

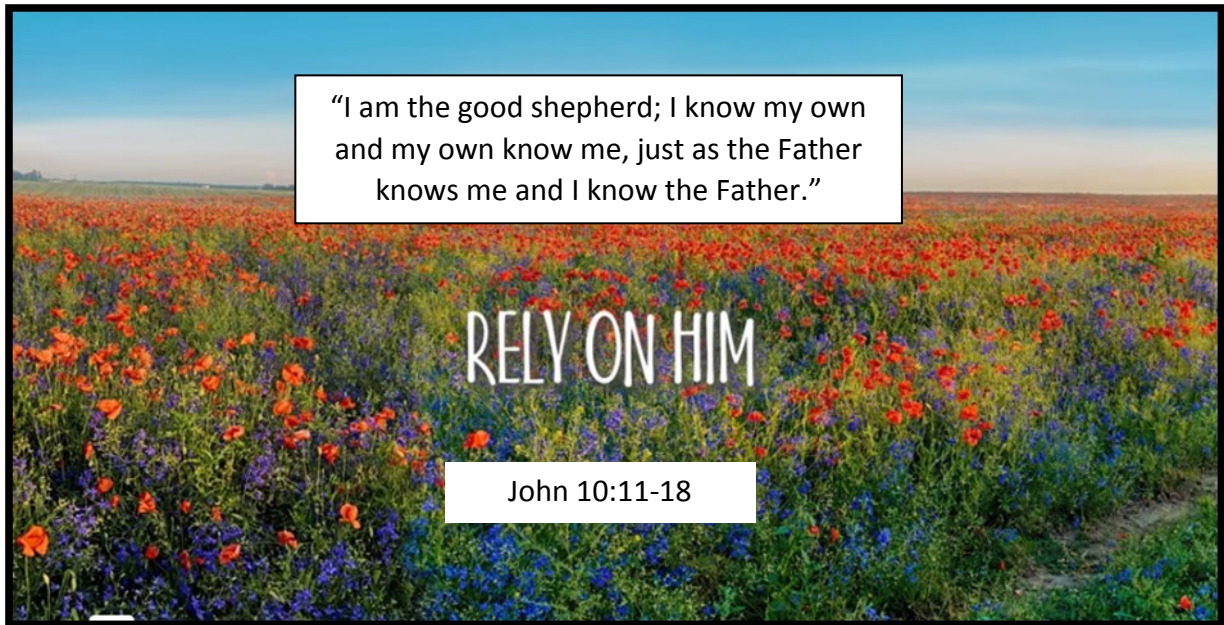


NEWSLETTER

St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, Holloway Hill, Malmesbury, Wiltshire, SN16 9BB
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Friday 19th April 2024

Interim Co-Headteachers' message



ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA – THE LORD IS RISEN!

As we return to school for the summer term it is lovely to see some sunshine and blossom on the trees. The children have returned looking smart and ready to learn, which is wonderful to see. As always there are lots of exciting events coming up so please do keep updated by reading the newsletter each week and checking the key dates.

Parent questionnaire

Thank you very much for completing the parent questionnaire at the parents' evening last term. Please find attached the results. The IEB and staff were really pleased with the feedback including that 100% of parents feel that their children are Safe at school and that the staff are positive role models.

There are always areas to improve and the Co-Headteachers and the IEB will use the results to inform the school improvement moving forward, especially in the areas of knowing how well your child is doing in RE and raising the profile of how well we work with the Parish.

Stations of the Cross

On Maundy Thursday the Y6 children led the Stations of the Cross for every child in the school to be involved with. The thought and reverence they had put into the stations was humbling. The children were able to reflect on how Jesus may have felt and also how each station may translate into their own world today.

PTFA

A huge Thank you to the PFA who organised and ran a very successful school disco and donated the Easter eggs for the annual Easter egg hunt. All money raised goes to supporting the school with additional resources and experiences.

Quiz night – Postponed to **17th May 2024**

Children helping children – Little Red Box scheme

Mission Together is the Catholic Church's official children's charity for overseas mission. For almost 200 years, [Missio](#) has been providing overseas missionaries with the support they need to build and sustain faith communities in areas of poverty and conflict. Our famous Red Box encourages Catholic families in England and Wales to give what they can to help these communities materially and spiritually.



