



NEWSLETTER

St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, Holloway Hill, Malmesbury, Wiltshire, SN16 9BB
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Friday 8th November 2024

Headteachers' message

Dear parents, carers and families,

Welcome to the start of a new term in St Joseph's. We hope you all had a restful break and that, whether you went away or stayed in Malmesbury, your children were able to recharge their batteries. This week literally started off with a "Bang" when we had a whole school Bangers and Mash lunch in the hall to celebrate Bonfire Night. Thank you to Mrs Rexworthy, Ms Hext and Mrs Druce for organising this. Thank you also to the PFA for coordinating the Bonfire Night Cake sale after school.

Beyond this excitement we are all looking forward to the next term and the many varied events that it will bring. This week's newsletter will have updates on the following:

- Remembrance Mass on Monday 11th November at 10:00
- Traditional English Music workshop for Year 3 and 4
- Anti Bullying Week and Odd Socks Day (Tuesday 12th November)
- Parent Forum (18th November at 14:30)
- Swimming starting for St Scholastica on Monday 11th November
- School Closure / TD Day update
- Parents Evening (note postponement of Miss Thomson's)

Remembrance Mass on Monday 11th November at 10:00:

We will be holding our first mass of the year on Monday November 11th November. This will be in St Aldhelm's Church and will be the first mass supported by the school's new chaplains. The theme for the mass is "remembrance" and as well as thinking about those that have lost their lives in conflict there will also be a moment in the mass where we remember anyone who has sadly died and is important to those within our school community. If you would like any of your family's loved ones added to our book of remembrance, please e-mail the school office over the weekend. We will then add them to our book of remembrance and read their names out in our bidding prayers. This is a community mass and all parents are invited to join us.

Traditional English Music workshop for Year 3 and 4:

We were very lucky to be joined by musicians from the Wiltshire Music Service on Wednesday. They played a selection of traditional English musical instruments to the children and there was a small introduction to English folk dance.

Anti Bullying Week and Odd Socks Day (Tuesday 12th November)

The whole of next week will have an anti-bullying focus and we invite children to come to school on Tuesday wearing Odd Socks to support this year's Anti-Bullying focus of Choose Respect. Our school virtues support this principle and next week I will be talking to children about how they can always show love and kindness to others and how we as a school can collectively say no to bullying and unkindness. As part of the week, we will be revisiting the children's anti bullying charter and as a staff we will review the school's Anti-Bullying Policy.



Parent Forum (18th November at 14:30)

As part of our anti Bullying policy review, I would also be interested in hearing your views and will be holding a Parent Forum on Monday 18th November (14:30) to share the children's thoughts and our policy for any parents who are interested.

WALKING IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF JESUS, LOVING AND SERVING TOGETHER

Swimming:

This is to remind all children in St Scholastica that swimming starts on Monday 11th November. Please make sure your child has a waterproof coat.

School Closure / TD Day update:

This week's School Closure day on Monday 4th November was led by the lead teacher for disadvantaged learners. The purpose of this was to update all teachers on the national picture linked to children and families who face financial difficulties. As part of the morning we also looked at ways we can support these children through the things we do as a school.

The school's new governors also met for the first time on Monday. This was a chance for them all to meet and get to know each other along with taking the first steps to refine the school's strategic direction. Our new governors are:

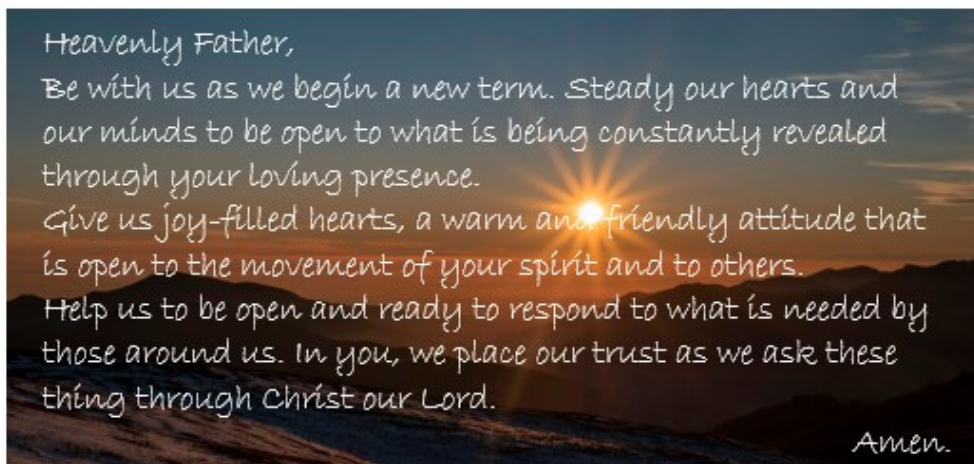
Kirsty Martin – Chair
Gabiella Tilley
Carole Baker
Mary Barnard
Karen Bathe
Andy Dawson
Anita Druce
Clayton Gray
Christine Hainsworth
Frances Thivet

Parents Evening

Parents are reminded that we will be holding the first parent / teacher meetings next week on Tuesday and Thursday. The purpose of these meetings is to update you on your child's progress from the start of the year. Written appointment reminders were sent home earlier this week with your child. If you have difficulty keeping to your appointment, please let the office know and then make arrangements for an alternative date and time. If you have been given a double appointment, because your child is on our special needs register, it is important that you let us know if you will not be attending the meeting. These double appointments are intended for us to review specific targets and get your views with respect to these.

