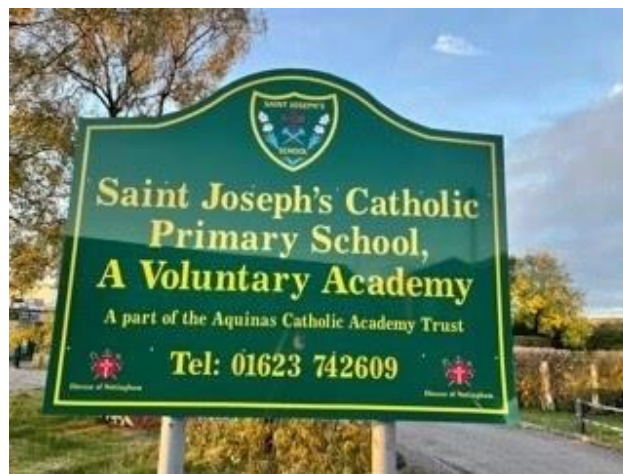


Friday 7th March

St. Joseph's Catholic Primary and Nursery School

Trusting in God; Creating Tomorrow; Helping Today

NEWSLETTER



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Lent

We have now entered the Holy Season of Lent. Around school, the children have been changing their prayer areas and have been thinking about how they can use this Season to help them be the best version of themselves. During Lent, we will be thinking about Prayer, Fasting and Almsgiving. The children have all been challenged to think of ways that they can give up their time to help others and grow closer to God.

We will be taking part in prayer days, Pilgrimages, Mass, Adoration and our Big Lent Walk as part of our Lenten preparations. Each class will have a Big Lent Walk to raise money for CAFOD. The class who raises the most money will be awarded a prize.

This week, the children started to take home our Travelling Crucifix to help them spend time in prayer with their families.

This week at St Joseph's

We have come to the end of another wonderful but extremely busy week at St Joseph's!

We had a wonderful Mardi Gras celebration on Shrove Tuesday where the children joined in parades, activities and pancake eating. On Wednesday, we entered the Season of Lent with a beautiful Ash Wednesday service and on Thursday we celebrated Word Book Day. Years 2 and 3 have enjoyed sessions with Mansfield Town Football Club, years 1, 3 and 6 have had an exciting archery session, year 4 have been on a Pilgrimage and have started their swimming lessons and we squeezed in a coffee afternoon. What a busy week!

This weekend in Mass

Luke 4:1-13

The temptation in the wilderness

This weekend, as we celebrate Mass on the first Sunday of Lent, we hear how Jesus was tempted in the desert.

It would be wonderful to see you all in Mass on Saturday at 5pm. There will be a children's liturgy session at the back of church.

Head Pupils



Our Head Pupils have been challenging all of our pupils to show the Catholic Social Teaching principle, The Common Good. The Head Pupils also met with Ann Neal from CAFOD who awarded the school a certificate of thanks for the money they have raised so far this year.



Catholic Life and Mission



A wonderful week living out our Catholic mission this week.

We celebrated Shrove Tuesday this week with a wonderful Mardi Gras celebration. It was great to be joined by other schools for our celebrations. The children across school enjoyed parades, creative activities and pancake eating.

On Ash Wednesday, we entered the Season of Lent. The Chaplaincy Team and Agents for Change did a wonderful job leading the service for EYFS, Key Stage One and Key Stage Two. It

was wonderful to see the Chaplaincy Team distribute the ashes to the children, staff, parents and parishioners.

On Thursday, as part of World Book Day, the children thought about the best selling book of all time, the Bible. The children produced some beautiful art work based on this which will be displayed around school.

Finally, on Friday, our children went over to church to spend time in Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament.

We would love to hear your views on our Catholic Life and Mission by completing our short parent survey.

<https://forms.gle/ToYqGQduN8QJopEj9>

What have we been up to this week?

Nursery - the children have been reading The Three Little Pigs and have been thinking about measurement in maths work.

Reception- the children have been counting to 6, 7 and 8 in their maths work.

Year 1- the children have been learning about Amelia Earhart in their history lessons.

Year 2- the children have been learning about James Cook in history this week.

Year 3- the children have been learning about pronouns in English and about Ancient Greek families in history.

Year 4- the children have been on a Pilgrimage to St Philip's Church in Mansfield and have been learning about fronted adverbials in English.