Mission Together invites children to help children around the world by fundraising and giving to the Little Red Box – Your child should have brought home a red box today to enable them to take part in collecting contributions during Lent and Easter. Whatever you are able to collect will be greatly appreciated! Boxes are to be returned to the office by **Friday 26th April 2024**. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

Earth Day (Monday 22nd April: <https://www.earthday.org/>)



As part of the Stewardship element of Catholic Social Teaching, the school will be marking Earth Day with activities and reflections aimed at celebrating and protecting our wonderful world. To make this an in school community event, our morning activities will be in houses rather than normal classes and because of this, **your child is invited to wear house coloured clothes to school for the day.**

As well as focussing on issues in the wider planet, we are also inviting donations of food products for the Malmesbury Food-Bank they are particularly in need of sauces (tomato, brown, mayonnaise), detergent, men's razors, and cleaning products. Thank you in advance for any donations you are able to make. Reports and updates will follow in next week's newsletter.

On-line Safety

At the start of last term we had a focus on Safer Internet Day and continue to have ongoing lessons to help children understand their choices when using the internet for entertainment, learning and communication. As a school we are also aware of the Children's Commissioner's recent report on Digital Childhoods which recognised the advantages of digital technology at the same time as highlighting issues for children's mental health and safety in a digital world. Her views around risks are certainly things we share and consequently we do all we can to inform children of risks, in an age appropriate way, along with having our own safeguarding measures. These measures include, filtering through the South West Grid for learning, monitoring of all users through our IT provider and through school policy (Online safety, Acceptable Use, Use of Mobile technology).

We also recognise that children's access and use of technology can present parents with dilemmas along with recognising that keeping up with technological advances can be both confusing and challenging. For this reason, we were very interested to hear about the group that Mrs Winram-Crump is trying to establish

within and across our community (see below). This specifically focuses on children's access to technology through mobile devices and aims to help parents have sensible alternatives to Smart Phones. As children's use of mobile technology was a particular issue raised by the Children's Commissioner, and is also something we experience as impacting on children's relationships, we feel her initiative is certainly something that we can signpost to all parents. We hope that this group is something other parents might find useful as they navigate children's growing maturity and the pressures and dilemmas this can pose.

Malmesbury Smartphone-Free-Childhood

Would you like to join a what's app group with other carers who want to create a realistic choice for NOT giving their child a smartphone? If so please text 07786 961249 to be added to the group!

This newly formed group will do this by:

1. Allowing carers to see that other families may share concerns or worries about mobile technology;
2. Reassuring carers their child won't be the 'odd one out' at secondary school and reduce peer pressure;
3. Share useful info e.g. alternative phones and communication technology, e.g. new studies /info re impact of smartphones on kids' mental health.

There might also be discussions about other initiatives people want to take to share the message. e.g. school or community group based initiatives.

Please note: This is NOT a "no-phones /no-screens thing" - it's about sensible approaches to Smart phones and other technologies to safeguard children's health and wellbeing in the digital world (web access, social media and online forums/communications)



Opportunities club children are holding a cake sale to raise money for the Missio charity whose mission statement is "children helping children". The money raised will be donated and will help children all over the globe.

5 LUCKY GOLD STARS ON CUP-CAKES

WILL YOU WIN AN HOURS FREE CHILD-CARE AT CLUB?

Where : KS2 Playground

When: Friday 19th April

When: From 3.20 school pick up

Chocolate Brownies £1

Iced Cupcake 50p

Flapjack 50p

Rice crispy cake 50p

Suggested donation

Cash only please- preferably coins



BARN DANCE
with Ploughman's Supper
Friday, 19 April, 7:30 to 10:30



TONIGHT!!

The Town Hall, Malmesbury, SN16 9BZ

Music By The Packhorse Celidh Band

Tickets £15 From ...

Gabrielle 01666 838 391

Mary 07771 656 331

In Aid of The St Aldhelm Church Hall Fund

WOW moments across the school!

"Pupils enjoy coming to St Joseph's Catholic Primary School. They find lessons interesting. Pupils are eager to talk about their learning. They feel safe to make mistakes and to learn from them" OFSTED March 2023

Here is just a snap shot of the exciting, wonderful work and activities going on across the school this week.

St Teresa - Miss Just: This term we are learning about inventors and this week we have been looking at the creation of Lego. The children now know lots of facts about Lego and have been busy building. They are very excited about Lego Land next week!



St Lawrence - Mr Wilkinson:

This week our WOW moment was our lesson learning about plants and what they need in order to grow. The class came up with, and started, an experiment planting different seeds with the intention of providing them with different conditions for them to grow under. Harriet - "I enjoyed learning about the conditions that plants need to grow."

Wiktorina - "I enjoyed watering some of the plants."

Finn - "I enjoyed putting the soil into the pots and watching the seeds disappear."



St Scholastica - Mr Heavey:

Alfie J - "I really enjoyed doing rounders this week because we worked on our hand-eye co-ordination."

Eva - "I enjoyed doing our experience in English because we did a drama activity."

