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## Newsletter: 4<sup>th</sup> October 2024

Dear parents and grandparents,

Welcome to this week's newsletter. Our week got off to a great start when we welcomed our Trust's Director of Ethos into school on Tuesday. Mrs Reilly O'Donnell filmed our wonderful Year 6 class for a special Celebration of The Word which will be shared with all the schools within the Bishop Wilkinson Trust next week. She also commented on the children's outstanding behaviour and attitudes. Well done, Year 6.

On Thursday, our newly elected Mini Vinnies received a special blessing from Father Shaun. They are now ready to see, do and act within our local community. They also met some of the 'Adult Vinnies' who they will be planning events with. Watch this space!

### British Value

This week's British Value was to show tolerance of other faiths and cultures. Here at St. Joseph's, we thoroughly enjoy learning about this. This helps us to understand the importance of respecting those around us and how it broadens our knowledge and minds.

Our '**Rosary Club**' is now up and running for the month of October. This is a time for children to reflect and pray to Our Lady.

Well done to all of our award winners this week- please check out below all of the wonderful things that have been happening in our classes this week.

Mass continues every Sunday at St. Joseph's at 11am.

Have a wonderful weekend!

Best wishes,  
Mrs Urwin

### **After School Clubs**

A reminder the following after school clubs are now available on Arbor, costing £1 per session (total £6 per child) from week beginning 4<sup>th</sup> November to week ending 13<sup>th</sup> December:

- Reception Fun Club (3:15pm - 4:10pm)
- KS2 Quiz club (3:20pm - 4:10pm)
- KS1 Science Club (3:20pm - 4:10pm)
- KS2 Book club (3:20pm - 4:10pm)

There are limited spaces available for Reevo Multi sports, please contact the school office if you would like to sign your child up. KS2 on Wednesday and KS1 Thursday 3:20 – 4:15pm. (Children can come to school in their PE kits.)

A reminder booking arrangements for Film Club on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> October are available on Arbor, which is £2.50 per child.

Durham County Council Community Arts Team are currently working on a photography project in Stanley over Autumn/Winter 2024-25. We are offering a series of 4 after school clubs for Year 5/6 pupils and their parent(s) with a professional artist.

Children and their parents will spend four weeks working with their own mobile phones looking at the following topics:

- 1, Technically how to handle the camera and get the best out of it.
- 2, Composition and basics of good photography
- 3, Curation of images
- 4, Viewing their work.

### **Year 6**

A reminder there is a meeting for parents next week regarding SATs, on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> at 3:30pm.

### **Pantomime**

We are delighted to inform you that the whole school is going to see Beauty and The Beast at the Gala Theatre in Durham on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> November 2024. Children will have their lunch in school before leaving at 12:15 pm and we will return to school at approximately 4.45 pm (traffic depending).

### **Leave of Absence in Term Time**

A Polite reminder we are unable to authorise holidays in term time. Absence from school in term time means your child is missing essential elements of the curriculum and it is necessary to note that you could receive a fine (Fixed Penalty Notice). However, if you do intend to take your child out of school a holiday request form must be completed and sent into school at least 2 weeks in advance. The form can be accessed via the school website [Attendance – St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, Stanley \(bwcet.com\)](https://www.bwcet.com) or from the school office.



As you know, attendance is hugely important, and we report attendance on a weekly/ monthly/ termly basis. We monitor attendance/lateness very closely in school and will raise any concerns with parents/carers on an individual basis. If you have any concerns with regards to your child's attendance/lateness, please contact us as soon as possible so we can work together to resolve any issues.

**This week's attendance is 96.8%. Our target is 97%**

Nursery	Reception	Year1	Year2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
100%	98%	98.33%	94.67%	98.28%	98.97%	88.15%	99.31%

### Star of the Week



The following children have received a Star of the Week certificate this week:

Nursery	Oliver	For always contributing excellent ideas in Nursery
Reception	Ada	For sharing her thoughts and ideas with confidence during RE.
Year 1	Leon	For brilliant work in phonics and always trying his best.
Year 2	Aria-May	For always following the 'St Joseph's Way'
Year 3	Freddie S	For his excellent answers in English this week based on our class text.
Year 4	Harriet	For a fantastic setting description in English
Year 5	Natalia	For excellent vocabulary investigation in English.
Year 6	Max	For excellent understanding of metaphors when analysing our class reader.

