



CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Executive Head Teacher: Gerida Montague MA
School Senior Lead: Eleanor Prince BA PGCE



October 2022 Newsletter



*The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our
God will stand forever. Isaiah 40:8*

Dear Parents,

Welcome to our October newsletter, which brings us to the end of the first half term of this academic year! How time flies! It is lovely to see all of our children settling back into the routine of school so well and welcoming lots of new members of our school family.

Governor Visit

We were delighted to welcome our wonderful school governors on 4th October. They had a super morning, speaking with children from each year group about their learning in RE. Some had a guided tour, led by children, and celebrated how we bear witness to Catholic Social Teaching and other spoke to children about prayer and worship. Each and every governor noted how happy and confident the children were, speaking enthusiastically and with great care about their school and wider community.

Calshot Activity Centre

Year 5 had a fun packed day at Calshot Activity Centre earlier this month. Their balance, coordination, agility and bravery were all tested as they participated in archery, skiing, rock climbing, bouldering and the low ropes. They took to the challenges brilliantly and showed great improvement in all activities. In particular, they demonstrated excellent communication and team work skills on the low ropes to solve the problems they were tested with. Well done Year 5!

CAFOD 'Livesimply Award'

We welcomed Cafod volunteer, Steve, to our school on 11th October. Steve delivered workshops to each class launching the 'Livesimply Award' which challenges schools to respond to the Church's call to live simply, sustainably and in solidarity with the world's poorest. It is an invitation to take meaningful action on the ecological crisis we face today.

This is an exciting opportunity to build upon, and celebrate, the existing eco work which we are already so proud of.

Curriculum and Enrichment

Year R

We have been learning all about our senses! We have had great fun playing and exploring different items such as jelly, coco pops and shaving foam. We then applied our Science learning to create our own superhero capes using our sense of touch. There have been some fabulous creations and the children have loved being creative with their designs.

Year 1

This month we have been learning about the following: Maths: In Maths, we have moved on to addition and subtraction! We discovered that the number always gets bigger when adding. We have been using lots of resources to help our understanding and using mathematical sums to support our answers. Writing: In Writing, we received another letter from Jimlad! He has asked us to help him with his party invitation on his pirate ship. We have been using our senses to generate lots of exciting adjectives. Geography: In Geography, we have been looking at the difference between a map and a plan. We have been using our understanding of the compass points to help navigate us around different areas on each map. Art: In Art, we have been exploring different media and considering the different effects they create. We are going to use our understanding to help us create an animal print design of our own choice. We have worked so hard this month and are looking forward to the next half term.

Year 2

We have been busy learning about the capital cities of the UK and what our favourite landmarks are. We have been revisiting number bonds and have started to develop our still life drawing skills.

Year 3

We have been learning to use adverbs and fronted adverbials to make our sentences more exciting and help to describe the beastly tempers of our farmers. We have been learning to mentally add and subtract using our number bonds to 100 to help us count on. We travelled back millions of years in science to explore real fossils and how they were formed.

Year 4

We have been continuing their fantastic start and have shown enjoyment in all subjects. In our latest History we have learnt and uncovered some fascinating facts about Skara Brae. A Neolithic settlement in the Orkney islands that has much archeological importance. Next term we'll be learning about the Romans and Roman Britain. In Science we completed an eye opening experiment to do with our teeth. We tested to see which liquids have the biggest effect on an egg shell which has similar properties to our enamel coating. Next term we'll be learning about electricity and circuits. We have some very formidable Miss Trunchbull

characters in our English writing. Next term it will be about Star Lad. It is a superhero writing piece of work with a looming disaster.

Year 5

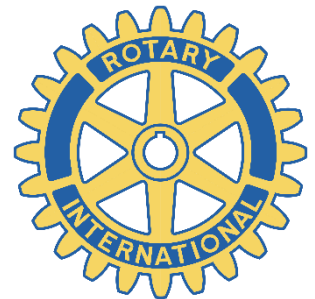
We have continued to explore literature that creates fear and tension. They have considered different ways to create these effects and thought about what writing techniques they can use. They have written their own story with the focus of creating fear and tension. Children have studied addition and worked on calculating addition sums with and without bridging. They have also looked at a variety of problem solving questions which requires them to identify the operation and then calculate the problem.

