



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

Newsletter No.14

Thursday 1st April 2021

Dear Parents,

Holy Week Assemblies

Holy Week- Well done to Year 3, Year 4 and Year 5 for leading us through our Holy Week prayer journey following the footsteps of Jesus. We watched Palms being waved to welcome Jesus on Palm Sunday by Year 4. Year 3 then led us through the events of Maundy Thursday and the Last Supper - we witnessed the first celebration of the Eucharist with the breaking of bread. Finally, Year 5 concluded our journey through the Stations of the Cross as we witnessed Jesus' love and compassion for us even as He was being put to death.

Well done to all of the children and staff for completing our journey through Lent in such a holy and reverent way, albeit in a virtual format this year.

Sacramental Masses

Fr Michael has set the dates for our school Sacramental Masses – all to take place next half term. Separate letters have been sent to Y3, Y4 and Y6 regarding this.

Class Awards:

Congratulations to last week's award winners. The awards were as follows:

Key Stage One

The Tidiness Award	FYW	Lining Up award	Y2G
Lunchtime Behaviour Award	Y2G	The Attendance Award	Y2M

Key Stage Two

The Tidiness Award	Y5L	Lining Up award	Y6H
Lunchtime Behaviour Award	Y3B	The Attendance Award	Y6H

Lent

Well done to all of the children who have completed their Lenten sponsored fundraisers. We hope you enjoyed your 'Walk for Water' and Readathons! It has been wonderful talking to the children about the extra reading they have been doing – let's keep it up! A special mention to Y3B who reached their target of reading 100 books in 9 days – what an amazing effort and great example of team work!

Please remember to collate the sponsor money and send it in to school via Parent Pay as soon as possible. Many thanks for your support with this.

We will let you know after Easter how much money we raised in total.

The Charities that we are supporting this year are:

- Father Hudson's Society
- Cafod

Ask the children about these Charities, and how we have helped them previously.

We have extended the competition entry date deadline until **Monday 19th April**. Please see the details at the end of the newsletter.





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

Dressing Up Day

As mentioned in our last newsletter, we delayed our annual World Book Character Dressing Up Day due to the Lockdown because we wanted everyone to be able to join in. Next half term, we will be having an increased focus on reading and the children will have chance to read some of the new books we have purchased this term. These include many new story books and a wide range of non-fiction for KS1 as well as class sets of books for KS2, including: The Creakers, Skellig, The Explorer, A Boy at the Back of the Class and A Boy Called Hope, to name but a few! Our book character Dressing Up Day has been re-scheduled for **Friday 28th May** – we look forward to seeing your costumes!

PTA

Thank you to the PTA for organising and running this half term's competition. The themes were: Holy Week, Easter, New Life and Light. Thank you to all of the children who took part and shared their wonderful creations – we were very impressed with all of your imaginative art work and fabulous Lego models! Some examples of your creative efforts are below!

The winners are: Jack in KS1 and Anabel in KS2. Your vouchers are on the way to you!

We've also added extra house points to River Jordan and Nazareth house groups as they received the most entries! Thank you to the PTA for organising these exciting competitions and providing the prizes!



Staff - Congratulations to Mr Lynch and family who welcomed a baby boy last week – we are delighted for you! We wish Mrs Bates good wishes as she starts her maternity leave on 26th April. We will miss you while you are away, but can't wait to share your exciting news.

1st Anniversary of the National Lockdown

On Tuesday 23rd March, we observed a minute's silence in school to commemorate the 1st National Lockdown due to the Coronavirus pandemic. The Chaplaincy Team produced a beautiful prayer to mark the occasion. Thank you to all of those who took part in the National doorstep vigil at 8pm (or a little before, depending on bed time) and thank you to Miss Harris for providing the prayer cards and tea lights to make it even more special. Please see a selection of beautiful images of our children taking part in this in the collage at the end of the newsletter – well done, everyone!

Parking Issues

Unfortunately, we have been inundated with photographs and reports of inconsiderate parking from some parents during pick up and drop off times. Please ensure that your vehicle is not blocking a drive or in a 'no loading' area at the stipulated times. We have been informed that Traffic Enforcement officers will be patrolling the area and are in contact with staff at Highways, Birmingham regarding this issue. The advert for a school crossing patrol warden is still live on the Birmingham City Council WM Jobs website.



