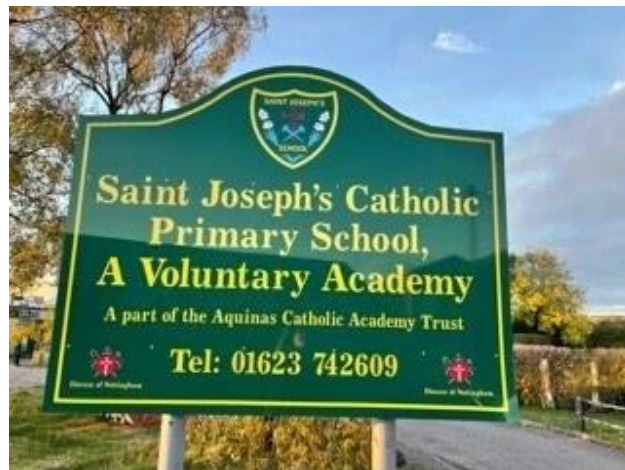


Friday 22nd March

St. Joseph's Catholic Primary and Nursery School

Trusting in God; Creating Tomorrow; Helping Today

NEWSLETTER



In This Issue

- This week...
- Head Pupils
- Catholic Life and Mission
- Big Lent Walk
- What have we been up to at St Joseph's?
- Easter Activities
- Clubs and Activities
- Friends of St Joseph
- Parent Workshops
- Big Plastic Count
- Breakfast Club

- Baby and Toddler Group
- OPAL
- Attendance
- Children's Achievements
- SMILERS
- Reading cafe
- School Facebook Page
- Word of the Week

This week...

This week has been a lovely week at St Joseph's. We celebrated our Feast Day on Tuesday with a Mass in church. The children did a beautiful job and it was wonderful to see so many parents and parishioners.

On Wednesday, year 5 went to All Saint's School to watch a performance of Wizard of Oz and we had a decorated egg competition.

We finished the week celebrating the fantastic effort of our children in our Awards Assembly. What a busy week!

Head Pupils



Our Head Pupils have been busy launching the new article of the month and supported the Eco Committee in selecting the winners from our Big Plastic Count challenge.



Catholic Life and Mission

Over half term, we began the Season of Lent. As we prepare ourselves during this Holy Season, there will be a number of events in school to support the children's spiritual development. As part of our preparations, our children will be thinking about Almsgiving and how they can 'Lent a Hand'. All children will have the opportunity to give up some of their time to help others.

Year 4 and 6 had their first session of Lectio Divina this week and did a wonderful job using scripture to help them with their prayers.

Big Lent Walk



This week, all of the children in school have been taking part in the Big Lent Walk. All the children have a sponsor form. We will be working as a school team and as part of the Our Lady of Lourdes team to walk through lent and raise as much money as possible for the charity, CAFOD. If you would like to sponsor your child, please complete the sponsor form or visit our JustGiving page **before Thursday 28th March**.

<https://walk.cafod.org.uk/fundraising/st-josephs-shirebrook>

What have we been up to this week at St Joseph's?

Nursery - The children have been making flowers and other things that grow for their RE display.

Reception- The children have been taking part in their innovate challenge making clay hedgehogs and writing leaflets.

Year One- The children have been acting out the Last Supper in their RE lessons.

Year Two- The children have been learning how to measure height and length.

Year Three- The children have been learning about Ancient Greek Education.

Year Four- The children have been learning about perimeter in maths and have been making stop frame animations in computing.

Year Five- The children have completed their fractions unit in maths.

Year Six- The children have been busy preparing the Easter Presentation and have been thinking about the events of Holy Week.

Wow! What a busy week; well done children!

Easter Activities



In the coming weeks, we will be having a number of events as we approach the Easter holidays. This is a very exciting time of the year in the St Joseph's calendar. The decorated egg competition this week was a great success! Well done children for your fantastic effort!

We will be holding our annual **Easter Egg Raffle on Wednesday 27th March** in school. We would be very grateful for any donations of Easter eggs to support us with the raffle. **Tickets are now on sale in the school shop on Arbor.**

On **Thursday 28th March**, year 5 and 6 will be hosting our Easter Presentation in the school hall. All parents are welcome.

Clubs and Activities

Thank you to all the parents that completed our clubs and activities parent survey. We will be looking at this next week in preparation for launching our club and activity programme after Easter. If you have not completed the survey, please follow the link below to have your say.

<https://forms.gle/AhW2A7wuuFhQF6oA6>

Friends of St Joseph

If you are available to help out in anyway to support your children and St Joseph's then please don't hesitate to contact Mrs Fearn or one of the team...new volunteers are always welcome!

Parent Workshops

It has been great to see such a wonderful response to our parent workshops. These will continue after the Easter holidays.

