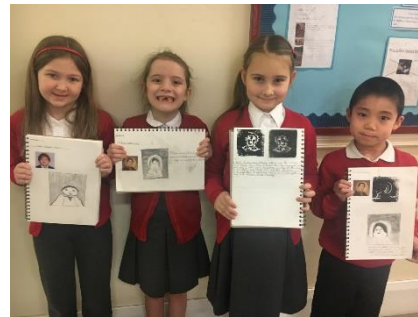
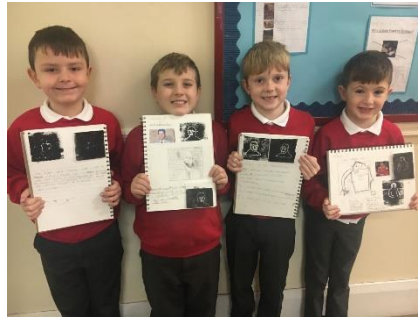




After what first seemed to be quite a quiet couple of weeks following Christmas, things seem to be back to being very busy. Our EYFS have been celebrating Chinese New Year, the year of the Rabbit. More information here: <https://chinesenewyear.net/> Our Reception children visited St Joseph's Church to learn about our local church. Some of our Year 5 and Year 6 children went to English Martyrs to take part in a Catholic basketball event. The Year 6 staff held a workshop for parents to inform them of the end of KS2 SATs that are taking place in May, our Year 4 Mindfulness group had their final session and parents attended and finally, the children have participated in Holocaust Memorial Day today, the theme being 'Ordinary People'. More information regarding this year's Holocaust Memorial Day can be found here: <https://www.hmd.org.uk/>



Holy Family Parish

There are a number of events that have been organised by the Holy Family Parish, including our Year 3 children leading a mass, here in school, on Thursday 2nd February at 9.15am. All are welcome, parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles and parishioners. For more information about what is happening in the Holy Family Parish please follow this link: <https://sacredheart.bhcet.org.uk/parish/>



Today, we said farewell to Linda, who has been working in Sacred Heart's kitchen for the past 28 years. The Year 5 and Year 6 children took great delight in changing the words of Happy Birthday to Happy Retirement.

Goodbye and Good Luck Linda!



Promotional Video

Our Trust (Bishop Hogarth Catholic Education Trust) is making promotional videos of the primary schools in the Trust. We are very excited to say that they will be in, our school, on Thursday 2nd February taking photos and videos of all the wonderful work we do at Sacred Heart and showcasing the children's talents. Children will be photographed and filmed but no names will be used.

If you DO NOT wish your child to be included in the photos and videos please telephone the school office by 3pm on Tuesday 31st January.

Follow these links to look at some of the schools that have already had their school video.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FFjPKkBkYaY>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TvVLI0BI36A>

Would any parent like to be part of the video? We are looking for people who would be willing to share some kind words for the video, about the school and are available during the morning of Thursday 2nd February. Please telephone the school office by 3pm on Tuesday 31st January.

Strike Action

As you are aware, the NEU Teachers Union has chosen four dates on which they are to strike.

Letters have been sent to all classes outlining details of the strike. Specific letters have been sent to those classes that will be closed on Wednesday 1st February, explaining what will happen. Details regarding the further 3 days will be released nearer to the time.

Please note that this dispute is not with Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School, the Trust or any school within the Trust. This industrial action is in relation to the NEU's dispute with the government over the nationally agreed pay rises when considering the pressures faced by staff with the increased cost of living, which we are all experiencing.

Parent Association

Free tea and coffee! Come along on Friday 3rd February at 2pm, meet with other parents and talk about ways in which we can start a parent association.

Children's Mental Health Week 6th February

We are participating in Children's Mental Health week and the children will be involved in the 5 ways to well-being.

Monday 6th the focus will be 'Keep Learning', Tuesday, 'Connect' and will link to Safer Internet Day, Wednesday and Thursday will be 'Be Active' and 'Take Notice' whilst Friday, the theme will be 'Give'.

