

# St Joseph's Catholic Primary School: Newsletter 31.01.25

## 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

### Headteacher's Weekly Round Up:

*We launched the Jubilee Year of Hope in school this week. We are lucky because we see seeds of hope in the children every day in different ways. Their kindness, their joy, their willingness to forgive, their wonderful manners and their happy smiling faces give us hope or a bright future in their hands.*

*We are the educators, but may we not lose sight of the fact that we can learn a lot from children.*

*Have a lovely weekend!*

*Mrs Brownsey*

**Pope Francis:** *Christian #hope is greater than any situation on life, because hope has its foundation in God, not in other people. What seems impossible for human beings is possible for God*



**Classroom Round Up:** It has been another productive week in **Class R/1!** In Phonics this week, Reception have been focusing on the 'ur' sound, while Year One have been exploring the 'aw, or and ore' sounds. In English, we have been reading 'Lost and Found' and 'The Way Back Home' by Oliver Jeffers. The children enjoyed comparing the similarities and differences between the two texts and asking interesting questions such as 'Why does the boy not have a name?' In RE this week, we have been learning about the story of Jesus in the Temple. The children enjoyed retelling the story and making cards for their friends and family to show how they can be a shining light too. To end the week, the children enjoyed creating some artwork inspired by Jesus' call to the disciples.

In **Class 2/3/4,** we have had another brilliant week! In English, the children have enjoyed creating their own adverts for Julius Zebra, including adverbs and subordinate conjunctions. The children loved continuing their artwork, 'painting with scissors' just like the artist Henri Matisse. During our history lesson, we researched and learnt all about Roman Emperors and what their role entailed.

It has been a brilliant week in **Class 5/6!** The children have been thoroughly enjoying our new English text and have produced some brilliant pieces of writing linked with this. In maths, Yr 5 have been looking at the written method of multiplication, whilst Yr 6 have been focusing on algebra. The children also started their DT unit this week 'Building an Electrical Game'. It all started with fun and games - literally! The children were tasked with testing the current product market of toys and then reviewing them. This unit has come at a great time as the children have just finished the electrical unit in science and therefore can apply their new knowledge when building their own circuits for their games.



**Sunday Gospel:** When the day came for them to be purified as laid down by the Law of Moses, the parents of Jesus took him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord and, in accordance with the Law, they offered two young pigeons in sacrifice. Now in Jerusalem there was a man named Simeon. He was an upright and devout man and it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death until he had set eyes on the Christ of the Lord. Prompted by the Spirit he came to the Temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus to do for him what the Law required, he took him into his arms and blessed God; and he said: "Now, Master, you can let your servant die in peace, just as you promised; because my eyes have seen the salvation which you have prepared for all the nations to see, a light to enlighten the pagans and the glory of your people Israel." Jesus' parents took him back to Nazareth where Jesus grew to maturity, and he was filled with wisdom; and God's favour was with him.  
Luke 2: 22-40 (Wednesday Word)

## School Attendance:

	This Week	This Year
Yr R	95.4%	96.4%
Yr 1	96.7%	97.1%
Yr 2	98.2%	95.8%
Yr 3	95.6%	94.3%
Yr 4	94.5%	95.2%
Yr 5	97.6%	95.7%
Yr 6	98.7%	97.4%
Total	96.8%	96.1%

### This week spotted by pupils: Jamie

For helping another pupil during guitar

**Children's Liturgy:** Sunday is the feast of the Presentation of the Lord. Jesus' parents Mary and Joseph took him to the Temple, to present him to God. There were two other people in the story today too, who see the baby Jesus and recognise how important he is. Simeon is an old man, who has been promised by God that he will see Christ – the saviour of the world. When he sees the baby Jesus, Simeon knows that the child is the Son of God. Simeon tells everyone how special Jesus is. Anna is also in the Temple. She has spent almost her whole life there serving God. She sees the baby Jesus and begins to praise God. Even though he was just a baby, Simeon and Anna could see just how important Jesus was. They did not judge by what Jesus looked like. They were filled with faith and they knew in their hearts just how special and important he was.