Year 6

We are writing a story about a portal! We are really focusing on our use of powerful language and varied sentence types to ensure cohesion throughout the piece. We are loving the mystery and magical images we are giving the reader! 'The air was invigorating, carrying whispers of an ancient wisdom and a promise of countless adventures yet to come. Sensations danced upon my skin, a symphony of tingling vibrations and electric pulses enveloped me.'

Rotary Shoe Boxes

Don't forget that the Rotary Shoeboxes are due back straight after half term. The charity need enough time to send the boxes to Eastern Europe. If you haven't filled a box yet – you do still have time! Each box (filled with little gifts, such as a notepad and colouring pencils) will make a child smile this Christmas time. Thank you for your continued support.



School Council Elections

A huge well done to all the children who bravely took part in the school councillor nominations and elections. We are incredibly proud of every child that participates, throughout their time at Our Lady & St Joseph. Congratulations to the following children, who will be representing their class on this years School Council

Year 1 – Darcy & Charlie

Year 3 – Olly & Lara

Year 4 – Tilly & Fin

Year 5 - Hector & Louisia

Year 6 – Ethan & Riley, Jamie & Kinga

Leaders look forward to hearing your views and ideas for how we can become even better!

Congratulations House Captains

Our new House Captains have taken up their roles with great enthusiasm. After writing and presenting a short speech, members of their house cast their votes. We look forward to watching them grow in their leadership roles as the year goes on. This years House Captains are:

St Matthew – Alice R

St Luke – Jamie Wh

St Mark – Aimee D

St John – Ethan H

PE kits

Please ensure your child has their P.E. kit in school at all times and that it is labelled. Below are the P.E. days for each year group:

Monday – Year 1

Tuesday – Year 5

Wednesday – Year 6

Thursday – Year 3 and Year 4

Friday – Year R and Year 2

School Applications

Please do invite your friends and local family members to consider our lovely school for their children

Deadline for September 2024 entry:

Year 7 (secondary school) places: **31 October 2023 at 23:59**

Year R (infant/primary school) places: **15 January 2024 at 23:59**

Please ensure you have submitted your applications on time and used all 3 preferences. Late applications can result in your child missing a place at your preferred school.

Coffee morning

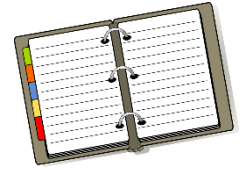
Thank you to all of you who have attended our coffee mornings. We are really looking forward to seeing you on the next one - Thursday, 2nd November 23. We hope this will be another way to drop in and have an informal chat and cup of coffee or tea with a member of the senior team.



Dates for your Diary

- Tuesday, 31st October – Deadline for secondary school applications

- Tuesday, 31st October – Reading Rocket Workshop 3.30pm
- Tuesday, 21st November – Tuesday 28th November - Bookfair
- Friday, 1st December – Hobgoblin Theatre Company visiting KS1 to perform 'A Christmas Carol'
- Thursday, 7th December – Coffee morning
- Friday, 8th December – INSET day
- Tuesday, 12th December – Year 5 & 6 Pantomime trip to Mayflower Theatre
- Wednesday 13th December – Christmas Dinner Day
- Thursday, 14th December – Year 3 & 4 Pantomime trip to Mayflower Theatre
- Friday, 15th December – Non Uniform (Christmas Jumper) Day
- Christmas Break
- Tuesday, 2nd January 2024 – Back to school
- Thursday, 4th January – Coffee morning
- Thursday 11th January – Whole School Mass
- Monday, 15th January 2024 – Deadline for Year R applications
- Monday, 22nd January 2024 – Y5 Bikeability day 1
- Tuesday, 23rd January 2024 – Y5 Bikeability day 2



Best wishes

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Gerida Montague".

Gerida Montague

Executive Headteacher