On Friday 10th February children may come into school in their own clothes as we take part in the Dress to Express theme day. Any donations which parents may wish to give (cash) will be used to support Place2Be, which aims for a future where children do not have to face mental health struggles alone and 50% will be used by school to buy well-



being books for school, resources for calm areas and help support our well-being check-ins that we have introduced across the school.

On Thursday 9th February we are holding a Mindfulness session for parents. Come along at 2pm for tea and coffee and the session, led by our very own Mindfulness expert, Mrs McNamara, will begin at 2.20pm.

Unwanted Christmas Gifts

We are still accepting any unwanted Christmas gifts. Please hand them into the school office or give to a member of staff on the gate on a morning or at the end of the school day.

Uniform Reminder

Many children are coming into school without the correct uniform on. Please remember children are not allowed to wear makeup including lipstick, mascara and nail varnish or bring bottles of perfume or aerosols into school. They are not allowed to have lines or patterns cut into their hair and can only wear trainers if they are all black or it is their PE day.

PE uniform is black leggings, tracksuit bottoms or shorts with a red PE T-shirt and either a red hoody or their school cardigan or jumper. They are not allowed to wear a different colour hoody.

All items need to be labelled with the child’s name including gloves, hats and scarves. I appreciate some have initials on but some children share the same initials and the younger children particularly do not recognise their own items.

ATTENDANCE



This week, our overall attendance was 95.2%, which is an increase of 0.5% on last week. Well done!! Remember, our aim is 97% every week. Well done to Class 7 who had the best attendance this week with 99%. Well done Class 7!!

Please remember to telephone the school office by 9.15am each day your child is absent. Any unexplained absences are recorded as ‘unauthorised’.

Virtue

Well done to all of the children who were awarded the Virtue Award this week. We looked at Justice last week and these children were chosen for standing up for justice. They all thoroughly enjoyed the new posh biscuits, including jammy dodgers!



FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Thursday 2 nd February	Parish Mass in school. 9.15am Year 3 to lead. Trust promotional video morning.
Friday 3 rd February	First Parent Association Meeting 2pm in school.
W/b 6th February	Children’s Mental Health Week, children will be involved in different activities over the course of the week.
Monday 6 th February	Year 1 Stranger Danger training, part 1.
Tuesday 7 th February	Safer Internet Day
Wednesday 8th February	Year 4 – Year 6 Choir singing for the mayoress – details given to choir members. Year 5 Parents Meeting – St John in the Vale 5pm School Hall.
Thursday 9th February	Mindfulness Session for parents (2pm)
Friday 10th February	Children may wear their own clothes, for a donation.
Sunday 12th February	First Holy Communion Preparation: 9am St Joseph’s and St Patrick’s, 10am St John Vianney. Candlemass BBQ – more details to follow.

Monday 13 th February	Year 1 Stranger Danger training, part 2.
Thursday 16 th February	Parish Mass in school. 9.15am Year 4 to lead.
Friday 17 th February	School closes for half term.
Monday 27 th February	School reopens at 8.30am.
Sunday 12 th March	First Holy Communion Preparation: 9am St Joseph's and St Patrick's, 10am St John Vianney.
W/B 27 th March	Parent Consultation Evenings
Friday 31 st March	School closes for the Easter holidays.
Sunday 2 nd April	First Holy Communion Preparation: 9am St Joseph's and St Patrick's, 10am St John Vianney.
Monday 17 th April	School reopens at 8.30am.
Saturday 13 th May	Children to make their First Holy Communion: 10am St John Vianney, 12pm St Joseph's and 2pm St Patrick's.

Items in red are new this week.

Thank you for your continued support.

Headteacher

Holocaust Memorial Day Friday 27th January 2023

At 4pm on 27 January people across the nation will light candles and put them safely in their windows to:

- *remember those who were murdered for who they were;*
- *stand against prejudice and hatred today.*