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

Food Bank

We are pleased to report that our MAC Food Bank initiative has been very successful and managed to support some of our own families within our MAC school communities during these difficult times. During the month of April, we are asking for donations of any toiletry items. If you have any items of toiletries that you could donate, please send them in with your child at some point during this month.

If you require any help from the MAC food bank in regards to food or toiletries, you are welcome to contact the confidential email address: family@stjosutton.net

Parents' Evening

As in the Autumn term, Parents' Evening will take place via phone calls. These will take place during the first week back after Easter to give staff time to reassess children following their return. Please can we ask that if you have changed your contact details recently, that you give these to the school office to ensure that your child's teacher is able to get in touch with you. These phone calls will take place during the school day or in the afternoon, after school and will last five minutes. The office will send you a half an hour window within which to expect a phone call –please be aware that the number may be withheld. We are sure that you will find the calls informative.

Diary Dates

Monday 19th April - Class photographs and leavers' photos will take place

Monday 3rd May is a Bank Holiday – school will be closed.

Friday 28th May – Book Character Dressing Up Day

Monday 7th June – Inset Day – school will be closed to pupils

Cultural Capital for March

Musician of the Month – Ray Charles



Artist of the Month – Leonardo Da Vinci



Word of the Month – Empathy

Inspirational Person of the Month - Mother Teresa





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

This Sunday is Easter Sunday – The Lord has truly risen. Alleluia.



On this day, Lord God,
you opened for us the way to eternal life
through your only Son's victory over death.
Grant that as we celebrate the feast of his resurrection
we may be renewed by your Holy Spirit
and rise again in the light of life.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
(one) God, for ever and ever.
Amen.

St Joseph's staff wish you a happy, holy and peaceful Easter and thank you for all of your support this term.

Yours sincerely,

G M O'Hara
Executive Principal

Mrs N Hill
Acting Head of School

Mr J Lynch
Acting Assistant Principal



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

COVID-19 Candle Light Vigil

Tuesday 23rd March 2021





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

LENTEN CHALLENGES:

CAFOD's Water Droplet Trail



As you take your daily walks and exercise, walk with a purpose and walk for water. Join CAFOD's **Water Droplet Trail** and show how, even though we are apart, we are still all connected.

Every time you spot one of the CAFOD water droplets displayed in windows around your community, think of people living in poverty where water is scarce; some children have to make a five-hour round trip twice a day so that everyone has enough to wash with and to drink. The steps you take on your walk could help communities like theirs have access to clean water.

YOUR CHALLENGE:

- **Part 1:** Design and decorate your own water droplet! Don't forget to include 'I'm walking for water with CAFOD'. Put your water droplet in a window that can be seen from outside your building. We will be having a 'Water Droplet' design competition with prizes for the winning entries from Key Stage One and Key Stage Two. If you would like to enter, please send a photo of your droplet in your window to your year group email address by **Thursday 25th March** with a £1 donation through Parent Pay.

Part 2: After Friday 5th March, decide on a day with your family to use the water droplet trail to help others. Set a challenge for how far your family can walk and see how many droplets you can spot. If you ask friends and family to sponsor your Water Droplet Trail walk, we would greatly appreciate any sponsorship money to be sent using Parent Pay before the end of term.



What is a Readathon?

During Lent, ask friends and family to sponsor you for either the number of minutes you spend reading or the number of pages that you read.

Set aside 10, 20 or 30 minutes a day to get reading!

Read anything you like! Stories, comics, plays, non-fiction, poetry...or a bit of everything!

Why not read a book by an author you haven't read before?

At the end of Lent, we will be awarding prizes for..

📖! the most impressive list of books that have been read

📖! the most interesting and eye-catching book review

from each Key Stage so please share your book reviews and book lists by sending them to your year group email address.

Please send in all entries before Monday 5th April so that we can announce the winners before the end of term.

We would love to see photos of you enjoying reading your books too!

read with your pet?

Could you..

read in a silly voice?

read with your favourite teddy?

read in an unusual place?

read with friends over facet me/zoom?