9% in 2018-19, to 22.3% in 2022-23.

UNDERSTANDING SCHOOL AVOIDANCE

REASONS FOR ABSENCE

School avoidance is sometimes underpinned by several factors rather than one single cause. This could include something going on for the child or young person within the family or at school. A child may have caring responsibilities at home, for instance, or a change in family dynamics; bullying and friendship difficulties at school; pressure to achieve in schoolwork and exams; or moving from primary school to secondary school.

PATTERNS OF ABSENCE

You may notice patterns in regular absences or children regularly expressing that they don't want to attend school (particularly being reluctant to leave home on school days). If a child or young person is neurodiverse, there is some evidence to suggest there are more aspects of school life which can cause distress – such as changes in the environment, changes of routine and sensory stimuli.

COMPLAINTS ABOUT PHYSICAL SYMPTOMS

There may be an increase in a child or young person's complaints about physical symptoms, particularly on school days or the evening before school. These could include complaining of a tummy ache, headache, or saying they feel ill when there doesn't appear to be a medical cause. Always check with the GP first to rule out medical causes or illness.

IMPACT OF SCHOOL AVOIDANCE

LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT

School refusal can negatively impact a young person's learning and development. Attending school on a regular basis not only supports academic attainment but is also important for the development of key life skills and the growth of children and young people as citizens.

LONG-TERM OUTCOMES

The difficulties associated with school non-attendance can be far reaching and may have a negative impact on long-term outcomes. It may, for example, lead to reduced future aspirations, poor emotional regulation, mental health difficulties, limited academic progress and restricted employment opportunities.

CYCLE OF ABSENCE

Consistent absences may contribute to sustained school avoidance over time. Further to this, the longer a pupil is out of education, the more likely it is that there is a rise in their ongoing need to avoid the activity which is making them anxious – increasing their desire to stay at home.

Advice for Parents & Educators

WORK TOGETHER

If there's a concern about a child's absence and emotional wellbeing, it's important that there is clear communication and a consistent approach between the child's parents and the school, so you can take a child-centred approach together towards a plan of support or reintegration. This ensures a consistency of approach from both home and school, creating better outcomes for the child.

MANAGING OVERWHELMING FEELINGS

While there may be times you feel frustrated or angry, try to stay calm; acknowledge the child's worries, listen and discuss a range of coping strategies together to help them face the discomfort and overwhelming feelings. These could include mindfulness, deep breathing or going for a walk and practice the strategies in less overwhelming situations first.

FOLLOW REGULAR ROUTINES

Children can benefit from a regular and consistent routine. This could be a morning routine, from waking up and having breakfast through to getting dressed, packing their bag and leaving the house. A consistent evening routine which is calm and limited time on screens can also give children much needed predictability and familiarity. Schools can help create a timetabled routine for the child's school day, if required.

REDUCE STIMULATING ACTIVITIES AT HOME

If a child is avoiding school, reduce their access to more stimulating activities (such as watching television, playing games and spending time with friends) during school hours, where possible. This reduces the potential for the child having rewarding experiences at home, which could be interpreted as a positive aspect of avoiding school.

Meet Our Expert

With 30 years' experience as a teacher, trainer, consultant and interim executive board member, Anna Bateman has a superb understanding of what works in pedagogy, school improvement and leadership. She has also advised the Department for Education on their mental health green paper.



The National College

Source: See full reference list on guide page at: nationalcollege.com/guides/school-avoidance

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