 

ST CLARE’S R.C.P NEWSLETTER

Guided by Jesus Christ, our teacher, we journey together learning to dream, believe and achieve.

Friday 20th January 2023

Dear Parents / Carers,

This week, on Tuesday, we shared a whole school new year Mass. It was lovely for everyone to come together to thank and praise God for all we have. God is a central part of our lives and school, so starting the year off in this way was great. In school, our Nursery children have been looking at Arctic animals and have made polar bears using cotton wool. Reception pupils have been investigating floating and sinking linked to their Treasure Island topic. In science, Year 1 have been investigating which material is best for a window using the language of opaque and transparent. Year 3 have been writing diary entries as the character from their class book ‘Stone Age Boy.’ Year 4 have also been investigating in science. They have been looking at gases in liquids by squeezing wet sponges, wet cotton wool and using syringes. In Year 5, as part of their geography topic, the pupils have been finding 4 digit grid references for the Grand Canyon and have also used Banksy as their inspiration to design their own graffiti tags. Our Year 6 pupils have been ordering the key events from World War 2 on a timeline and have been discussing the turning points in the war. They also had a visit from the fire service to discuss ‘Stay Fire Safe.’

**Assembly**

**Yes, I have seen, and I am the witness that He is the chosen one of God. John 1: 34**

In this week’s assembly, the children learnt that John the Baptist didn’t know in advance who ‘the chosen one of God’ would be, but Jesus’ true identity was revealed at His Baptism. When we recognise Jesus as God, we come to know our true identity as God’s children and can be witnesses for Him in the world.

**Pupil Certificates**

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|  | Pupil of the week | Achievement  |
| N | Iris for always doing the right thing and for being a fantastic role model within the classroom.  | Noel for having a great week in Nursery and engaging within the indoor provision.  |
| RBD | Lennox for  being such a kind and caring member of our class | Lexi for amazing phonic treasure hunt homework! |
| RS | Isabella H for amazing blending in phonics! | Jakub for some super number work on the carpet! |
| 1D | Fabian for trying hard with all of your work and being always ready to learn. | Kian for being more independent with your learning! |
| 1G | Jaxley for trying his best in every lesson this week! Keep it up Jaxley. | Lewis for wowing us all with his neat sentences when writing a setting description this week!  |
| 2C | Leah for always trying her hardest in class. | Lottie for trying her best with her letter formation |
| 2O | Maria for always being ready and following all instructions – she’s a superstar! | Henry for great participation in PE this week and performing a fantastic dance routine with his group. |
| 3A | Troy for setting a great example to his classmates by putting so much effort into everything he does | Ire for being a Maths superstar and quickly mastering the column multiplication method |
| 3K | Jacob for working so hard to include various genre features in his diary writing. | Joris for always having a smile on his face and a very positive attitude in school every day! |
| 4H | Scarlett for always being a perfect role model in class and always being supportive when her partner needs help. | Alvaro for working really hard this week and producing some excellent English work. |
| 4S | Keir for trying very hard and producing fantastic work in all his lessons and groups. | Khadijah for writing a fantastic Viking narrative this week! |
| 5G | Elano being so helpful in class and always noticing when I need an extra pair of hands!  | Rowan in art for creating a fantastic graffiti tag in the style of Banksy.  |
| 5W | Lucas for having a fantastic attitude this week towards his work, consistently trying to improve. | Harris for producing fantastic work in geography this week when looking at grid references. |
| 6F | Hollie for really trying her best with her writing and her presentation in her books | Mila for being a star in maths this week! She found ratio tricky at first but is now confident! Well done! |
| 6H | Harrison for always behaving perfectly and having lovely manners.  | Joel for some amazing letter writing in English, I have been so impressed! |
| 6S | Frankie for offering support to others during our maths lessons this week. | Grace for her fantastic writing this week in Literacy. Her letter as an evacuee during WW2 is incredible! |

**Headteacher Awards**

Talia in RS for always working hard.

Maria in 1G for writing an amazing settings description using lots of adjectives.

Freddy in 2C for being so knowledgeable in science.

Elsie in 3A for great singing in church.

Halle in 4S for always putting 100% effort into everything that she does.

Maddison in 5G for always having a smile on her face and singing enthusiastically at hymn practice and at Mass.

Khadijah in 6S for using brilliant vocabulary in her writing.

**Caritas Award**

The award this week goes Jamie in 1G for always being kind and helpful to everyone. He shows love to everyone with his beautiful smile and friendly, caring nature.

