St Joseph's

Catholic Primary School Otley

As a family with God in our hearts, we love, laugh and learn.

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Friday 29th January 2021



A MESSAGE FROM MISS CHOMA

Hi everyone,

Another wonderful week - thank you to everyone for working so hard, keeping focused and producing some wonderful work, at home or in school. It is lovely to catch up with you on Monday and Friday in our whole school assemblies. Hopefully, we will be all back together in March.

We (I have) have had some fun at lunch time this week – watching children from Y2 – Y6 trying to do the shoe challenge. It was quite difficult, or I should say, very difficult! Well done to Lexie (Y5) who did complete the challenge. Mrs Harvey said she tried and tried but wasn't successful. I couldn't do it either, but it was fun. This week it is a much simpler challenge – to watch and record birds for one hour. I can do that when I am out with Molly at the weekend. Mrs Holmes spotted a kingfisher on the River Wharfe on a walk at lunch time. The reading from the Book of Genesis from the assembly today:

Then God commanded, "Let the air be filled with birds."

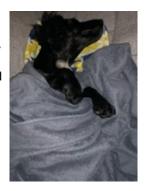
So God created all kinds of birds.

And God was pleased with what he saw.

He blessed them all.

Sometimes, we forget, especially when times are difficult, to look at the beauty around us. This weekend take time as a family to go out and enjoy the beauty around you. More importantly, cherish the special time together. I love the time I spend walking with Molly – it is a time to relax, enjoy the fresh air and look at the beautiful greenery; listen to the birds and watch Molly rummaging in the woodlands. Fr Michael, who was a parish priest at St Joseph's in Pudsey, would always finish mass with, "Go and enjoy God's beautiful world." I often say those words to myself. The picture of Molly this week – Molly after a hard day's walk!

From all the staff - be safe; be kind and be happy. God Bless



LAST WEEK'S CHALLENGE—PE CHALLENGE

Well done to all of the children who have completed the shoe challenge; we enjoyed seeing your efforts and were very impressed with your shoe balancing skills!!!

THIS WEEK'S CHALLENGE—BIRD WATCHING

For next week's newsletter, please send in photos of you taking part in the RSPB Big Garden Birdwatch which is taking place this weekend. You could send in photos of you looking in your garden or photos of any birds you see or you could draw a picture of your favourite bird and send us a photo.

Here is a photo taken by Mrs Hart. You can see a blue tit using our school bird feeder. We are so lucky to be surrounded by lots of nature in Otley.





CATHOLIC LIFE OF THE SCHOOL

PRAYER OF THE WEEK

May the God

Of new beginnings lead us forward this day.

May the God

Who lives within us

Be revealed to everyone we meet this day.

May the God

Who created the universe renew our spirits with joy and peace this day and every day of our lives.

Amen

OUR LADY & ALL SAINTS CHURCH MASS TIMES

Mass will be celebrated: Wednesdays 10.00am Saturday 6.30pm Sunday 9.30am

Please see bulletin for changes to Mass times for week beginning Monday 31st August.

The daily Mass schedule will resume on 21st September 2020

Please book a place for Saturday evening or Sunday morning Mass - book here

VIRTUE - SIMPLICITY

This week, the children were introduced to our new virtue - "Simplicity".

Over the next few weeks, the children will be thinking about:

- What really matters in life
- How we can do good for others and creation
- How living simply helps us put more trust



God tells us that we should not live in fear but that He will provide for us. He wants all humanity to live life to the full. Living life to the full means living a life of contentment, appreciating each person and everything, learning that the simplest things can give enjoyment.

COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

On Thursday, there was a national CAFOD assembly with the theme of "Water of Life". We showed a video of a boy who lived in Ethiopia who had to walk for 5 hours every day up a steep, rocky path to collect water in temperatures of about 40 degrees. The assembly showed us how important water is and how lucky we are to have all the water we need readily available.

In Isaiah chapter 55 it says,

"Come to the water all who are thirsty."



Lord, you give us the gift of water - the water of life. Help us to share your life-giving water. Amen

The link for the assembly if you want to watch it is: https://youtu.be/RkDJ1J89hV4



CLASS NEWS



YEAR R NEWS

This week in Phonics, we have been recapping all of the digraphs and tricky words we have done so far. The children have enjoyed playing bingo and going on treasure hunts amongst other games!

Our focus book this week has been Little Red Riding Hood. The children have drawn some great pictures of their favourite character in the story. We have then been looking at and discussing words to describe each character.

In Maths this week, we have been looking at numbers 6,7 & 8. We have been making our own concept boards to represent each number using various resources. The children have also been thinking hard about their number bonds and looking at different ways to make each number.

