



NEWSLETTER

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Friday 4th April 2025

Head Teacher's message

Dear Parents, Carers, Children and Staff,

Thank you to everyone for your support and hard work over the last term. It seems hard to believe that we are now two thirds of the way through the year and we are fast approaching the last two terms of the academic year. This week's newsletter updates you on events over the last week and also gives you a heads up with respect to some things to look forward to in the first week of Term 5. Finally, as this is the last edition of our weekly newsletter this term, I wanted to wish you all a restful and health Easter holiday.

Developing our spirituality:

Over the last few weeks we have explored the events leading up to Holy Week through RE and started to bring the story to a close today with a whole school reflection on Wednesday around the Stations of the Cross. This reflection was then followed with four reflective workshops led by school staff that encouraged the children to think about all the messages linked to Jesus's sacrifice. We then concluded the morning with a final reflection before the children went to lunch. The solemnity of the morning was then followed up with a celebration of Easter through an Easter egg hunt on the land. The eggs were very generously sponsored by our brilliant PFA.

I would like to personally thank the staff for embracing our reflection and encouraging the children to think deeply, Mr Owen for coordinating a challenging Easter egg hunt and the PFA for their generous sponsorship. My thanks also go to Mrs Ainsworth and Mrs Druce who patiently keep all the organisational cogs turning.

Although not linked to our worship this week, the children's enthusiasm for our upcoming music production of Joseph is commendable. Mrs Cambray-Smith is really impressed and what I can hear from the hall already sounds extremely polished. You all have a real treat to look forward to at the end of the academic year. Thank you to Mrs Cambray-Smith for your total dedication to music and song in St Joseph's.

World Earth Day (22nd April):

We want to start next term of with a BANG! and have prepared the children for a challenge to think about over the Easter break. This year World Earth Day coincides with the first day of Term 5 and we are asking the children to think about how they might reflect this year's theme "Our Power, Our Planet," through a piece of artwork using recycled, upcycled or natural resources to encourage everyone to push towards renewable energy and a collective effort to triple the global generation of clean electricity by 2030. The children have had this idea shared with them through a whole school worship yesterday (the presentation is on the school website offering ideas and inspiration <https://www.st-josephs-malmesbury.wilts.sch.uk/newsletters/>) and we have challenged them to collect and bring in resources they could use in their own artwork on the first day back after the Easter holiday. They do not need to create the art in the holiday. They just need to think of ideas and bring in the resources.



Forest School and Outdoor Learning:

For the first three weeks of this term the children in St Lawrence will have Forest School with Mr Owen. The next three weeks will be with St Francis. When children have Forest School parents are responsible for being aware of what the weather might be across the day. If it is likely to be sunny children should have a daily protection sun cream applied before school and wear a hat. If it is likely to rain they should always have a rain coat as sessions will continue regardless of weather. As a rule children should always wear sturdy outdoor shoes or wellingtons and as a minimum long trousers or joggers. Our land is frequented by muntjac deer and as such there is always a small but possible risk of ticks. I would recommend checks after any forest school session once the children get home.

WALKING IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF JESUS, LOVING AND SERVING TOGETHER

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

Finishing off our topic about People who Help Us, we enjoyed a visit this week from our local PCSO, Juliet, who talked to us about her job in the community and how to stay safe.



The class would also like to say a huge thank you to Emily who has been helping in our class as part of her work experience. Sophia: "Emily is kind because she's been helping all the teachers and the children." Lucia: "Emily is so helpful, she helped us to learn."

Edie: "Emily helped set up the Easter egg hunt, I enjoyed the Easter egg hunt because we had to search for eggs".



St Lawrence - Mrs Cambray-Smith & Miss Weatherall

St Lawrence Class enjoyed listening to a piece of music by Smetana this week about the River Vltava in the Czech Republic. It flows past a wedding, a hunt, mermaids in the moonlight, over rapids, and into Prague. We created a piece of art combining words describing the scenes and the river, with drawings and painting.



The children were very creative and I loved seeing how they chose to portray the river.



St Scholastica - Mr Wilkinson

This week our WOW moment was our Easter story reflection activities. All the children that came to St Scholastica to take part in a reflection of Jesus did so with respect and humility.



The children were separated into 4 groups and did a carousel activity where they were given crosses that they had to fill in with words or phrases relating to the reflection focus. We focused on Jesus' actions, traits, names and feelings. All of the crosses that were created across the day were added to a display.



St Francis - Miss Thomson

Rosa: "I enjoyed our Stations of the Cross reflection. My favourite activity was painting the Garden of Gethsemane. I was really proud of the detail I put into it." Felicity: "I enjoyed using natural resources to make Easter Gardens. We used stones to make a tomb, pebbles to make a



path, sticks to make the cross and leaves and petals to decorate."

Jessie: "I really enjoyed the Easter egg hunt, it was so much fun! We had to find a plastic egg containing a number on the land and match it with the chocolate egg in the school."



AN INTRODUCTION TO NETBALL - Years 3&4

Last Friday our Year 3 and 4 students took part in an event at Westonbirt School. Throughout the session, they practiced key netball skills including different types of passes and drills, before putting their learning into action with a number of short, friendly matches. Despite the chilly weather, the children showed great enthusiasm and energy, making the most of the experience.

Well done to everyone who took part! Thank you to Mrs Cockram for helping at this event.



TCS Mini London Marathon – Fundraising for CAFOD

We are excited to announce that our school will be taking part in the **TCS Mini London Marathon** on the 29th April! This is a fantastic opportunity for our children to be active, have fun and raise money for charity.



This year's event is a two mile run / jog /walk and this will be completed throughout the school day. To help the children prepare for the event we suggest they lace up their trainers and start training now. Simple activities like running, jogging or even brisk walking for a few minutes a day can make a big difference!

A variable payment item has been added to Parentpay for a donation of between £1 and £10, or cash donations can be made on the day. By taking part, we will be raising funds for CAFOD, helping communities around the world overcome poverty.

Weekly Attendance Monday 31st Mar — Friday 4th Apr

St Teresa 94.4%

St Lawrence 93.7%

St Francis 94.7%

St Scholastica 97.3%

This week's Wednesday Word is NEW START

"Let us allow God's constant help to make us new people." - Pope Francis.
The Wednesday Word holiday special is available on our website: <https://www.st-josephs-malmesbury.wilts.sch.uk/prayer-life/>



Thank you to everyone who made a donation for our non-uniform day to mark Children's Mental Health Week back in February. We raised a total of £108.59 for the children's mental health charity Place2Be.



Quiz Night
FRIDAY 25TH APRIL 7.30PM
ST JOSEPH'S SCHOOL HALL
£10 PER PERSON
Think you're smarter than a Year 6? Prove it at the PFA Quiz Night!
Maximum Teams of 6 People
BYO Drinks and Snacks
Tickets will be Available Through ParentPay