**Attendance**

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Children are in school for 190 days every year, leaving you 170 days to take holidays. Please ensure that your child is in school every day and is on time as the more your child is absent from school, the less likely they will be to succeed in life. We love seeing and having the privilege of teaching your children every day.

This week, our whole school attendance is 95.3% which is an improvement on last term, so thank you all. We do need to keep this upward trend going and reach 97% or above. The best class this week is 6S with 99.2% which is brilliant. As a reward, the pupils will be given a longer break time.

**Nursery admissions September 2023**

If you have a child, or know of a child, who wants to attend our Nursery setting in September 2023, please call into the school office for an admission form. The office staff are starting to collate the information.

**National Breakfast Programme**

The National School Breakfast Programme (NSBP) is funded by the Department for Education and delivered by Family Action to support schools in England to provide children with a healthy breakfast at the start of the school day. We have signed up for this scheme from next week. Family Action is committed to supporting child development, and believe a healthy school breakfast, without barrier or stigma, can set up children to succeed and give them the very best chance to learn. As we already provide each child with toast every day, the only difference that the children will be aware of is that they will have bagels instead. We will be purchasing our cereals for breakfast club and all the bagels through this highly subsidised programme,

**Strike action**

I am sure that you will have seen in the news that the NEU has balloted for strike action. I am waiting to hear from the local authority and the unions to see how the four days of strikes will impact school. I will let you know as soon as I have the information.

**Warm spaces**

Find a Warm Welcome Space Today

Nearly 3000 registered organisations have opened free, warm, welcoming spaces for the public this winter across the UK. You can use [this Warm Welcome Interactive Map](https://www.warmwelcome.uk/#find-a-space) to find your nearest warm space, including libraries and other spaces in Manchester and further afield.

**Support**

We know that families may experience difficult times and difficult situations throughout a year, especially with the cost of living increase. We are here to support you in any way we can - should you need it. If you are experiencing any financial or other worries, please get in touch. If we are unable to help you, we may know of a group who can help. Please contact Mrs Sylvester at school for a discrete conversation if you require some support.

Manchester City Council have a webpage called Helping Hands which is a helpful pocket guide for residents of Manchester containing information on the support available to those who may need help and advice.  [Help with the cost of living crisis | Manchester City Council](https://www.manchester.gov.uk/helpinghands) There are two other sources of information that you may find useful:

Manchester City Council information about [Council support if you're in financial difficulty](https://eur03.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.manchester.gov.uk%2FFinancialSupport&data=05%7C01%7Cmarie.hall%40manchester.gov.uk%7Ca4aa4f0c9a134ec12e8408da868c0750%7Cb0ce7d5e81cd47fb94f7276c626b7b09%7C0%7C0%7C637970233215899576%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=5J1%2BI4tIlhc%2BxwRIYuQtUI6EgZDycNN%2Fn2HbMi6SbMA%3D&reserved=0)

Information on wider support - [Help with the cost of living crisis | Manchester City Council](https://eur03.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.manchester.gov.uk%2FHelpingHands&data=05%7C01%7Cmarie.hall%40manchester.gov.uk%7Ca4aa4f0c9a134ec12e8408da868c0750%7Cb0ce7d5e81cd47fb94f7276c626b7b09%7C0%7C0%7C637970233215899576%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=cUIFB%2F9glR%2BEyOVOeflqXAXqnEB9NHL1DU5xPfC6w5g%3D&reserved=0)

**Manchester City Council Cost of Living Advice Line**

To support Manchester residents through the cost-of-living crisis, Manchester City Council will be providing an advice line that will offer:

1. Support with benefits and help with your rent (this is an existing offer made available through the contact centre)

2. Advice about debt and paying bills (this will be done in conjunction with Citizen Advice Manchester)

3. Food support (residents will receive a call back to understand their needs and connected into a local food offer)

4. Support getting online (residents will be linked in with the Council’s digital inclusion team)

**By Phone:** The advice line can be accessed via a free phone number **0800 023 2692**. The line will be open 9:00-4:30 Monday to Friday. Agents on the phone line will have access to language line for those residents whose first language is not English. **Sign Video** will also be available for residents who may require this facility.

**On line:** An on line form will be available at <https://www.manchester.gov.uk/helpinghands> for those who do not wish to contact by phone. The advice line will also have its own web page that will have links to information of how residents are able to access support. <https://www.manchester.gov.uk/helpinghands>

**Upcoming dates:**

Thursday 26th January - Chinese dance workshops in Reception – Year 2

Wednesday 8th February - Safer Internet Day

Saturday 18th February - Sacramental Programme Day

Have a lovely weekend,

Mrs Howe.