### Awards of the week

**Captain's Table:** Hallie, Frankie, Jack, Rory, Hayden, Lase, Isla, Evelyn

**Mission Statement:** Jasmine, Ruby, Aria-Rose, Sayuni, Charlotte, Leyla, Tia, Davina

**British Values:** Emmie, Sadie, Freddie Ch, Frances, Olivia-Kate, Bradley, Coby, Heidi

### House Points

Children can earn house points from all staff during the week.

Congratulations to St Aidan's who have earned the most house points this week.

**EYFS:**

**Nursery:** In Nursery this week our focus story has been 'Sometimes'. We have been thinking about the different feelings and emotions that are in the story.



Today we brought a special soft toy into Nursery from home and talked about what we love about our toy, why it is special and how it makes us feel. Lots of us said how happy we felt when we gave our soft toys a big hug! We also had a teddy bears picnic and had a cosy story time listening to our story of the week with our teddies.



**Reception:** In Reception this week we have been learning about DJ the Dolphin who helped us to learn all about sharing and making sure things are fair. The grown-ups have been so impressed to see us sharing and taking turns nicely, just as DJ teaches us to do.



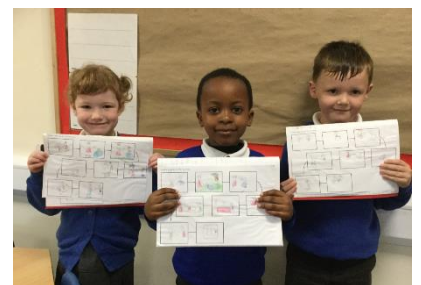
In our EYFS Celebration of the Word this week, our mission going forth was to say a prayer for someone else. We then went around school to give those people our prayers.



**Year 1:** Year 1 have had a busy week. We created our first story maps for 'The Frog Prince', we have been exploring number lines in Maths and learning



about Durham in Geography. We recognised a lot of the things you might see in Durham, like Durham Cathedral and Wharton Park. We are looking forward to our next RE topic, Baptism, which we started this week, and we loved developing actions to help us learn about Catholic Social Teaching. Well done for another week of hard work, Year 1.



**Year 2:** In Year 2 this week, we have continued to enjoy our exciting cricket lesson. In RE, we were

introduced to our new topic of Baptism. Using what we remembered from last year, we sequenced, then re-enacted a Baptism in class. In History, we completed a timeline of the events of the Great Fire of London. Well done Year 2.



**Year 3:** Year 3 have had another exciting week. In our new RE topic, they have started to think about the clubs and groups they belong to and the rules and promises they make. They are enjoying learning about rocks in science, and now understand how rocks are formed. In English lessons, they have been discussing how Peter felt at different points in chapter 2 and they used freeze frames to express emotions. Another fabulous week Year 3, well done!

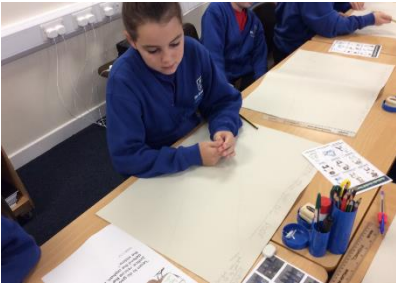


**Year 4:** This week, Year 4 have enjoyed Maths lessons where we were comparing numbers to 10, 000 and we looked at Roman Numerals. We continued to read our class text 'Wind in the Willows' and we wrote some fantastic setting descriptions. We planned and took part in a very thoughtful celebration of the word and our parents were invited to join us.

In computing, we looked at how computer networks work and how messages and information can be passed between networks all over the world.



**Year 5:** Year 5 have been exploring Catholic Social Teaching and linking each statement to our school family; our parish and global community. They know the importance of putting actions to words - of helping those in need and in growing as global citizens in faith and love.



**Year 6:** This week, Year 6 had the privilege of having their Celebration of the Word filmed by Bishop Wilkinson Catholic Education Trust. This film will be shared with all 48 schools in our trust next week. Children have also been working hard to gain credits for the 'Faith in Action' award. Part of this award is sharing information and ideas with children across the school. They have created their own video to share with the younger children in school which tells them all about what Catholic Social Teaching is. In English lessons, they are on to the final few chapters of their class reading book 'The Girl Who Stole and Elephant'. They enjoyed their class debate about the actions of the main character, Chaya.