Poppy and Christina - "We enjoyed looking at maps in geography and creating our own OS maps, and we learnt about the symbols for the key."

St Francis - Miss Thomson:

This week we had our first Forest School session which we will be doing every Thursday afternoon until half term.

Josh: "I enjoyed making our own hiding spots in Forest School, it was really fun."

Ellie: "I enjoyed Forest School as well because no one gave up and we all managed to make a hiding spot."

Connor: "I had a fun time playing hide and seek down at Forest School."

Just before the Easter holidays we all had a fantastic morning watching the rock / pop band, DJ Harman. We got involved clapping out rhythms and singing along to popular songs. This was followed by a workshop.



"It is important to have friends we can trust. But it is essential to trust the Lord, who never lets us down.

This is the key to success in life." Pope Francis

www.st-josephs-malmesbury.wilts.sch.uk/prayer-life/



SEN News

If you have a child with a diagnosis of Dyslexia, or they have some underlying difficulties in this area, you may be interested to know that Wiltshire are running a Dyslexia Workshop for Parents and Carers on Thursday 2nd May. The course content is as follows:

This session will allow parents and carers to find out what dyslexia is, how schools and other agencies in Wiltshire identify and support literacy difficulties, and ways to help at home.

The course is from 2.00 - 3.30pm and is online and live; it won't unfortunately be recorded so you do need to attend in real time. You will need to have access to Microsoft Teams.

Sharon Clift, SENCo, has the link to join the course so please contact her on senco@st-josephs-malmesbury.wilts.sch.uk and she will gladly forward it to you. Alternatively, Sharon will host a screening here at school which we hope will make it easier for parents to attend, as the course finish time coincides with school pick up time – again, please make contact to let her know that you would like to attend this. Teas, coffees and biscuits will be provided and Sharon is very happy to chat about Dyslexia either before or after the session.

Lost Property

We have a selection of lost items that have not yet been claimed. If you recognise anything pictured please let the office know and we can return it to your child. Any unclaimed items of clothing will go in the Rags2Riches collection on Tuesday.



Weekly Attendance Monday 15th — Friday 19th April

St Teresa 98.7%

St Lawrence 97.3%

St Francis 99.2%

St Scholastica 98.2%

Congratulations to the March PFA 100 Club Winners:



- 1st – Anita Druce (£11)
- 2nd – Claire Statton (£6.60)
- 3rd – Eimear Moloney (£4.40)

It's not too late to join and the more members we have, the greater the winnings every month. A paper copy of the membership form has now been sent home with every child and can also be found on our website <https://www.st-josephs-malmesbury.wilts.sch.uk/pfa/>

April's draw will be made in celebration assembly on Friday 26th.



St Joseph's Catholic Primary School
Parents and Friends Association
Registered Charity No: 1145152

May Half Term Holiday Club

We are now taking bookings for our May Half Term holiday club which will be open Tuesday to Thursday from 8am through to 6pm and Friday from 8am to 4pm. Breakfast, lunch and tea can be provided depending on your requirements.



Paper copies are being sent home today with all our regular bookers. An electronic copy is available on the school website: <https://www.st-josephs-malmesbury.wilts.sch.uk/breakfast-after-school-holiday-clubs/>

Our Easter holiday club was hugely popular so book early to secure your place.

The Rags2Riches collection is on Tuesday.

Please bring bags into school by 9am on that day containing good quality clothes and accessories. Adult, child and baby clothing such as jackets, jumpers, hoodies, trousers, skirts, scarves, gloves, belts, handbags, paired shoes and other footwear etc.

They cannot reuse worn out shoes or clothes, clothes that are wet or have holes in. Curtains, pillows or duvets, bric-a-brac or books. Personalised items. Work uniform, school uniform or school sports kit.

WOULD SOMEONE ELSE BUY & WEAR IT?

Donated clothes and accessories are sent worldwide to be sold at market stalls as affordable items for those in real need of clothing.





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QUIZ NIGHT

+ Sri Lankan dinner!

Friday 17 May 2024

7pm for 7:30pm start

School Hall

Sri Lankan Curry from Roost
Quiz only ticket available for £5 each

£12 Please book through parent pay
Tables of up to 6 Max

Registered charity No: 1145152

Chicken or vegetarian curry available

'Build your own Duck' Competition

DEADLINE FOR CREATIONS INTO SCHOOL IS MORNING DROP OFF ON TUESDAY 22ND APRIL



Save our Environment For a Better Tomorrow!

All Videos Now Available through the QR code!



Please follow the link & watch the videos for your competition task! Please return your completed Ducks to School with you after Easter, and don't forget to include your name!



Please follow the link from the QR Code