Our faith tells us that each person, no matter who they are, is made in the image of God. That means that we can see something special in each and every person. So, can you be like Simeon and Anna this week, and through our faith open your eyes to see God in each other? How can we treat others to show that we recognise how important and special all people are?

We would love to see you on Sunday at 9:30am Mass - Children's Liturgy Room.

## Award Winners

### Cl R/1:

Dojo Champion: **Ginny**

School Values/Mission: **Archie A**—Respect—for always being kind and respectful towards both his teachers and his peers.

### Cl 2/3/4

Dojo Champion: **Isabella**

School Values/Mission: **Mary**—Resilience—for showing great confidence in herself and joining in with class discussions in all lessons, sharing her fantastic answers! Well done Mary!

### Cl 5/6:

Dojo Champion: **Charlotte**

School Values/Mission: **Harriet**—Love—for demonstrating a love for learning and producing some brilliant pieces of writing this week.

### Stanley Grange:

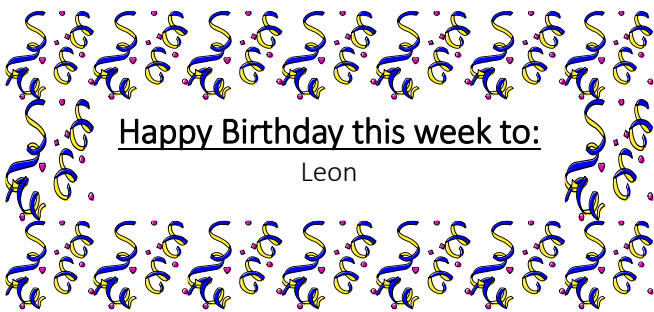
Year 1 pupils decorated egg boxes to store the potatoes that they chitted.

These will now be left in the dark to start growing and children will check on them every week. During their visit to the allotment, pupils also spotted signs of Spring as they saw daffodils starting to emerge, as well as garlic.



## Diary Dates:

Monday, 3rd February	Start of children's mental health week; Yogi Group sessions in school
Friday, 7th February	CI R/1 Stay & play at 2pm
Tuesday, 11th February	Internet Safety themed lunch SRSP Cross Country event at Hutton Grammar School
Thursday, 13th February	PTFA disco
Friday, 14th February	School closes at 3.20pm
Monday, 17th to Friday, 21st	Half Term
Monday, 24th February	School re-opens Start of Yr 6 residential Swimming for Year 4
Tuesday, 25th February	Year 5—young leaders training
Thursday, 27th February	Year 6—House of Parliament visit
Friday, 28th February	M&M Productions—Wizard of Oz



**Happy Birthday this week to:**

Leon

## Lost Property:

Mrs Edgerley has cleared the KS2 cloakroom today. Although some items of clothing have been returned to their owners, we still have a full box in the school foyer which includes these three leotards.



Please do check the box over the coming week to see if any items are your child's. The box will be emptied at half term and anything that is left will be sent for recycling.

The rail of "new to you" uniform items is also in the entrance. Before you buy, please see if there is anything in the right size on this rail—it is free of charge!

## Recent Correspondence

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

*CI R/1 Walk: 03.02.25*

*SATs & Residential Information: Yr 6*

*Wednesday Word*

*Wizard of Oz: 28.02.25*

*School Meals: Week commencing 03.02.25*

*PTFA disco*

*Yr 6 Transport*

*Swimmin lesson—Yr 4*

## Mental Health Week:

Next week there is a focus on children's mental health. On Monday, the Yogi Group will be in school to lead sessions for each class. Pupils can come to school dressed in their PE kits for the day in preparation for these sessions. Class teachers will also be leading age appropriate sessions from the Kidsafe programme.



## M&M Production:

Many thanks to those parents who have already paid for the "Wizard of Oz". We are asking for contributions of £8 per child. Payments can be made via School Spider or to the school office.



