



St Joseph's Catholic Primary School

Weekly Newsletter

Friday 22nd January 2021



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Remote learning

We have continued with our positive start to remote learning and I am really pleased with the amount of very positive feedback I have had from parents covering all of our year groups. I strongly believe that our offer now strikes a lovely balance of live teaching and blended learning allowing families at home a little more flexibility to customise the learning times for their children. I have been asked to remind you to also look at the class pages on a daily basis for any follow up work.

I am also pleased with the quick reporting of any issues, it allows us to address any problems as quickly as humanly possible. Please remember that the teachers will not be accessible during live sessions so please address any problems to the school office.

I also want to remind parents of our Remote and Online Learning Code of Conduct that needs to be adhered to - both in school and at home.



Sunday 22nd January 2021

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

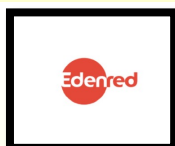
Gospel Mark 1 : 14 - 20

After John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news."



Free School Meals

Edenred have again stepped up to the plate to offer vouchers to families with children entitled to Free School Meals. I am glad to report that it is up and running in our school. If you have not had any communication from Edenred about the vouchers, please contact our school office.



Screen time

Usually, school is school and play is play. Currently, online learning requires your child to be in front of a screen to access the learning. Following a school day, your child may want to play on an Xbox, Playstation or phone etc. to relax and communicate with friends. Our remote learning only asks children to be online for a few sessions throughout the day so we are not demanding excessive screen time but I would ask you to monitor it at home.

Oxford Owl EBooks

Attached to the back of this newsletter is information for you on how to access free Oxford Owl EBooks. You will need to create an account but it is a very simple process, free and will provide hours of reading pleasure.



Parent Evening

Date for your diary - Parent consultations will be taking place on Tuesday 9th February, 4.30pm-7pm, and Thursday 11th February, 3.30pm-6pm. The meetings will be conducted remotely over Microsoft Teams. On the day, please ask your child how to get on to Teams! Finer details about appointment slots will follow next week.

Don't forget
parents
evening!

Testing...Academic

The government has recognised that due to the disruption of education across all age groups, Key Stage 1 (KS1) and Key Stage 2 (KS2) National Curriculum assessments will not continue as intended. The following assessments, scheduled between April and July 2021, have been cancelled:

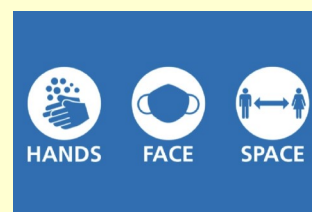
- KS1 teacher assessments
- KS2 tests and teacher assessments
- Phonics screening check
- All statutory trialling

We will however, continue to use assessment to inform our teaching.



Attendance of vulnerable children and children of critical workers

The staff and I have supported the attendance of vulnerable children and children of critical workers who need to be in school. The take up has been strong and we are now full in certain year groups and cannot take any more children in Reception, Year 1, Year 3 and Year 6. The criteria are there for a reason, "Please embrace the system, and do not abuse the privilege." **Please only send in your child for the time that you require so that we reduce the number of people on site.**



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



Did you know that 17.5 billion pieces of junk mail are produced and distributed each year in the UK? Every year the average British household receives 650 pieces of junk mail. The majority of junk mail we receive remains unopened or unread. Receiving junk mail is not only a nuisance, it is also a waste of valuable resources. Here are tips on how to change this.

Opt out schemes

Royal Mail Door to Door 'Opt Out' Service

This free door to door 'opt out' service puts a stop to unaddressed mail distributed by Royal Mail and can reduce your junk mail by 3 – 6 pieces per week. If you wish to opt out of receiving door to door mail items, you can either ring 0345 266 0858, or you can email your name and address to: optout@royalmail.com

You will then receive an opt out form which you will need to sign and return (a paper copy). Un-addressed mail will then stop being delivered to your home by Royal Mail within 6 weeks.

Mailing Preference Service

The Mailing Preference Service (MPS) is a free service that can help put a stop to named and addressed junk mail sent from companies and organisations that you have never had any dealings with before. The MPS can remove your name and address from up to 95% of direct mailing lists, reducing the amount of unwanted mail by up to 4Kg per household a year. You can register with the scheme for free via one of the following options:

Online: www.mpsonline.org.uk

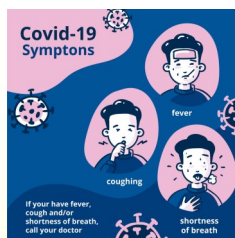
Call: 0845 703 4599

Once you have registered with the MPS, it may take up to four months for you to notice a reduction in such mail but it will happen!

Challenge: Count up how many pieces of junk mail you receive over the next week/ fortnight. Take the time to email the two addresses above to help put an end to wasted paper. Let's make a difference – together!

In the event...

In the event that somebody in your household wakes up with a fever ($>37.8^{\circ}\text{C}$), or a new, continuous cough or a loss of the sense of smell or taste do not send your child to school. Immediately inform the school via email or phone and then book a test for the person. The whole household must then self-isolate. If the test returns negative and nobody has any ongoing symptoms, the child can return to school and the household no longer needs to self-isolate. If a positive result is returned, the household must self-isolate for 10 days and resume normal activity after 10 days as long as they have been symptom free for 48 hours.



