

# St Joseph's Catholic Primary School: Newsletter 28.03.25

## 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 are nearly at the end of what has been a long and busy term. We have emerged from the cold dark mornings and seen the weather getting warmer each week. The children have gone from strength to strength with their learning and Year 6 are now preparing for their SAT tests in May and transition to high school. It has been a wonderfully positive few weeks with much good news for the school to celebrate. Thank you to everyone who has helped to make this happen!*

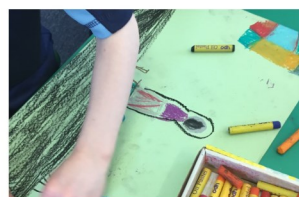
*We have some more good news to share today. Mrs. Shaw and her husband are expecting their first baby in June! Keep them in your prayers as they start their adventure as first time parents. Have a peaceful and restful weekend. Mrs Brownsey*

**CONGRATULATIONS!**

**Classroom Round Up:** Yet again, we've had another busy week in **Class R/1!** In RE, the children enjoyed creating some Palm Sunday inspired artwork using coloured card and oil pastels. In geography, the children identified which animals live in hot and cold places and worked hard to explain why each animal was suited to each habitat. The children are working equally as hard in English to plan and write a non-chronological report on Arctic and desert animals. To end the week, the children were thrilled to have lunch with their family members on Friday. We look forward to starting our 'Freestanding Structures' unit next week as we begin DT week which is always popular amongst the class.

What a super week in **Class 2/3/4!** In English, we began exploring our new text 'Ottoline and the Yellow Cat', looking at making predictions, using subordinate conjunctions and correctly punctuating speech. In Maths, Year 2 and Year 3 completed tasks on measure and Year 4 challenged themselves with their fractions work. Through the Year 2 and Year 3 science, the children researched different types of habitats found around the world. Through our RE topic, we compared the similarities between the Last Supper and the Liturgy of the Eucharist, focusing on Jesus' words and actions.

It has been another busy week at St Joseph's in **Class 5/6!** The children all started their new art unit this week focusing on expressing themselves and therefore it was a huge hit! Throughout the unit, they will be studying the work of Luba Lukova and later producing some of their own work inspired by her. In maths, Y5 have been exploring percentages, whilst Y6 have been looking at area and perimeter. Geography wise, the children have been focusing on the importance of field sketches and how they can be a useful source of information when studying a local area. In PSHE, the children looked at the importance of belonging and how that may look in many different forms. All in all, a lovely, busy and successful week of learning!



## School Attendance:

	This Week	This Year
Yr R	98.5%	95.6%
Yr 1	<b>100%</b>	97.1%
Yr 2	99.1%	96.3%
Yr 3	95.6%	94.5%
Yr 4	<b>100%</b>	95.1%
Yr 5	92.4%	94.9%
Yr 6	94.7%	97.6%
Total	96.8%	95.9%

## Sunday Gospel

Jesus said, "A man had two sons. The younger said to his father, 'Father, let me have the inheritance that would come to me.' So the father gave him his share and his son then left for a distant country where he squandered his money on a life of shameless living. When he had spent it all, that country experienced a severe famine, and he began to be in need and he had to hire himself out to feed pigs. So he decided to go back to his father. When his father saw him, he ran to the boy, clasped him in his arms and kissed him. The his son said, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I no longer deserve to be called your son.' But the father said to his servants, 'Quick! Bring out the best robe and put it on him and kill the fattened calf. For this son of mine was lost and is now found.' And they began to celebrate."  
Luke 15: 1—3; 11-32 (Wednesday Word)

### This week spotted by pupils: Willow R

For playing nicely with her friends and being kind

## Award Winners: Weekending March 21st

### CI R/1:

Dojo Champion: **Roman**

School Values/Mission: **Arla**—Resilience—for her improved confidence and independence when trying things again, even when they are tricky the first time!

