



# St Joseph's Catholic Primary School

## Weekly Newsletter

### Thursday 10th February 2022



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#### INSET day - tomorrow

A reminder to parents that the school is closed to children tomorrow, Friday 11<sup>th</sup> February. Staff members are having a training day; Religious Education being the focus.



#### Half-term

An extra day for half-term if we include the INSET day tomorrow; make the most of it! We are now half way through the academic year and the children deserve a well-earned rest. They have worked really hard and I hope that this is reflected in the parent evening meetings.

I wish you all a safe and relaxing half-term. All children (and staff) back on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> February.



**Sunday 6th February 2022**

*Gospel : Mark 7: 31 - 37*

Then he returned from the region of Tyre, and went by way of Sidon towards the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis. They brought to him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech; and they begged him to lay his hand on him. He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, and put his fingers into his ears, and he spat and touched his tongue.

Then looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, "Ephphatha," that is, "Be opened." And immediately his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly.

#### Coronavirus

As last week, I am really glad to report that the amount of new coronavirus cases has been limited to one a day so far. I suspect that we will be out of 'Amber' very soon thanks to the whole community following our strict rules for the benefit of all. Thank you for your co-operation but please continue to wear face coverings in crowded areas during drop-off and pick-up until further notice.



## OFSTED Visit

Wow, what a week! OFSTED could not have chosen a more challenging week to come and inspect our school with two parent evenings and a training day on Friday. I am not allowed to give you an idea of how the inspection has gone until the OFSTED validation process has taken place.

As this was a Section 8 inspection, essentially checking up on whether we were still a good school, there are four possible outcomes. The first outcome is that we remain a good school; not a bad outcome considering the tougher inspection framework since last time. The second outcome is that the inspectors believe that there is comprehensive evidence that our school could be an outstanding school in which case OFSTED would re-inspect St. Joseph's within two years under Section 5, a 'full' inspection. The third outcome is that the inspectors believe that the school would not maintain its 'good' category if this had been a Section 5 inspection and we would be re-inspected within two years. The final outcome is a full Section 5 inspection within 48 hours if inspectors have serious Safeguarding concerns or witnessed very bad behaviour.

I thank all the children, parents, staff and Governors for their interactions with the inspectors. The inspectors wanted me to thank our whole community for the welcome and feedback that they had received. Some parents have complained that the children's questionnaire was sent out quite late on Tuesday, 7pm. I only took the phone call in the afternoon and it lasted just under two hours. We then had to upload lots of evidence to the OFSTED portal which took time as well as having parent evening.



## Hanwell Community Library

I attached the flyer for the library in the last newsletter. If you have not done so yet, it might be worth visiting the library this half term. The opening times are:

Tuesday 10am-1pm then 2-5pm

Wednesday 10am-1pm then 2-5pm

Thursday 2-5pm

Saturday 10-4pm



**Love Learn Believe**

## Laudato Si' project – Caring for our common home



Today, the children have each been given a sponsorship form; example at back of newsletter. This is for our 'February Fortnight of Fundraising' which I outlined in the newsletter last week.

### How to take part in the challenge

Choose a target and write it at the top of your form. This could be:

- doubling the amount of time you read for each day
- setting yourself a challenge of reading a target amount of books within the fortnight (this may suit Lower Phase best)
- setting yourself a target amount of pages to read each day e.g. if you normally read 10 pages a day, read 20.

Choose only 1 target!

Write your target at the top of your form. Now, explain to your family/friends/neighbours that you would like them (if they can) to sponsor you to complete the challenge to raise funds for CAFOD.

Bring in your sponsorship form and money in an envelope with your name, class, and the amount on it by Monday 28<sup>th</sup> February 2022.

**Let's make a difference – together!**

### Racial Justice Sunday

This coming Sunday is Racial Justice Sunday. This year's theme is called, "In the Image and Likeness of God." The day highlights that equality, justice and dignity come when we realise that we need each other and to value one another if we are to live a full, worthwhile and rich life. We need to be fair and kind to everyone, making sure everyone treats each person equally and with dignity; after all, we are all created in God's image and He loves us all equally. Although we celebrate the day this coming Sunday, we have been working on understanding that this is not just supposed to happen on that one day. We have to stand up for others who are treated unfairly **everyday** so that together we can make a better world for us all.

This is what we have been praying together this week:

When our eyes do not see the gravity of racial injustice,

**Shake us from our slumber and open our eyes, O Lord.**

When out of fear we are frozen into inaction,

**Give us a spirit of bravery, O Lord.**

When we try our best but say the wrong things,

**Give us a spirit of humility, O Lord.**

When the chaos of this dies down,

**Give us a lasting spirit of solidarity, O Lord.**

When it becomes easier to point fingers outward,

**Help us to examine our own hearts, O Lord.**

God of truth, in your wisdom, Enlighten Us.

**God of love, in your mercy, Forgive Us.**

God of hope in your kindness, Heal Us.

**Creator of All People, in your generosity, Guide Us.**

Racism breaks your heart,

**break our hearts for what breaks yours, O Lord.**



**Love Learn Believe**

## Celebrations

Headteacher awards are presented each week to children who the staff think have put that little bit of extra into their work. Well done to the children listed below:

1K	Hassan	For great progress with writing.
1AS	Clara	For writing a brilliant space story.
1SS	Joseph	For great story writing.
2JB	Adam	For his great understanding and explanation of words like 'emergency'.
2EB	Nataniel	For working hard at his phonics and being able to write good sentences.
2SL	Isabelle	For working really well on identifying odd and even numbers. Well done!
3AR	La'Kel	For persistence when cutting shapes in Art.
3DS	Michael	For working hard at understanding the addition and subtraction of fractions.
3SR	Joy	For always trying her best – your efforts do not go unrecognised!
4AS	Taran	For pushing himself to reach his full potential.
4MS	Oliver	For his excellent effort at converting fractions to decimals.
4W	Mehreen	For giving excellent examples of 'giving' and 'receiving' in RE.
5B	AJ	For creating a fantastic self-portrait in the style of Roy Lichtenstein.
5L	Nicol	For creating a wonderful portrait inspired by Roy Lichtenstein.
5W	Joao-Paulo	For having an improved attitude towards learning.
6B	Luna	For writing an informative letter to younger children about how to be a good Christian at St. Joseph's.
6I	Natalia	For saying some thoughtful observations about a child's wartime rations.
6J	Dawid	For fantastic participation in Computing lessons this half term!

Good

Disciple awards are given to children who have shown exceptional love and kindness to fellow pupils and are helping to build God's kingdom here and now. Well done to the children listed below:

Phase	Name	Reason
Lower	Catherin RL	For always being kind and considerate.
Middle	Jason 3AR	For being a wonderful role model in the lunch hall – showing beautiful manners and always remembering to say his prayers.
Upper	Dawid 6B	For always showing great manners and being a good friend to all.

**Disclaimer** St Joseph's School is happy to use the newsletter to support activities and events. However, we have not vetted these services and are not specifically recommending them.

