



To follow Jesus' footsteps, caring for each other when we work, play and pray.

Newsletter No.6

Friday 20th November 2020

Dear Parents,

This week is Anti-Bullying week, here at St Joseph's through our catholic teaching we refer to this week as 'Kindness Week'. The whole school have taken part in a number of different activities including a NSPCC Speak Out, Stay Safe Assembly (Online) and the children have been taking an active lead in their learning by debating themes through Anti-Bullying week with Votes for Schools.

The staff have been very impressed with how mature the children have been during Kindness week and we are feeling the warmth around school with lots of acts of kindness happening all over. Although this is great, it is important that the children understand that this is so much more than 'just being kind for a week'. Teachers have spent time with their class discussing the long terms effects bullying can have on everybody. For more information on Anti-Bullying please see our latest Safeguarding newsletter, sent out, via ParentMail last week.

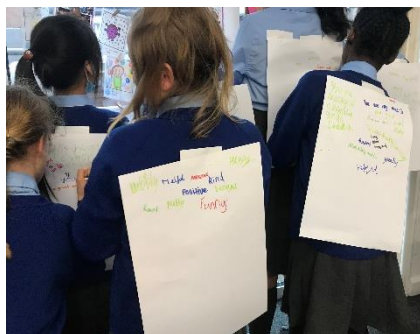
Here are what the year groups got up to:

On Monday, Year 5 discussed the importance of friendship and how to work well as a team. In small groups, the children were asked to make the tallest freestanding tower using: spaghetti, marshmallows, string, scissors and a piece of paper. Each child took on a role including: researcher, designer, builder and site manager. All teams participated well and developed their team building skills. In Class 5Ga prizes were awarded to the team 'La Spaghetti de Marshmallows', who demonstrated excellent teamwork, and 'The Future', who created the highest tower.



Yesterday, Y6 took part in an Anti-Bullying workshop and learnt about how bullying can have a huge impact on so many different people. Through a live workshop using VR headsets the children looked at a number of different scenarios and discussed how these could be resolved. Manari in Y6L said 'I have learnt that when you see a person being bullied, you shouldn't be a bystander, you should stand up for that person and tell a trusted adult. I enjoyed learning through the VR headsets: it felt like we were in the surroundings.' Aimee in Y6L added 'I've learnt that if you watch somebody being bullied and do nothing you're also not doing the right thing.' Y6H thought the workshop was equally as valuable with Oscar giving it a 10/10! Bowen added 'It was really good and allowed us to put ourselves in the other person's shoes.' Lydia R wanted to leave us with her final thoughts...'I loved the virtual headsets and would love to do it again because it was like I was actually there watching it. I learnt that there are always two sides, not to blame others and that bullying needs to stop.'

After the workshop Y6 continued their learning back in the classroom, making posters to put around school.





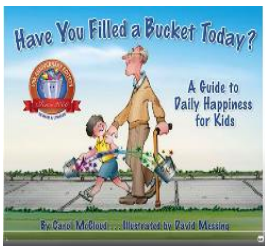
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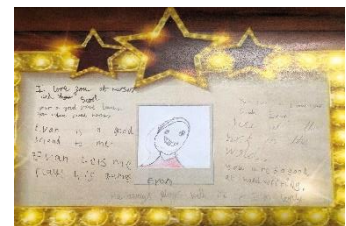
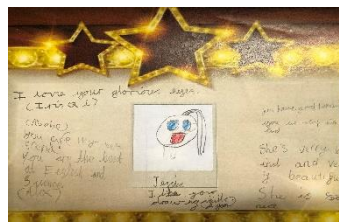
Year 4 have been working hard to be 'Bucket Fillers!' Celebrating all the positive and kind things they have achieved this week.



Year 1 have been reading the story, 'Have You Filled Your Bucket Today'. They then looked at different ways to be kind. To help the children with this, they have each been given a Kindness Menu, they kept it in their tray and when they completed one of the kind acts, they put a tick in that box. Super work Year 1!



KINDNESS MENU		
Share with others.	Give someone a compliment!	Ask someone about their day.
Offer to help someone.	Invite someone to play with you.	Encourage someone to keep trying.
Help clean up a mess that you didn't make.	Thank someone for something they have done for you.	Tell someone they've done a good job.



Year 2 discussed what themselves and others can do and how it makes us feel when people show us kindness. They wrote words on hands (ideas of how we can show kindness) and today they have been completing kindness slips. Foundation Year have been having lots of discussions about kindness week. They have thought of all the ways we can show kindness and they decided they are going to smile at as many people as they can to brighten their day! While lastly, but certainly not least, Year 3 have been doing kind deeds to each other and children have been putting them in the kindness box and commenting on how it has made them feel. Each child has made a poster of themselves which was then passed round the class inviting everyone to add a positive comment about them.