### CI 2/3/4

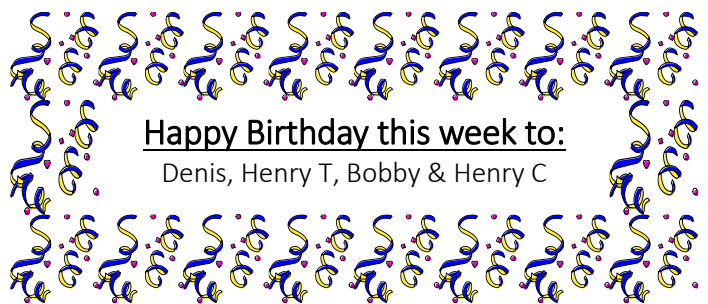
Dojo Champion: **George H**

School Values/Mission: **Oscar**—Resilience—for showing excellent resilience during his work in all subjects and not giving up at all, working his absolute hardest until he has completed his tasks. Keep it up!

### CI 5/6:

Dojo Champion: **Charlotte**

School Values/Mission: **Lavinia**—Love—for demonstrating a love of learning by being incredibly studious during our SATs preparation this week.



## Happy Birthday this week to:

Denis, Henry T, Bobby & Henry C

**Children's Liturgy:** Sunday is 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent and Mothering Sunday. The gospel is the story known as the Prodigal Son. It's about a child who did lots of things wrong, but who went to say sorry, and so his father forgave him. The father threw a big party! He was so happy that his son had returned to him, safe and sound. The father forgave his son for all that he had done and invited everyone to a big meal to celebrate. The elder brother was not so pleased. Have you ever been cross with your brother or sister or a good friend? God loves us all. When we say sorry, God forgives us for the things that we have done wrong, just like the father in this story forgives his son. God is always happy when we come back to him. This week, we can do our best to say sorry for the times when we haven't done the right thing, especially when we haven't shared very well with others? On Sunday let us make a special effort to help our mother's and also think of Mary Jesus' mother. We would love to see you on Sunday at 9:30am Mass in the Children's Liturgy Room.  
Children's Liturgy Team



**Pope Francis:** *Even if our past seems burdensome, complicated and perhaps even ruined, we can always give it to God and set out anew on our journey. God is merciful, and He waits for us!*





**Stanley Grange:** On Thursday afternoon, Year 1 continued working on their bird box designs. The group also talked about different kinds of houses and had a go at building some structures using the resources they could find!



**DT Week:** Next week, pupils in CI R/1 will be attempting to build various different sorts of houses during their DT sessions. If you have any junk modelling items that you would be willing to donate, please send them into school with your child on Monday. Thank you.



**Correspondence sent this week:**

- Easter bingo & raffle
- Join us for lunch: 28.03.25
- Easter holidays: 04.04.25
- Cricket opportunities
- SATs boosters: week commencing 31.03.25
- Wednesday Word
- School meals: week commencing 31.03.25
- Yr 6 Extra SATs booster: 04.04.25

**Reminders:** If you are buying any new uniform items over the Easter break, please remember to put your child's name in before it comes in to school. Children should bring their PE kits with them to get changed into and not wear them for the whole day. Our new-to-you rail has many items of uniform on it including sweatshirts and hoodies, please help yourselves to anything on there.



If your child is bringing a drink into school, this should be water and not juice or cordial. Thank you.



# Brindle St. Joseph's Easter Reflection Garden Competition

On Wednesday 2nd April, we are going to hold a competition for the finest Easter Reflection Garden.



PRIZE  
for each  
class  
winner!

to enter with all  
money going to  
our charity,  
CAFOD.

£1



Anyone from  
EYFS to Year 6  
can enter.



# What Parents & Educators Need to Know about BLUESKY SOCIAL APP

**AGE RESTRICTION**  
**13+**  
With an App Store rating of 17+ & Google Play rating Mature

## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

While Bluesky has been around since 2019, it's suddenly taken off in a big way thanks to a significant exodus from X (formerly Twitter). Indeed, it looks and behaves a lot like Twitter before Elon Musk bought the platform. Bluesky has been touted in recent months as a safer, more open-minded alternative to X – but like any social media site, it still has its share of risks.

### NO PRIVATE ACCOUNTS

While most social networks allow accounts to be private, at the time of writing, all Bluesky accounts must be public. The development team has indicated this might change in the future, but the app is built on a public-first protocol. If private accounts are ever introduced, it may only be in a limited way – such as through the implementation of group chats.