Spare equipment

Thank you so much for your donations of computer hardware, they will be put to good use.



If you have any spare laptops/tablets at home that are surplus to your requirements and are willing to donate them to the school, then please let the office know. We have families who could do with extra equipment. Your generosity will be much appreciated. The hardware must work, have a charger and be wiped clean.

Communication from Harrison Catering

Uptake of school meals during the pandemic has been around 70% for most schools, we would like to gauge from the children/parents if we could improve upon our menu or current service to increase meal uptake back to pre-COVID19 level.



Please see link below:

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/ealingschoolssurve2020y>

Harrison Catering would appreciate it if you could fill in the survey by 31st of January.

Free School Meals

We have reverted to the voucher scheme that ran previously. This will give families a slightly better option of how to provide meals for their children and there will no longer be the need to collect food from school. I am aware of one retailer offering a 'top up' of £5 if you shop at their store. However please do bear in mind that the number of items you will be able to purchase may actually be less.



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:

Class	Name	Reason
1B	Isla	For working very hard at home every day.
1S	Luca	For outstanding commitment to all work and lessons!
1SW	Onur	For very good effort with his learning.
2AL	Elise	For improved concentration and effort during our maths lesson.
2B	Abigail	For challenging herself to use interesting sentence starters in her information sheet about dolphins.
2SL	Isaac	For a superb effort with all of his work this week during remote learning. Well done for completing an interesting information sheet all about sharks!
3AR	Livia	For working so hard in and out of school.
3DS	Joel	For putting a lot of information into an informative leaflet.
3SR	Ylaissa	For being a great role model to all key worker children in school.
4B	Nicol	For her great efforts with her online learning.
4C	Charlie	For a superb response to remote learning.
4S	Joaquin	For being a great student during remote learning.
5B	Kinga	For the thoughtful and creative Coat of Arms she produced in RE.
5S	Dawid	For his super research about Roy Lichtenstein!
5W	Abigail	For putting great effort into all pieces of lockdown work.
6B	Alexander	For adopting a mature attitude in his remote learning and maintaining high standards.
6I	Aabel	For often joining live lessons and completing all the online to an excellent standard.
6J	Maya	For producing excellent pieces of work – ensuring the standard of work meets and goes beyond expectations.

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	Isabella	Always listening, always working her hardest, and for being kind.
Middle	Evelina	For going above and beyond to make newcomers feel welcome.
Upper	Fain	For always showing kindness, responsibility and maturity.

Love Learn Believe

How to access free ebooks from home:

Dear Parents,

Oxford Owl are currently offering lots of ebooks for children to read.

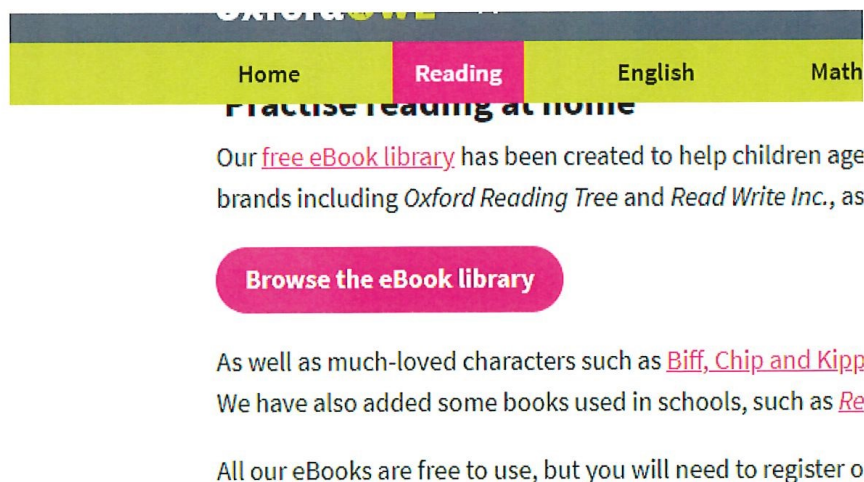
Go to <https://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/>

Then select the Oxford Owl for Home option

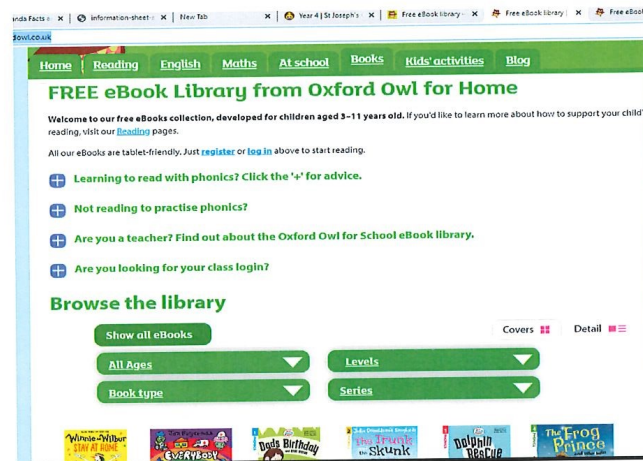


Then click on Browse the ebook library

And the same on the next screen



Then choose the appropriate age, book type



You will have to then create an account as a parent and then you're able to choose from a large selection of different books