This weekend, we have encouraged the children to take part in the RSPB Big Garden Birdwatch. We have created our own bird feeders and are going to be watching carefully to try and spot the different types of birds that come and visit our gardens.

In RE this week, we have been thinking about how Jesus cured people who were ill. We listened to the story of the paralysed man and prayed for those that may be ill. We then had an opportunity to create our own get-well cards.



YEAR 1 NEWS

This week in Maths, we have been revising different methods for addition, which included using our number bond knowledge to help with our understanding when adding 10 more. We have also began looking at subtraction.

In English, we have been thinking about the language of persuasive writing and putting it to good use by writing a letter to Miss Choma. We wanted to ask her what she thought of some of our ideas to improve our school grounds... We'll see if our powers of persuasion work.

This week, we enjoyed learning about Neil Armstrong who was the first human to walk on the moon during the NASA (National Aeronautics and Space Administration) Apollo 11 mission on 20th July 1969. The children produced some fantastic Moon crater experiments and artwork.

In RE, we learned about how God revealed his Son's identity to Anna and Simeon when baby Jesus was taken to the temple to be dedicated to the Lord. The children used puppets to enact this story. We have really enjoyed watching these videos well done Year 1 for making your learning so enjoyable for others.



YEAR 2 NEWS

In English, this week we have been starting to plan our own version of 'The Tadpole's Promise'. We have chosen our own characters and began thinking about the setting to our version. The children have all written fantastic story openers using brilliant adjectives.

In Maths, this week we have been dividing numbers by 2, 5 and 10. The children have worked hard and know to use their times table to help them divide.

In RE, this week we have been thinking about the importance of giving thanks. The children have written some lovely post cards to one of the 9 lepers that did not go back to thank Jesus for healing them. They explained to them the importance of giving thanks and being grateful.

In Geography this week, the children have made their own fact files about either a hot place or a cold place. They were instructed to research information on their chosen place and have all produced some fantastic facts.

YEAR 3 NEWS

In English, this week we have planned, drafted, edited and published our non-chronological reports. The children have really thought about the writing process, as well as using the correct tone for a formal genre.

In Maths, we have begun to use our times table knowledge to multiply 2-digit numbers by a 1-digit factor. We will be solving multiplication problems involving exchanges next week.

In RE, we have discussed the virtue of Reflection, and how listening to God through our conscience helps us to make the right choice.

In Science, we have created tables and bar graphs to show the strength of the magnetic force created by different types of magnets.



YEAR 4 NEWS

In English, we have been continuing to develop our skills at using direct speech. We have developed our writing further by trying to include fronted adverbials, alliteration and similes. We have had some great writing which has demonstrated all of these skills and even injected a little bit of humour along the way!

As part of our Maths work, we have been discovering lots of different strategies we can use to make our calculations efficient. We have also been looking at how to multiply 2-digit numbers by 1-digit numbers.

In RE, we have been making connections between the Last Supper and the Mass. We discussed how Jesus told his disciple that this was the last Passover meal that they would share together. We made the connection between the words Jesus used and the word the priest uses during the Offertory and the Consecration in the Mass service. We then drew our own impression of what the Last Supper may have looked like.

In our History work, we discussed how the Romans brought lots of new ideas to Britain. We learnt that they were excellent at building roads, they built Roman baths, they had amphitheaters and forums and we even discovered that they Romans had flushing toilets!



YEAR 5 NEWS

In RE this week, we learnt about the Beatitudes which is part of Jesus' Sermon on the Mount found in Matthew Chapter 5. The children then thought about one of the Beatitudes and tried to think about a person who showed that Beatitude. Some of the people that Year 5 wrote about were: Captain Tom Moore, Father Lawrie, Malala Yousafzai, Rosa Parks and Martin Luther king.

In English, we have been learning about figurative language and have thought of our own examples to use in a poem describing mountains.

In Geography, we have learnt about different types of mountain and how they are formed. The children have also drawn their own mountains and labelled some of the features.

This week in Maths, we have finished our work on multiplication and division. We have also been battling Year 6 in a Times Table Rockstars Tournament, well done to all the children who have taken part. Next week, we shall be starting our fraction work.



YEAR 6 NEWS

In English, we have been exploring a range of poetic devices in "The Highwayman" by Alfred Noyes. We identified the metaphors and similes and explained the meaning of it.

In Maths, we have explored multiplying and dividing decimals by integers. We needed to use our known facts to help us multiply and divide.

In History, we learnt about the children who were evacuated from the cities to the rural areas. We discussed what items the children would take with them. Also, we looked at rationing books and identity cards.

The children are working incredibly hard and I am very proud of them all.