## Democracy

We all have the right to share our ideas and be listened to. At COP29, world leaders showed democracy in action by working together to make decisions that will protect our planet.





Friends of  
Brindle  
St. Joseph's  
Primary School

SCHOOL

DISCO!

THURSDAY 13TH  
FEBRUARY

6PM - 7:30PM

IN THE SCHOOL HALL

£5 per child & £3 for siblings  
includes drinks, sweets, snack and a small  
gift!

TICKETS ON SALE NOW  
FROM THE SCHOOL OFFICE

# 10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators

## SUPPORTING CHILDREN TO DEVELOP EMOTIONAL LITERACY

Emotional literacy refers to the ability to recognise, understand and express our feelings effectively. It plays a crucial role in strengthening a child's wellbeing by enhancing their relationships and resilience. However, emotional literacy is not necessarily an innate talent, and its development may present challenges. This guide gives parents and educators practical tips on supporting children to cultivate this essential skill.

### 1 NAME THE EMOTION

Encourage children to identify and name their emotions. This helps them understand what they're feeling and why. Use simple language and relatable examples to make it easier for them to share their emotions. This builds a foundation for emotional understanding and open communication.



### 2 MODEL EMOTIONAL EXPRESSION

Demonstrate healthy emotional expression by sharing your feelings visibly. When children see adults properly displaying how they're doing and what they're thinking, they learn to do the same. Discuss how you handle emotions in different circumstances, providing a real-life framework for young ones to follow.



### 3 MINDFULNESS ACTIVITIES

Teach children mindfulness practices to help them stay present and manage their emotions during more challenging moments. Activities like deep breathing, meditation or yoga can reduce stress and enhance emotional regulation. Regular practice can improve focus and emotional stability, which can significantly help children both as they're growing up and throughout their adult life.



### 4 USE STORYTELLING

Incorporate storytelling to help children understand emotions. Stories can offer relevant scenarios illustrating how the characters experience and manage their feelings. Discuss the emotions depicted in stories and ask children how they might feel in similar situations.



### 5 PRACTISE EMPATHY

Teach children to consider others' views and emotions – and to explore why they might think or feel this way. Role-playing and discussing various scenarios can enhance their ability to empathise. Understanding others' emotions helps children to develop compassion and improves their social interactions.



### 6 ENCOURAGE JOURNALING

Suggest keeping a journal to make note of thoughts and emotions, as writing can provide an outlet for self-reflection and emotional processing. Encourage children to write about their daily experiences and feelings, helping them gain insight into their emotional world. Do this alongside them, so they can see and experience how to do it effectively.



### 7 TEACH PROBLEM-SOLVING

Do what you can to help children develop problem-solving skills to assist in managing emotional challenges. Discuss potential solutions to emotional conflicts and encourage them to think critically about what they (and others) can do to process their feelings in a healthy way. This empowers children to handle emotions positively and build resilience.



### 8 CREATE A SAFE SPACE

Establish an environment where children feel safe to display their emotions without judgement. Encourage open exchanges and reassure them that all feelings are valid. This supportive atmosphere promotes trust and encourages children to express themselves with confidence.



### 9 USE VISUAL AIDS

Take advantage of visual aids like emotion charts or mood meters to help children identify and express their feelings. Use these tools regularly in your interactions. They provide a visual representation of emotions, making it easier for children to communicate their emotional state.



### 10 CELEBRATE EMOTIONAL GROWTH

Acknowledge and celebrate progress in emotional literacy, and praise children for expressing their emotions and handling them effectively. Positive reinforcement is a useful tool that will encourage continued growth and reinforces the importance of emotional literacy – encouraging young people to maintain the good habits and healthy behaviours that you've taught them.



## Meet Our Expert

Adam Gillett is Associate Vice-Principal for Personal Development at Penistone Grammar School and works on secondment one day a week for Minds Ahead, an organisation that supports schools in improving their mental health provision.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College