

St. Joseph's newsletter

March 2023



Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome to our March newsletter. Time is flying and I can't believe we are halfway through this academic year already. It is always so lovely to greet you and your children on the gate in the mornings.

Let's Celebrate

Stars of the week

Kindness Guardians



Leo

Riley

Matilda

Freddy H

Freddy S

Kensi



Frankie

Eloise

James

Oscar

Michael

James

Corey



Harry

Amelia

Milena

Riley

Callum

Immy

Milena



Jude

Sam

Bobby-Rae

Isla H

Eliana

Filip J

Isla H

Michael

Catholic Life

Wednesday 22nd February was Ash Wednesday, which marks the beginning of the season of Lent.

Deacon Tim held an Ash Wednesday Liturgy in our school hall, including the distribution of Ashes. It was a beautiful service, the children were fascinated and showed the utmost respect.

Lent is a time for reconciliation and growing closer to God. It is a time for positive actions and we will focus on: **Prayer, Alms Giving and Fasting.**

On Monday 27 we introduced this year's '**Lenten Promises**'. Each class has a **Lenten Promises** pack that will go home with a different family each night until the end of this term. Inside you will find instructions, please return it the next day along with one of the cardboard crosses with your family names on for our display in school. Along with one item for a donation to the homeless if you can. (e.g instant mash, custard, long life fruit juice, squash, deodorant, soap etc.) Our focus for prayer and giving this year is **ACN Lenten Campaign for Nigeria**. For more information visit:

<https://acnuk.org/our-campaigns/nigeria-appeal-2023/>



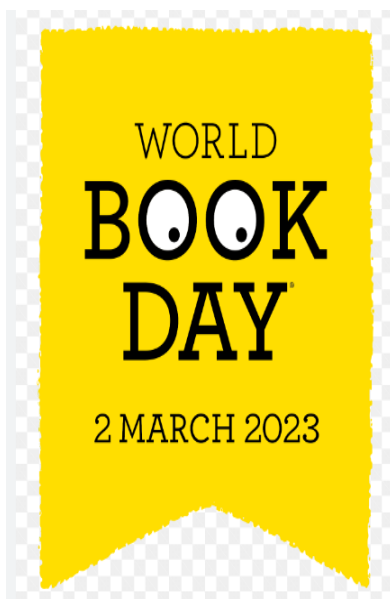
School Chaplains

Meet our school, Chaplains.

They have been meeting with Deborah van Kroonenberg on a weekly basis to work together to improve the school's Catholic Life. You will notice them as they have now been given special hoodies to wear so that they are identifiable as our Chaplaincy team.



World Book Day



On Thursday 2nd March we celebrated world book day. At St. Joseph's we believe that reading is the key to accessing all of the curriculum and that it plays a fundamental part in future successes of our children.

Therefore, we were happy to invite all our school community to celebrate this important day. The dress code was Pyjamas/Nightwear, to be cosy to snuggle up with a favourite book. The children spent the morning in their house teams taking part in fun reading related activities. I think there may have also been some hot chocolate and biscuits involved!

Curriculum



Just before half term St Francis were busy setting up a tank for our new arrivals. Last week we were very excited as 6 Danios and 4 Platies arrived. We are going to be getting some more fish and snails over the next couple of weeks. St Francis are great fish keepers, feeding, cleaning out and learning how to care for our fish. This half term we are going to be learning all about fish and create our own class information booklet about how to look after them!



St Vincent de Paul Class enjoyed exploring in our forest school grassy area, they climbed trees, made camps/shelters and discovered minibeasts and wildlife. Much fun was had playing and adventuring!



Year 3 attended a hockey festival with other local primary schools at Newton Abbot Secondary School where they developed their hockey skills. They were great ambassadors for St Joseph's.



In St. Teresa of Calcutta, we have been working very hard on our writing. We are very proud of this work and wanted it all to be put on display. Using 'The Blush Thief' by Sophie Keith for inspiration, we wrote our own 'thief' stories. We are very proud of our final pieces.



In St. Oscar Romero during our Science topic last half term, we enjoyed exploring our space topic. We explored what exactly is in our solar system and even had a go at scaling the distance between the planets. Back in class, we used models and torches to help us understand the seasons and night and day, and even the phases of the moon! If you want help with remembering the name and order of the planets, do ask us...we can treat you to a rhyme or a song!



Parents' Evening

Parent Consultations will be taking place in school on 13th & 15th March. You are invited to discuss your child's progress and wellbeing. We look forward to seeing you to pass on positive information and suggest ways in which you can support your child to get the most out of school life. Parents' evenings are important. When schools and parents work together, children do better. It is always useful in KS2 (Y3 - Y6) if pupils can accompany their parents to the meeting so that a meaningful discussion can be had between all three parties. Booking opens through eSchools at 1pm on 6th March.

Friends of St. Joseph



Message from the Chair of The Friends of St Joseph's

It has been wonderful to get back to welcoming parents back into school to enjoy some whole school fundraising events.

So far this year you have helped to raise over £800 through supporting events such as the Christmas Fayre, the Bake Sale and the disco. All events have been well attended and enjoyed by all. The money raised will be used to continue to develop the school library along with other projects which will directly benefit the children of St Joseph's.


The Friends are busy planning the next fundraiser. To mark the Coronation of King Charles III, we will be designing a souvenir tea towel with contributions from all of the children and staff from St Joseph's. These will make great gifts for friends and family and will be available to purchase later on this year.

The Friends are always looking for new members or any offers of help! If you think you could help out at any future events, then please get in touch at friends@sjna.uk

Susi Mariadas

Staff Profile

We asked the children what they would like to ask members of staff about themselves. Each month we will profile a member of staff, answering these questions. We will begin with me.

Question	Answer
Name and role in school	Mrs Sarah Pascoe Head of School/ SENDCo/RE Lead 
How old are you? (optional!!)	49
Do you have children?	A 15-year-old girl called Lyla and a 13-year-old boy called Ted.
Do you have pets?	No pets
What is your favourite hobby?	I love to wild swim in the sea all year round.
What was your favourite book as a child?	Anne of Green Gables by LM Montgomery - I used to read it and read it over and over.
What are your favourite animals?	Dolphins

Diary Dates

06/13/20/27.03.23	Swimming - St. Teresa of Calcutta
08.03.23	RNLI - Water Safety - Whole School
09/16/23/30.03.23	Drama Club - after school
13/15.03.23	Parents' Consultation Meetings
w/c 20.03.23	Sustrans Big Walk & Wheel
31.03.23	Last day of term - break for Easter
17.04.23	First day of summer term St. Vincent de Paul - Swimming begins
01.05.23	May Bank Holiday
08.05.23	King's Coronation Bank Holiday
09.05.23	KS2 SATs week

Wishing you all a peaceful and happy weekend
Sarah Pascoe - Head of School

