



Recognising and celebrating the presence of Christ in one another.

Newsletter No. 20: Friday 10th February 2023

Weekly News

Dear Parents,

We have had such an energetic and fun-filled week, joining in and learning about mental health, with this year's theme of 'Let's Connect' and Safer Internet Day, all about 'Want to talk about it?' making space for conversations about life online. Both of these themes highlight the importance of communication, conversation and interaction in keeping children mentally healthy and safe. A while ago, ITV launched an initiative - Get Britain Talking - with tips to support children:

- Children are more likely to open up if conversation isn't the main focus. Shared activities, like going for a walk or cooking together create a more relaxed environment. Putting them at ease means they'll feel more comfortable talking.
- Reassure them that you're there for them and they can talk whenever they need to.
- Suggest a way for them to communicate if they don't feel like talking - could they write a note, draw a picture or send a message?

The children enjoyed their online safety workshops this week. Place2Be has a lot of resources which may be of use, and their area called Parent Smart has five-minute read articles on a wide range of parenting and wellbeing topics on areas such as boundaries, meal times, supporting talents and social media. Here is the link: [Place2Be: Parenting Smart: Articles](https://www.place2be.co.uk/parenting-smart/articles)

The children have enjoyed wearing their pyjamas to promote mental health and wellbeing. The School Council have chosen this charity to donate the money raised to. Here is the link to find out more. Thank you for your support with this initiative. We have raised £122 so far.

<https://www.childrenssociety.org.uk/what-we-do/our-work/well-being>

Linking with our mental health theme and supporting children's personal development through 'healthy bodies, healthy minds' we had a fantastic day on Wednesday with a visit from Olympic athlete Sam Oldham. Sam talked inspirationally about his dedication and passion for gymnastics which started at the age of seven! The children were captivated by all of the information Sam shared and were totally exhausted after working so hard in their sponsored event! Check out our Twitter page for photos and videos. Thank you for all sponsorship money raised so far. Please could payments be made by the end of next week. Thank you to our PE leads, Mr Sutton and Mrs Smith for organising such a super event.

In other news this week, we congratulated Mrs Murray on 25 years of service at St Mary of the Angels Catholic Primary. What a wonderful milestone and example of service and dedication to the Catholic education of children at our school. Mrs Murray works tirelessly in organising the before and after school club, supervising lunchtime and supporting reading and work across school. Thank you for all of your hard work!

Everyone is welcome at the Family Mass at St Mary of the Angels Church on Sunday 12th February at 9:30am. Y3 will be presenting themselves in readiness for making the Sacraments of Reconciliation and First Holy Communion later in the academic year.

Have a wonderful weekend. Kindest regards, Mrs Hill

Award Winners

During our Congratulations Assembly this morning, individual certificates have been distributed for children who have produced beautiful writing, for showing enthusiasm for their learning and for always trying to do the right thing!

Our Class of the Week Award was presented to Y2 and Y6 for taking pride in their work and demonstrating the Gospel values in how they treat and react towards others.

Our attendance winners this week are Y1 with an amazing 100%!

Our Saints Stars winners this week were St Cecilia (yellow) with 325 Dojo points - fantastic!

British Values

As part of the children's well-rounded personal development, we regularly re-visit the notion of British values and what they mean for the children in terms of developing them as responsible, inclusive, active citizens of school and society. Here's a lovely image that supports the work we do in school.





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Notices and Curriculum Information

- Reading Update: Ask questions when you are reading with your child - what can you see in the page? How do you think the characters feel? You could also see if your child has any questions about what they have read.

Ask Questions

Ask questions about the story as you read it e.g. What is the story about? Why do you think they made that choice? Was it a good choice? Why did that happen? What do you think will happen next? What was your favourite part of the story? Why?

Be Seen

Make sure you are seen reading. Keep books magazines at easy reach.

Get Out

Go to your public library regularly. Find the books you loved as a kid to read together.

- World Book Day - this will take place on Thursday 2nd March. We are encouraging the children to dress for the occasion linked to a book or character that they enjoy and want to celebrate. Please note that we do not want parents to buy anything special for the occasion. It could be that your child already has an outfit or accessory that they could wear, or perhaps they would like to make something, like a prop from the book, that they could bring in with them!
- Please read the letter sent last week regarding our Catholic life parent questionnaire. It will only take a few minutes to complete and we would greatly appreciate your feedback. Thank you.
https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1loyO6ljakybZnbC7u6sfTFL_wQ47Flskehpj9elgZks/edit

Events

Monday 13th February 2:15pm - Y4 class teaching Mass - parents welcome

Monday 13th February - Y6 joining the parish Over 50s group to play board games

Please see the Science Extravaganza letter for more details of this event which will take place on Thursday 16th February.

Friday 17th February is an inset day - school closed to pupils.

Monday 27th February - return to school after half term

Tuesday 28th February - Y6 join the parish for Mass

Wednesday 1st March - this is likely to be a day of strike action - Y4 and Y5 closed. We thank our staff for discussing this in advance so that we can plan accordingly.

Thursday 2nd March - World Book Day

Friday 3rd March 2pm Y6 Reconciliation

Reflection

This Sunday is the Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

When Moses was leading God's people through the desert, God gave them ten rules or commandments to help the people to live in God's way. This week, we hear Jesus reminding his followers of these 'rules for life.'

A TEN COMMANDMENTS PRAYER

My Lord and God,

1. Help me keep you first in my life.
 2. Help me speak only good things in your name.
 3. Help me attend Mass each week.
 4. Help me honor my parents.
 5. Help me protect life.
 6. Help me be faithful to those I love.
 7. Help me be generous.
 8. Help me speak the truth.
 9. Help me celebrate the beauty of others.
 10. Help me to want to share.
- Amen.

Yours sincerely,
Mrs N. Hill
Headteacher

