ST CLARE’S R.C.P NEWSLETTER

Our School Mission Statement: Guided by Jesus Christ, our teacher, we journey together learning to dream, believe and achieve. Friday 20th February 2024

Friday 24th November 2023

 

We have come to the end of another busy half term. Pupils in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 have enjoyed taking part in Chinese lion dancing as part of the New Year celebrations. In Nursery, the children enjoyed flipping pancakes on Tuesday and making Valentine’s Day cards. Our Reception pupils have been learning about long and short and measured objects using non-standard equipment. Year 1 have been busy making windmills as part of their DT topic and loved showing them to parents at the end of the day. Both our Year 3 classes visited the Marist centre this week to help them reflect and prepare for the Sacrament of Reconciliation which they will receive in March. They also went to Our Lady’s to make a seasonal tart. In science, Year 4 have been learning about the water cycle. In DT, Year 5 have been making pop up books for younger children based on fairy tales and rhymes. Year 6 had a great day on Thursday focused on World War 2. Many children made Anderson Shelters at home and brought them in – they are amazing – and many pupils dressed up in wartime clothing. They painted scenes from the Blitz; made biscuits using rationing; built a morse code circuit; wrote postcards home; and completed some code breaking. It was an action packed, fun-filled day which parents helped to celebrate after school today.

**Mass**



Key stage 2 pupils celebrated Mass with the parish on Wednesday as Ash Wednesday marks the start of the holy season of Lent. Our younger children were given the ashes in school by Father Jeremiah.

Lent is a time to pray more, fast and give alms. We are therefore holding different events to achieve this:

**Creation Walks**

During Lent we are invited to pray more. As parents, you will be invited into school to share a Creation Walk

with and led by your children. During this walk, we will pray and reflect on three areas: our wonderful world; those people in the world who experience problems – hunger, sickness, homelessness; and caring for our world. We will notify you of the dates.

**Acts of kindness**

Lent is a very important season in our liturgical year. The children brought home a calendar for Lent which suggests different acts that they can complete. They reflect the three main foci for us – to pray more, to fast / go without something / do something extra and support those in need.

Each child will be given a sheet and if **they complete 20 acts of kindness** or of the activities on the calendar, they will receive a small cross badge at the end of the season. There should be a separate action for each day. The cross will reflect the fact that they have been following in Jesus’s footsteps. The sheet will be signed by you to detail what your child has done and returned to school prior to the Easter holidays.

**St. Joseph’s Penny**

Children have been given St Joseph Penny boxes for them to fill during Lent and return when we finish for Easter. The money goes to CARITAS.

**Francis House**

Each year, we sell crème egg chicks on behalf of the children’s charity, Francis House. They will again be sending us a batch of them to sell in school. They arrive on Monday 4th March. Francis House have requested that they be sold at **£2 per crème egg chick**.

**Morning Prayers**

Our school chapel is open every Tuesday morning from 8.30 -9.00am for parents (and children) to come into school for some private prayer, some time alone with God or quiet reflection.



**Pupil certificates**

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|  | Pupil of the week | Achievement |
| N | Elizabeth for always being a positive member of the class, who always has a beautiful smile on her face | Jaxx for trying really hard to sit sensibly on the carpet! |
| RDM | Luka for being a superstar all week! | Romeo for fantastic effort with his letter formation! |
| RS | Oskar for creating an amazing recycled robot for his homework this week! | Arwyn for amazing work in Maths on comparing length and height |
| Y1D | Sofia for being a perfect role model to others and always being enthusiastic to learn! | Cora Rae for working hard to create a fantastic windmill during our D&T lessons. |
| Y1G | Phoenix for trying super hard to stay on the lines and putting her hand up in class.  | Isabelle L for an amazing recount of lost and found.  |
| Y2C | Carter H for always trying his best | Jadon for amazing sentences in English  |
| Y2O | Brody for his excitement and dedication to complete all his lent promises.  | Giovanni for creating a wonderful non- chronological report on elephants. |
| Y3F | Nayane for always being an excellent pupil and being ready to learn | Marnie for always reading, she clearly has a pleasure for reading which is great to see |
| Y3H | Luca for brilliant participation during a role-play at the Marist Centre | Madeline for super work about reconciliation  |
| Y4H | Annie for behaving well, always listening, and being respectful to adults. | Dolcie for her incredible skills in dodgeball! |
| Y4S | Evie for trying so hard in all her work and presenting it beautifully. | Jeff for brilliant recount writing as a Viking! |
| Y5G | Oliver L for creating positive affirmations to share with his class to remind them how wonderful they are!  | Khadijah for writing a fantastic newspaper report and for creating a beautiful pop-up book.  |
| Y5W | Miley for helping multiple children with their pop up book. | Temesgen for his fantastic mindset towards his work. I have been extremely impressed with his reading and maths this week. |
| Y6K | Daniel for being a great help when his brilliant typing skills were needed! | Jack B for working very hard to write a wonderful WW2 based narrative. |
| Y6S | Ivan and Alex for a brilliant Anderson shelter made for their homework this week. They worked together to make it.  | John Joe for fantastic narrative writing for our focus on WW2.  |

**Headteacher’s awards:**

Asa in Nursery for choosing to do the right thing.

Bonnie in RS for a making a great spider at home.

Yaroslav in 1G for talking through the ‘how to make a windmill process’ so well.

Harlen in 2C for making up a beautiful song about doing anything we want if we believe.

Eunice and Julia in 4S for singing their hearts out in Mass on Wednesday.

Tope in 5W for a great improvement in his attitude to school life.

Daniel in 6K for typing an absent friend’s work up for him, when he had completed his own.

**Caritas Award**

The Caritas is awarded each week in recognition of someone in school who has shown kindness to others by putting love into action. This week, our award goes to Cienna in nursery for being such a kind friend to everyone and always ensuring that everyone is okay.

**Attendance**

Attendance is very important. Children, unless they are ill, need to be in school every day. School opens at 8.50am every morning. This week our whole school attendance is 94% which is below our expectations. The best classes this week are 2C and 4H who both achieved 97% and will receive a longer break.

**Holiday List 2024/25**

Governors have approved the holiday list for 2024/25 and I have shared it on the school website. Here is the link:

<https://www.stclares.manchester.sch.uk/parents/holidays>

**Support**

As a school we are here for both your children and your family. If you are experiencing any difficulties or have any anxieties, please get in touch with Mrs Sylvester for a private conversation. Her email address is c.sylvester@st-clares.manchester.sch.uk or you can ring the school number or message via the school app. If we are unable to help you, we may be able to refer you to somebody who can.

**Safeguarding**

Safeguarding children is everyone’s responsibility. If you have any concerns regarding the safety of a child, please report it. You are able to refer concerns directly or you can contact one of the Designated Safeguarding Leads in school. Please see the poster below for more details.

Have a well deserved half-term holiday!

See you all again next week.

Take care,

Mrs Howe



**Upcoming dates:**

Monday 26th March – school re-opens 8.50am

Monday 4th March – school individual photographs

Thursday 7th March – World Book Day (dress as a word)

Saturday 16th March – Sacramental Programme Day

Wednesday 20th March – parents evening

Wednesday 20th and Thursday 21st – Reconciliation

Wednesday 27th March – finish for Easter