Our next workshops in school are:

16th April at 4pm - Online Safety

22nd April at 4pm- Supporting your child's mental health

23rd April at 4pm- Key Stage Two Maths

29th April at 4pm- Early Maths

30th April at 4pm- Reading for pleasure

13th May at 4pm- Catholic Life and Mission

21st May at 4pm- Handwriting

We will be sending letters home inviting parents to sign up to these workshops

Big Plastic Count



The Big Plastic Count is the UK's biggest household plastic waste investigation.

By getting your pupils to tally up the plastic they throw away at home, we can find out exactly how much plastic waste is leaving UK households. We'll then use the results to work out how much we're throwing away and identify what really happens to different types of packaging after it's disposed of.

Governments globally are working towards a Global Plastics Treaty and we're calling on our government to push for a strong and ambitious treaty. A treaty that addresses the whole life cycle of plastics: a phase-out of new plastic production, and a just and inclusive transition to a low-carbon, zero-waste, reuse based Economy.

With your help, The Big Plastic Count will build even more evidence about what really happens to our plastic waste, and push UK ministers, supermarkets and big brands to lead the way at the global talks that could finally phase out plastic production for good. The plastic waste crisis affects everyone, so we want to make sure children have their voices heard and can be part of the solution.

Today, our Head Pupils and Eco Committee selected the winners from the plastic creation challenge. Well done to all the children who took part, there were some very creative entries.

Breakfast Club



We are delighted to offer our breakfast club to all children from Reception class upwards for £2. If you would like your child to attend, please pre book their place on Arbor. The breakfast club will run from 7:30am.

Baby and Toddler Groups

We had a fantastic morning at our baby group this week! It was wonderful to greet parents and babies and have an opportunity to chat with other parents, play and sing with your baby and have a hot drink. These classes will continue to run **each Thursday from 9:30- 10:30am in the school hall**. Everyone is welcome!

In addition, we will be hosting Parent and Toddler forest school sessions for over 2s. These will run on:

Thursday 25th April 2:15-3:15pm

Thursday 6th June 2:15-3:15pm

Thursday 27th June 2:15-3:15pm

Thursday 18th July 2:15-3:15pm

If anyone has any donations of baby toys or equipment, we would really appreciate your support.

OPAL- Outdoor play and learning



Thank you to the incredible support so far this year with our OPAL provision. We have lots of fantastic equipment for our children to use. We are looking for any handy helpers who may be able to help us build some of our new storage and equipment. If you are able to offer your services, please contact the school office.

After the Easter Holidays, we will have some exciting new additions to our OPAL provision. A reminder that any donations are gratefully received at the school office.

Attendance

Whole school attendance this week is 92.7%

Reception- 83.4%

Year One - 95.3%

Year Two - 93.2%

Year Three- 90.3%

Year Four- 96.6%

Year Five- 97.6%

Year Six- 94%

Well done to year 5 who have won our attendance award this week and have won Milkshake Monday next week. Well done children!

Attendance in school has dropped significantly this week. While we understand that illness does happen, we would like to remind parents of the importance of attending school each day.

Attending school every day = 100% attendance

Attending 4½ days a week = 90% attendance = **4 weeks missed per year**

Attending 4 days a week = 80% attendance = **more than half a term missed per year.**

Attending 3½ days each week = 70% attendance = **more than a quarter of the school year missed.**

An average attendance of 80% or less across a child's school career adds up to **missing a whole 2 years from school.**

Parents will be sent letters home next week inviting them to attendance panel meetings for those with low attendance.

Children's Achievements



Well done to Charlotte K in year 5 who passed stage 5 in ice skating this week.

Great work to Weston in year 4 who got the 'Trainer of the week' at football this week.

We love celebrating your child's out of school achievements! Please make sure you share these with school so that we can publish them in our newsletter.

SMILERS

SMILERS is a whole school approach to wellbeing.

It is a way of helping children understand that they can make choices to help them feel better mentally and help them stay emotionally strong and well.

We will use the SMILERS formula to help us develop healthy habits for life and to look after our own wellbeing.

This month's focus is **E Eat Well**

Reading Cafe

After Easter, we will be continuing our weekly reading cafes on the following dates:

Year 5- 19th April

Nursery- 26th April

Reception- 3rd May

Year 1- 10th May

Year 2- 24th May

School Facebook Page



A reminder that we have launched our school Facebook page. We have been adding updates of children's work and news for parents onto the page regularly. Please follow us at 'St Joseph's Shirebrook' to keep up to date with our latest class news and school events.

Word of the Week

Next week, our word of the week is, 'Sacrifice', Year 3 class have produced a wonderful video to help us to reflect as we enter Holy Week.