Congratulations to the Key Stage Two for last week's award winners. The awards were as follows:

Key Stage Two

The Tidiness Award

Y3T

Lining Up award

Y3T

Lunchtime Behaviour Award

Y4F

The Attendance Award

Y5Ga with 100%





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This week's award winner. The awards are as follows:

Key Stage One

The Tidiness Award

Y2G

Lining Up award

FYB

Lunchtime Behaviour Award Y2M

The Attendance Award

Y1L with 99.64%

Term Dates for 2021/2022

We have previously sent out our new term dates set by the Directors of our Multi-Academy for the academic year of 2021/2022. We have also attached them for your reference again at the end of this newsletter.

Sweets in School

Please can we remind all parents, due to following Government Guidelines and limiting the transfer of objects from home to school and vice versa, we are not permitted to allow 'birthday treats' to be given out by class teachers to children at the end of the day. We understand this may seem extreme however we have to be responsible and limit the transfer of contact where ever possible. If sweets are sent into school, they will be sent straight back home. Please can we ask all parents to respect this decision and refrain from pupils bringing 'birthday treats' of any kind into school. On a number of occasions, although we have previously sent messages children have come into school with sweets and then get upset when we are unable to give them out. Thank you for your support in this matter.

PTA Events / Dates for your Diary

Friday 4th December –Please wear Christmas jumpers or something red or green- £1 or a donation – **ALL money raised will go to Good Hope Hospital**

Hope Hospital

Friday 11th December- Please wear Christmas hats - £1 or a donation (PTA)

Wednesday 16th December – (Online Christmas Pantomime and Christmas Parties) please wear party clothes - £1 or a donation (PTA)

Please help support the PTA and raise vital funds needed to help support the school!

PE Uniform for Colder Weather

As the weather turns colder children are more than welcome to wear black PE joggers for their PE lessons outside. Although children also have an indoor PE slot we still expect the children to participate in outdoor PE lessons even in the colder months, as part of a broad and balanced curriculum. Being outside has many health benefits both physically and mentally.

Key Dates for your Diary

Dates for your diary November/ December		
Date	Time	Event
Friday 27h November		School Closed – INSET DAY
Friday 4 th December		Non-Uniform Day- CHRISTMAS JUMPERS or something RED/ GREEN £1 or a donation – ALL money will go to Good Hope Hospital

*We thank the Lord for the special gifts of wisdom, understanding, counsel,
knowledge, fortitude, piety, and fear of the Lord (wonder)
We ask that we may always use the gifts well for the
strengthening of His kingdom here on earth.*



Yours sincerely,

G M O'Hara
Executive Principal

Mrs N Hill
Acting Head of School

Mrs L Chambers
Acting Vice Principal





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Pause.

ForwardThinking Birmingham

Need someone to talk to?
Struggling to cope with feelings?
We're here for you.

We are operating a telephone-based service while Pause in Digbeth is closed.
Register for support via our website:
www.forwardthinkingbirmingham.org.uk/services/13-pause

Or call **0207 841 4470** and we will arrange for one of our friendly staff to call you back.

Who can use us?
You can use us if you have a Birmingham GP and are:

- Under 25 years old (If you are under 14 you will need to have a parent / caregiver with you when we call to give consent).
- Or if you are a parent / caregiver looking for support for their child who is under 25 years old.

How can we help?
We can offer:

- Self-help strategies, skills for managing difficult situations and feelings.
- A non-judgemental listening ear.
- Details for other organisations that might also be able to help you.
- Each call lasts around 20-30 minutes which focuses on ways forward.

Our Opening Hours:
Monday to Friday: 10am-6pm, Saturdays: 10am-5pm.
We are closed on Sundays and Bank Holidays.

The Children's Society

Term dates 2021-2022 Academic Year

After careful consideration, the Directors have agreed to set the term dates in all schools in the St John Paul II Multi Academy in line with Birmingham City Council dates for the 2021/22 academic year.

Autumn Term 2021

Term Starts: Thursday 2 September 2021

Half Term: Monday 25 October 2021 to Friday 29 October 2021

Term Ends: Friday 17 December 2021

Spring Term 2022

Term Starts: Tuesday 4 January 2022

Half Term: Monday 21 February 2022 to Friday 25 February 2022

Term Ends: Friday 8 April 2022

Summer Term 2022

Term Starts: Monday 25 April 2022

Half Term: Monday 30 May 2022 to Friday 3 June 2022

Term Ends: Friday 22 July 2022

INSET days for this academic year are yet to be determined.

