



St Joseph's Catholic Primary School

Inspiring everyone to **REACH** through
Faith, Hope, and Love

Newsletter – Friday 19th July 2024

This is the final newsletter of academic year 2023-24. What a good year it has been, so much achieved and such rich and varied experiences for our children.

I would like to start by thanking all of the staff here at St Joseph's who work tirelessly, consistently going over and beyond to produce the best quality of education that we are able to for the children at our school. It is not just the teaching staff, it is the support staff too and that includes the admin team, Kerry our cleaner and Lucy and Leah our cooks. Thank you all!

And to you, our parents who support us to enable your children to be the best that they can be. Helping with homework, volunteer readers, providing lifts to and from school trips, volunteering during science week, Health week – to name a few. We are so grateful, without this level of support, our children's experiences would be reduced.

I also need to thank the PTA and the class reps, who support us in so many ways, always on hand to serve refreshments whilst organising fun events for the school community. The funds that you raise, as you all know, support the children's learning in so many ways – the new smart boards that are in every classroom, new playground equipment for break and lunch times, book areas and shelving across the school – thank you all so much.

Last, but certainly not least, our governors, who again, give up their own time to support us, ensuring that as a school, we continue to perform to the best of our ability.

Health Week 2024

Health week, what an amazing week, I imagine that your children slept really well, I know that the staff certainly did!

Firstly, I need to thank Mrs Daly for co-ordinating and organising the week. There were so many opportunities and such a variety of new experiences that the children got to try. Their favourite part of the week changed on a daily basis in line with the exciting time tables.

Secondly, I would like to thank all of our parent volunteers, who came in and took classes across the school, sharing their enthusiasm and expertise with the children.

We would like to say a great big thank you to:

Mrs Hitchen and Mrs Montgomery who supported the Daily Mile every morning

Mrs Smee who taught the children how to Zumba

Mrs Ind who spoke to the children about healthy teeth

Mrs Stewart, Mrs Timbrell, Mrs Wooldridge, Ted Wallace, and Iona Jenkins who helped with the morning activities before sports day

Mr Britton – our Sports Day starter

Ms Arkell for ballet, street dance, pop and musical theatre

Mrs Hitchen, Mrs Pinnock and Mrs Montgomery for running club

Mr Brown and Mr Turp for their football skills

Mr Neville for his football coaching

Ms Oxenham, for talking to the children about morning routines, mindfulness, the beauty of being unique and positive thinking.

Thank you all so much for making this year's Health week such fun for the children.

The sports crew led the school with daily exercises at the end of lunchtime. Sports day went ahead and we managed to complete all of the races! Thank you all for coming to support your children, despite the rain.

As well as all of these activities, the children took part in the sponsored run, raising money for Read with Me. Many of our children benefit greatly from our Read with Me volunteers, who are highly trained and come into school every week. This was our way of giving a little back to them to thank them for all that they do for us. Thank you all who supported this sponsored event. We do not know the total at present but will let you know when we find out.

The week ended with a trampoline workshop for all the children from Bounce in the hall and how much fun did they have, what a great way to end the week.

Chaplaincy News



Thank you to everyone who took part in the LWCET Sunflower competition. You raised £134.05 for CAFOD and our largest sunflower was just over 60cm tall. Thank you goes to Mrs Hill for organising this partnership event.

Staffing News

The children were delighted to have seen Mrs Carr on Monday. She popped in to say hello and see how they were getting on. We have missed her this term and are looking forward to her being well enough to return to school in September.

We say good bye to Mrs Fox and Miss Wilkinson and wish them all the very best as they move on.

We also say goodbye for now to Mrs Hill who will not be returning to school in September because she will be taking some time off due to personal reasons. We will miss her terribly, as she is such a valued member of our school family, who contributes so much across the school and hope that she will re-join us in the near future.

Eco News

Eco-Committee raised £54.70 for the Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust with their stall at the school picnic.

The winners of our 'How many Peas?' competition are Jemima and Hebe Hitchen with a guess of 623 peas. There were actually 854 in the pot! Congratulations girls.



Whole School Picnic



Thank you all of those who came to the whole school picnic – we just about managed it, when the rain started it was nearly time to pack up anyway. We always enjoy this event, it gives parents the opportunity to speak to class teachers informally and the children have so much fun. Thank you for your support with the various fundraising activities that were taking place. Our Year 6 children did a great job this year with their enterprise project of Make £5 Grow. They worked together to plan and run a stall aiming to make as much profit as possible. They had some great ideas and at the end of the afternoon they raised £474.19 which is a great achievement. The money raised will contribute to the cost of producing the Moana production.

There were plants and gooseberries for sale and that along with the raffle that they ran, the children raised an amazing £70.

And of course we need to thank our PTA, who again provided refreshments and ice creams for us all afternoon. Thank you all again, for giving up your time so freely to raise money to enhance the children's experiences that we are able to offer at school.

School Council Update

Our Voice counts....



The School Council have had a busy time fundraising this year – all monies raised will be put towards the prayer garden that they hope to get started on soon!

The profit that the Council made 2022 – 2023 was £275.00

Profit to Date 2023 - 2024 £206.27

Further funds raised;

- ✓ Fruit Smoothie sales during Health Week raised £75.73
- ✓ World Book Day Hot Chocolates £123.50

Total Profit to date £680.50

The Council will need to set aside £40.00 to set Tuckshop backup for the 2024 – 2025 School Council, which means total funds raised for the Prayer Garden is £640.50.

What a great job the School Council have done this year. I would like to thank all of the children on the School Council, who spend some of their time listening to their friends and taking their ideas to the meetings and also to Mrs Jenkins, whose commitment to the Council ensures that the team meets regularly and make a difference to our school family.



Just a reminder that you are able to access and see the focus for our Liturgies through the Ten Ten monthly Parent Newsletter

www.tentenresources.co.uk/prayers-for-home/parent-newsletter/



This week's prayer for our Year 6 Leavers;

Dear Lord,
We thank you for all the great things we have done at this school. We have learnt so much; we have had fun; we have grown up. Look after us as we prepare for a future in a new school. Help us stay true to the faith and values that have been so important in this school. Help us aspire to be more.
Amen



Class Mass

Class Mass will take place on a Thursday at 10am, we would be delighted if you are able to join your child/children and their class when it is their turn.

New Dates will be released in September.



To our Year 6 Leavers

We have watched you grow and flourish from Reception to Year 6. Thank you for **REACH**ing in all that you have done and for all that you have achieved while you have been with us. We wish you lots of happiness for the future and may all your dreams come true. Good luck Year 6, your secondary journey is about to begin. Go enjoy your new adventure, stay safe, be the best that you can be and be you, always..

The last thing that we have to say is



Dates
for your



Monday 2nd and Tuesday 3rd September – INSET DAYS

School Begins at 8.40 on Wednesday 4th September – Looking forward to seeing you then.