

Stay Strong and Have Faith

Over half term we received the unfortunate, but perhaps unsurprising, news that the nation was required to go back into lockdown. With coronavirus cases on the rise, we need to do the right thing: stay at home, save lives and protect the NHS. As we enter lockdown, we know so much more about the virus, but also about how to look after ourselves and our loved ones, both physically and mentally, and I find that very reassuring.

A big difference between this lockdown and the last, is that core educational facilities will remain open in England. As I have mentioned in previous communication, I am very pleased about this. School is the best place for the children to be, without a doubt. It remains very important for children to attend school every day, as long as they are fit and able, to support their wellbeing and education. We have planned for numerous possible scenarios and we have implemented a wide range of measures to ensure both children and adults are as safe as they can be in school. The best thing you can do for your children is to ensure you follow our measures – wear a face mask when you are in the Front Garden; arrive and leave promptly; maintain social distance and practise good hygiene. Also, it is absolutely vital that if you or a member of household has symptoms, you must stay at home and get a test.

I hope you have a safe and pleasant weekend with your loved ones. God bless.

Mrs Wyatt - Executive Headteacher

Interested in honing your art skills this lockdown? During half term, two sisters led an online art tutorial that was streamed around the world to help raise money for the school. What an excellent creative idea and excellent opportunity for the children to spend time together!



Posie Gubbins arrived safely on 24th October, 6lbs 9. Mrs Gubbins sends her thanks to all the St. Joseph's community for their generosity and well wishes. Posie is doing really well and looking forward to meeting everyone at St Joseph's soon!



W E D N E S D A Y !



Our Wednesday Word for this week which links in with the Sunday Gospel is:

WISDOM

Nursery



Nursery are exploring the topic, 'Food and Countries'. They started the week by looking at Harvest. Children made observational drawings using a choice of paint, pastels or felt tip pens. They also took part in a Farmers' Market role play; each child was given 4p at the beginning of the day and could spend it to buy veg to use for cooking in the mud kitchen or they could use the money to buy their snack. Some used it for both!



Catholic Life

The month of November is dedicated to the Holy Souls in Purgatory. It begins with the Feast of All Saints – when we recall all those who have reached their Heaven. This is followed, on 2nd November, by All Souls Day – when we pray for all who have died.

Prayer for the Dead is an important part of our lives as Catholics. It expresses our hope in the Resurrection and reminds us of our own need to grow in our love for Christ, in our faith in his Death and Resurrection for us and in our own hope of eternal life.

Throughout November, we invite children to write names of those we have lost in our Book of Remembrance in the Heart of the School.

Next week is Remembrance Day. Normally we would mark the occasion by selling poppies to raise money for the Royal British Legion, however, due to Covid restrictions, we have decided not to do that this year. Instead, we would like to raise money by inviting children to come to school dressed in red.

On This Day...

...in 2012, Barack Obama was re-elected President of the United States. A member of the Democratic Party, Obama was the first African-American President of the United States. He was born on 4th August, 1961 in Honolulu, Hawaii and after working as a civil rights attorney and an academic, he went into politics. During his presidency, Obama reformed healthcare in America, promoted discussions on preventing climate change around the world and was named the 2009 Nobel Peace Prize laureate.



We hope you enjoyed Halloween during the half term.

One family made terrifying cookies to celebrate the spookiest day of the year!

Eeek!



Pupil Voice

We were very pleased to hear from last year's Head Boy, Enrico, this week. He has been awarded the star of the term for mathematics at his secondary school. Congratulations to you, Enrico, and thank you for getting in touch.