### INTERACTIONS WITH STRANGERS

Every account being public means that anyone can be contacted by anyone else. While users don't have to respond and can easily block people and move on, it does mean that youngsters are at particular risk of being conned by scammers, messaged by predatory adults or exposed to others with ill intentions. These hazards can be compounded by the fact that Bluesky doesn't require its users to provide their real name.

### TROLLING AND BULLYING

While Bluesky currently feels a lot friendlier than X seems to have become, its lack of private accounts means that there's nothing to stop users from trolling and cyberbullying younger people. While accounts can be blocked and reported, a persistent bully could simply create a new profile, potentially making their victims feel unsafe in continuing to use the app.

### DANGEROUS MISINFORMATION

Established news organisations have fact-checking and editing processes, but social networks have no such controls and can often serve as breeding grounds for misinformation and disinformation. Bluesky will possibly be no different once it reaches a certain size, and children may not have the critical thinking skills to tell fact from fiction – or to discern an informative, honest user from a malicious one.

### ADULT TARGET AUDIENCE

Bluesky isn't designed with children in mind, and there aren't many parental controls on the platform. In an interview with the BBC, Bluesky's CEO originally said that the app would only allow users aged 18 and above to sign up, but a spokesperson later clarified its age restriction as 13+. This could imply the app was originally meant for an adult audience and suggests that making the platform more child-friendly might not currently be a priority.

### RAPID GROWTH

At the time of writing, Bluesky seems calm in comparison with other social networks where moderation is lax and the atmosphere toxic – but that's due at least in part to its smaller community. The app has recently been adding as many as a million users per day, and if that continues, there'll be more unpleasant users to handle, and moderators could struggle to maintain the pleasant environment Bluesky is currently known for.

## Advice for Parents & Educators

### USE THE ADULT CONTENT FILTER

Bluesky doesn't have much in the way of parental controls, but there are content filters which can hide sexual and graphic imagery. These are enabled by default for underage accounts but can be manually turned on in the 'Moderation' section of the app's settings. The 'advanced' Bluesky Moderation Service lets you restrict content even further, hiding – for example – self-harm content, extremist rhetoric, and even rude posts.

### ENCOURAGE BLOCKING AND REPORTING

Another tool that Bluesky uses to ensure a decent experience is muting and blocking accounts. The former prevents you from seeing a specific user's content, while the latter stops them from seeing yours. If a child is encountering trolls or bullies on the platform, encourage them to use this function, while also reporting the offenders to help make the platform a nicer place for everyone.

### LOOK OUT FOR FAKES

Impersonation is a problem on all social networks. While the consequences are usually benign, imposters sometimes attempt to scam or groom children by pretending to be a popular influencer or online personality. Bluesky is unique in that it can be connected to official domains, with users' handles linking to other sites; while this isn't widely used right now, it could be a reliable way to verify celebrities and public figures in future.

### KEEP AN OPEN DIALOGUE

As with all social media platforms, moderation and content filters can only do so much; it's highly likely that a child will eventually face something unsavoury. For that reason, it's important to make sure that young people are aware of the risks and know how to handle the technology if anything they see on the app makes them feel unsafe or uncomfortable.

### Meet Our Expert

Alan Martin is an experienced technology journalist who has written for the likes of Wired, TechRadar, Tom's Guide, The Evening Standard, The Guardian and The New Statesman.



Source: See full reference list on guide page at: <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/bluesky-app>



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@QualitySport Holiday Clubs



@qualitysportholidayclubs

# CLAYTON BROOK EASTER SPORTS HOLIDAY CLUB!

Fun Activities for children aged 4-12 years

**07-10  
APRIL  
2025**

**SPORTS • GAMES • FUN**

**LOCATION: CLAYTON BROOK PRIMARY  
SCHOOL, GREAT GREENS LN, PR5 8HL**

**TIME: 10am - 2pm**

**HAF  
FUNDED  
PLACES  
AVAILABLE!**

HAF bookings for this site are taken through Chorley Council's booking system Holiday Activities

Visit the council's website for the link to book!



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