We will endeavour to keep all appointments to the 10 minute time allocation and ask that you be understanding if we draw the meeting to a close at the end of your appointment time. Should you need to extend your discussion with a teacher, a further appointment can be made for a later date.

For the parents of children in Miss Thomson's class, her appointments have been delayed until the week beginning the 18th November (Tuesday 19th and Thursday 21st).



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

We have been learning all about Diwali, a festival celebrated by people who follow the Hindu and Sikh religions. It is a festival of light and we made diya lamps using salt dough, paint and precious gems. All the children really enjoyed the story of Rama and Sita.



St Scholastica - Mr Wilkinson

Our WOW moment has been making freeze frames of our new writing topic Hansel and Gretel. The children have really enjoyed exploring the new topic and were very creative in making freeze frames relating to what they have learnt about the story.

Austin - "I enjoyed being given a scene to recreate."

Ellie - "I enjoyed writing about the scenes that we created."

Beau - "I liked listening to the story to get inspiration for the freeze frames."



Save the Date!

Braeside Information Evening for parents in St Francis and St Lawrence Class. Monday 25th November at 3.30pm

St Lawrence - Mrs Cambray-Smith

This week we enjoyed celebrating bonfire night with our meal together.

Henry - "I liked being with my friends."

Evie - "I liked the food and I liked watching the fireworks on the screen."

We had a visit from John and Hazel to tell us about folk music. They brought lots of different instruments - accordion, violin, harp and viola. They played music from around the British Isles and talked about their instruments.

Marcos - "It was fun having all the types of musical instruments."

Victoria - "It inspired me to start playing an instrument."

Lilly - "I enjoyed it because I loved hearing about all the different styles of music around the UK."



St Francis - Miss Thomson

Felicity - "I liked learning about the digestive system. It was an easy way to learn and I learnt some new information."

Saoirse - "I enjoyed acting in RE."

Kady - "My wow moment this week was the bonfire lunch."

Finn and Jack - "We enjoyed writing expanded noun phrases to describe gruesome grannies."





Bangers Day



PFA Bonfire Cake Sale

Thank you for the support and especially to all those that baked for their absolutely yummy looking bonfire treats. We raised £50.



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

Barn Owl Books Christmas Discount

We are currently working to develop our relationship with Barn Owl Books, the local independent bookshop in Malmesbury town centre in order to promote children's love of reading and literature. Barn Owl books have provided us with a Christmas Catalogue for every child in the school, highlighting this year's children's bestsellers, and have offered our pupils 10% off their first purchase (up to any value) when they take the catalogue, **with our school stamp on it**, into the shop to claim this offer.

We are very grateful to Amanda and her team at Barn Owl Books for including our school in this promotion and hope that you will be able to make use of it. For further details of what Barn Owl Books has to offer, including workshops for primary aged children, visit www.barnowlbooks.co.uk



**This week's Wednesday Word is
GIFT.**



“Life is a precious gift, but we realise this only when we give it to others.” Pope Francis. The Wednesday Word is on our website: www.st-josephs-malmesbury.wilts.sch.uk/prayer-life/

Weekly Attendance Tuesday 5th Nov — Friday 8th Nov	
St Teresa 95.5%	St Lawrence 98%
St Francis 95.1%	St Scholastica 96%



The Joy of Mozart

Friday 15 November
7pm, Malmesbury Abbey

BOCHMANN STRING TRIO

David Campbell *clarinet*

Michael Bochmann *violin*
Carol Hubel Allen *viola*
Nicky Tait-Baxter *cello*
with Ruth Schulten *violin*

W A Mozart
Divertimento in E flat for
String Trio K563

Franz Schubert
String Trio in B flat major D471

W A Mozart
Clarinet Quintet in A K581

Tickets and information:
now on sale

Reserved (front row): £30
Unreserved: £25
plus concessions

Online (no booking fee) at:
malmesburyabbeymusic.com
or in person at: Caerbladon,
24 High Street, Malmesbury



Registered charity number: 1034957



YOUR CHRISTMAS INVITATION
Come and join our
MALMESBURY goodafternoon CHOR

with their special **CHRISTMAS GUESTS** | Children from St Joseph's Catholic Primary School

Wednesday 4th December 2:00pm-3:00pm
at Malmesbury Town Hall / Assembly Rooms

Join CORRIE and the MALMESBURY Good Afternoon Choir

FREE ADMISSION EVERYONE WELCOME
www.goodafternoonchoir.org

Retiring collection supporting **alzheimer's support**

LADY CORRIE PARKER