Year 5- the children have been multiplying fractions and mixed numbers in maths.

Year 6- the children have been looking at the importance of unity in their RE work.

Friends of St Joseph

'Parents of St Joseph's, we need your help!

As you may know the '**Friends of St Joseph's**' are a group of parents that volunteer their time to arrange events throughout the year, such as:

- Movie night
- Coffee afternoon
- Discos
- Leavers' Tea
- Summer Fayre
- Christmas Fayre
- Pop up shops for donuts, ice creams, sweet bags
- And much more.....

These events are predominantly planned for the enjoyment of the children and parents, but it also helps raise funds for extras for the children.

- We have fully funded a new garden Pod for the children to be used as an outdoor classroom in the summer months.
- Part funded the forest school
- Paid for ice creams for the whole school as part of the recent Ofsted celebration
- Paid for the Christmas Pantomime for KS1
- Paid for the leavers' celebrations
- Arranged the Santa visit and paid for the treat bag

As of this summer we will have several members of the group leaving and really need new parent members to help. We want this fun to continue in the future! However, it may not be possible if we don't add more to the amazing team of FOSJ. We ask you only commit time that you have and this is flexible, this can be helping out at the events or helping out behind the scenes, all help matters. If you would like more information please pass on your details to Mrs Fearn and one of the members will be in touch, or you can speak to one of the members directly. Thank you for your support!

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. **Please note that the last entry to Breakfast club is 8:15am. No children will be allowed in after this time.**

Attendance

Whole school attendance this week is 96.6%

Reception- 98.3%

Year One - 91.3 %

Year Two - 96.7%

Year Three-96.9%

Year Four- 95.5%

Year Five- 99.4%

Year Six-98.2%

Well done to Year 5 who have won our attendance award this week! They will enjoy our attendance reward, Fresh Air Friday.

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.**

Children's Achievements



Well done to Rory in year 1 who made his Beaver Promise 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.

Upcoming Dates

W/C 10th March- Parents' Evening- please complete a slip to make an appointment with your child's teacher.

11th March- Year 1 and 2 Big Lent Walk- a letter has been sent to parents with more details.

12th March- Year 6 visit to Mansfield Town Football Club- children to come dressed in PE kits.

13th March- Year 1 trip to the Air Museum

14th March- CAFOD Family Fast Day- children come dressed in non uniform in exchange for a donation for CAFOD. The CAFOD club will also have a cake sale after school.

17th March- Year 5 Play Leader Session- children to come dressed in PE kits.

18th March- Year 3 and 4 Big Lent Walk - a letter has been sent to parents with more details.

19th March- Feast of St Joseph- St Joseph's House to come dressed in non uniform (red where possible). There will be a Mass at 9:10am in church followed by a day of prayer and reflection.

20th March- Year 5 Pilgrimage to St Philip Neri Church- more information to follow.

21st March- Awards Assembly- parents will be contacted with more details if their child is receiving an award.

22nd March- First Holy Communion Enrollment Mass- children to be in church at 4:50pm in preparation for 5pm Mass.

I-venger Internet Safety Tip of the week

Remember you can report harmful content that you see online using the RHC button (report harmful content)

Our I-Vengers have also set the whole school a challenge to reduce their screen time during Lent. Every child took home a leaflet with more information this week.

Nursery Applications

If you would like your 3-4 year old to attend our school nursery next academic year, please complete a nursery application form and return to the school office before 27th March. Places will be allocated using our admissions policy. If you have any questions, please contact the school office.

Arbor Consents

Could we please ask you to check you have no outstanding **CONSENTS** in the **NOTICES** section of Arbor for your children. We have added a new consent titled - **Photographs/Videos - for use in Social Media** such as YouTube, Facebook, Instagram, Twitter/X etc for you to either accept or decline.

This would also be a good time to check all your details are correct, in particular any emergency contacts you have provided. If you are unable to amend or add any details to Arbor please email the school office with your information and we will amend it on your behalf. Thank you to all who have already actioned this.

Word of the Week

Next week, our word of the week is 'Prayer'. Year One have produced a wonderful video to help us reflect on prayer during the Season of Lent. We would love to hear your feedback on our new and improved video which can be seen on our Youtube page. The link for the video will also be shared on our Facebook page.

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.