



# NEWSLETTER

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Thursday 7th January 2021



A warm welcome back to a new term and a new year.

Many thanks for all the lovely messages, cards and gifts I received at the end of last term, they were very thoughtful and kind!

As we start term 3, we yet again find ourselves in uncertain times. There has been much talk in the news over the last week about school closures and the new variant of the virus. Firstly, I would like to extend a warm and heartfelt thank you for everyone's continued support, patience and understanding as we have been navigating our way through life in a Pandemic.

As we found out about the partial closure of schools at 8pm on Monday night, we worked fast to arrange the key worker bubbles and to set up remote learning.

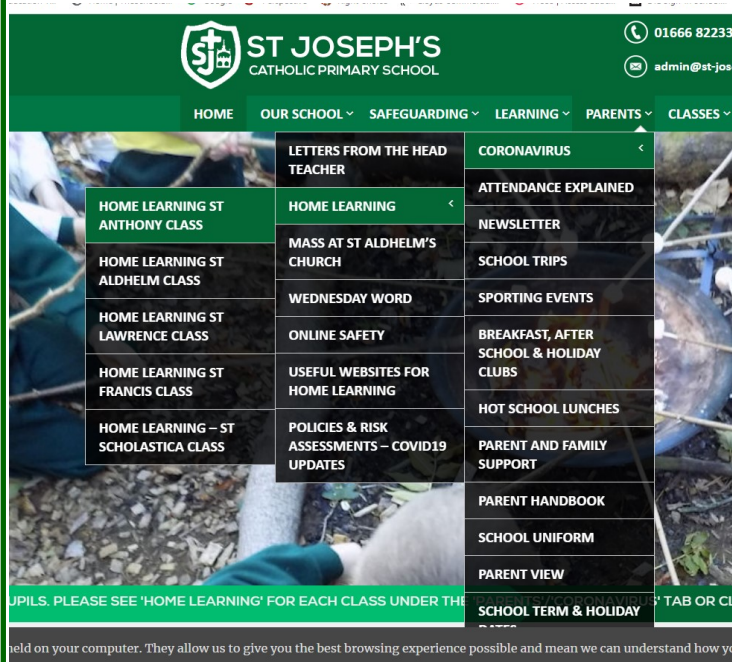
Please can I remind you to contact your class teacher if you have queries about remote learning. The main office is very busy at the moment.

Finally it goes without saying how lovely it has been to see the children in school on Monday. They were full of life and a credit to the St Joseph's Community.  
Mrs S Woods



## In Class This Week

Home learning can be found on the school website.  
>Parents > Corona Virus > Home Learning



Children's work books—we will endeavour to deliver as many workbooks to homes as we can. If you have not received yours by Tuesday next week, it can be collected from the school office.



Pope Francis @Pontifex · Jan 1

Best wishes to everyone,  
so that in the new year,  
humanity might progress  
on the path of fraternity,  
justice and peace.

Franciscus

**HAPPY  
NEW YEAR!**

## Important Reminder – Reception School Places for September 2021

DEADLINE TO APPLY FRIDAY 15<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY.

<https://admissions.wiltshire.gov.uk/prefs.php>

If you are applying for a school place at St Joseph's please also remember to submit your Supplementary Form to the School Office by Friday 15<sup>th</sup> January. We are unable to process Supplementary forms in the first round of admissions after this date. Please do not miss this deadline. The Admissions Supplementary form is available on the school website.

WALKING IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF JESUS, LOVING AND SERVING TOGETHER

<b>Weekly Attendance</b> 14th—18th Dec 2020	<b>St Lawrence 99.3%</b>
<b>St Anthony 100%</b>	<b>St Francis 81.9%</b>
<b>St Aldhelm 89.3%</b>	<b>St Scholastica 97.4%</b>

## Weekly Message from Pope Francis



'Best wishes to everyone so that in the New Year, humanity may progress on the path of fraternity, justice and peace.'

Please take a moment to follow the Wednesday Word link below...

<https://www.paperturn-view.com/uk/wednesday-word/kindness?pid=MTA101634&v=10.10>

**Wednesday**  
6th January

**Five Minutes**  
**Family Time**

**Good News**  
**for Families**

### 1 Enjoy reading the Gospel

When John the Baptist was preaching he said, "Someone is following me, someone who is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to kneel down and undo the straps of his sandals. I have baptised you with water, but he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit." It was at this time that Jesus came from Nazareth in Galilee and was baptised by John in the River Jordan. No sooner had Jesus come up out of the water than he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit, like a dove, descending on him. Then a voice from heaven said, "You are my son, the Beloved; my favour rests on you."



Taken from the Gospel of Sunday 10th January 2021 Mark 1:7-11 (the Baptism of the Lord, Year B)

Which words stood out for you in this Gospel, and why? What does the picture make you think about? Enjoy exploring this Wednesday's word, which is **BAPTISM**.

### 2 "Baptism is God's most beautiful and magnificent gift." St Gregory of Nazianzus

**What happened when Jesus came up from the water?** In this Sunday's Gospel, Jesus is baptised. He begins his mission to the world when the Holy Spirit comes down upon him - the same Spirit we receive through Baptism and Confirmation. Ask your child what they know about Baptism. If your child has been baptised, ask them if they know who chose their name, and why that name was chosen for them. Ask them if they know what any of the symbols of baptism represent (e.g. candle, water, oil, white garment, the sign of the cross).

### 3 Jesus came for everyone: to draw us all into his family so that we can become more like him and joyfully share in God's own life.

Baptism is one of the seven Sacraments which bring us closer to God. It is the start of a life-long call to reveal God's Spirit to our family and community. When we are baptised we become a new creation; we receive the Holy Spirit, to help us to live like Jesus. How can we live more like Jesus as we begin this new year? Perhaps we can: be fair and generous; always try to offer help before we are asked; be peacemakers; be ready to go out of our way to help others; regularly make an effort to let other family members know how much we love them.



Dear Lord Jesus, thank you for the gift of **Baptism**. Please help us to live like you and to spread God's love throughout this new year. Amen.

Write a promise and then **draw** a big smile on Smiley

This week I will try my best to...

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