

## *Saving Lives*

I hope you are all safe and well and were able to enjoy some of the Christmas break.

Once again, we have been asked to stay at home to protect others and our invaluable NHS. I know that this new lockdown will be just as hard, if not harder, on us than the previous ones. We are in a long and hard battle with an invisible enemy and its impact is profound. However, I know that one day, we will win. Even if we cannot eradicate it, we will soon be able to control this virus better so that we can live our lives again. We have to make sacrifices today for a better a tomorrow.

As in the first lockdown, we will continue to do everything we can to help one another through this. We are delivering daily live teaching sessions for children, have continued our weekly Rosary sessions for families and will work with the PTFA to offer fun Zoom events for all so that we can keep in touch with our community. Our priority right now is ensuring that all children can access their online learning, either at home or at school.

From the lengthy discussion we had with our teachers today, it is clear that both children and families are on board with online learning, which is fantastic! Well done all!

We are fortunate to have the people and the resources to continue to offer excellent education and support to our children during this pandemic. I am eternally grateful to Mr Stacey and the staff at St Joseph's for their resilience and their compassion to help us all to get through these difficult times.

*Mrs Wyatt - Executive Headteacher*

Congratulations to one of our Year 4 students who passed her Grade 2 Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music violin exam. The exam consisted of three pieces, scales and arpeggios, sight-reading, and aural tests. Excellent work!



One student in Year 3 has been giving English classes to her cousins of the same age that live in Spain!

It was her idea and she has conducted them via Zoom. She has been very creative with her topics and has enjoyed teaching them about dogs especially.

She has found it really entertaining and we are sure her cousins are very grateful for the lessons too.



Happy birthday to the following children who have celebrated this week: Lorenzo (Nursery), Jordyn (Reception), Jayden (Year 4)

W E D N E S D A Y !



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

**BAPTISM**

## Reception



This week Reception made gratitude boxes to keep up the positivity during this difficult time. The children designed some fabulous creations and here are a few to share with you. Each evening the children wrote or drew pictures of something that they were grateful for from the day.



Maria



Sebastian

## On This Day...

David Bowie was born in 1947 in Brixton. David Bowie was a famous English singer-songwriter and actor. His songs include Life on Mars?, Ashes to Ashes, Fame and Heroes. He died on 10<sup>th</sup> January 2016 in New York.



## Catholic Life

On Wednesday, we celebrated the Epiphany. The Epiphany – also known as Three Kings' Day – is a Christian festival, which starts on 6<sup>th</sup> January.

It is a special date in the Christmas story as it's when people celebrate how a star led the Magi – also known as the Three Kings or the Wise Men – to visit the baby Jesus after he had been born.

In many countries, families will celebrate the 6<sup>th</sup> January by exchanging presents and spending time with families



## Pupil Voice

There are lots of websites you can access this term for fun activities and lessons in lockdown.

Joe Wicks is back! He will be restarting his online PE lessons from next week, to help families keep fit during lockdown.

His live sessions will run on his [YouTube channel](#) at 9am on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.



The BBC is making lots of extra educational content available to help children keep up with their studies during lockdown.

From Monday 11<sup>th</sup> January, CBBC, BBC Two, BBC iPlayer and BBC Red Button will all be offering up lots of content for students including daily lessons which will be made available online too.

The CBBC channel will have a three-hour block of primary school programmes from 9am. This will include programmes from BBC Live Lessons and BBC Bitesize Daily as well as Our School, Celebrity Supply Teacher, Horrible Histories and Operation Ouch.

