



2023/24

NUMBER 9

Thursday 9th November '23

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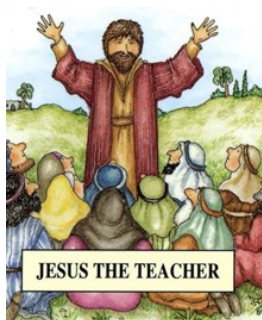
School Website: www.stpauls.w-berks.sch.uk

ST PAUL'S SCHOOL NEWSLETTER 9



The Year of the Holy Spirit

JESUS THE HUMBLE TEACHER



The Gospel this week warns us against behaving like the Pharisees of Jesus' time. He accuses them of being hypocrites, who preach but fail to practice. These hypocrites are pretenders, pretending to have love for God and man but who really have none. He says they lay burdens on others shoulders but they do not lift a finger to help. They do all their deeds to be seen by men. They love the places of honour at feasts and greetings in the market places and being called rabbi. In other words they spout the Laws of Moses and look down on those they consider less than themselves. They pretend to be genuinely religious but it is all a sham, a charade. Like any good actor, they were all "make believe." So the message Jesus is giving to us is that we need to be humble, as those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and all who humble themselves will be exalted. We need to learn from our One Great Teacher, Our Servant King, He who came and led us by words and actions to the Kingdom of Heaven. If we follow His teaching with humility we will be rewarded.

HEADS UP

St John

This week, St John enjoyed Science where they learnt about the life cycle of a frog and coloured in the pictures of its lifecycle. In English, they recreated the story of the Tiddler while in Maths, they learnt how to subtract from ten. During Geography, they learnt all about India – they were extremely lucky to try on some traditional Indian clothing and smelt some spices. They loved learning about the building which was shaped as a lotus flower.



THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

"As we enter Heaven, we will see them, so many of them, coming towards us and thanking us. We will ask who they are, and they will say 'a poor soul you prayed for in purgatory.'" (Venerable Servant of God Fulton J. Sheen.)



THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

God of love

We pray for peace in our world, and an end to war.
Instead of hatred, let there be love.
Shelter your children and protect us.
Guide us and keep us from harm,
so we can build a world of love and live our lives in peace.
Amen



100% Attendance Owl awarded to St Andrew's Class for week ending 3rd November 2023

96% Whole School attendance for week ending 3rd November 2023

HOLY SOULS

We remember those who have died and we pray for them during the month of November. In school the children have been invited to write the names of loved ones or anyone who has died and say a special prayer for the Holy Souls.

ST JOSEPH'S CHURCH

The church will be open for private prayer on Mondays and Tuesdays from 8.30 am until after the 10.30 am Mass



FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

We are making the final arrangements for our First Holy Communion preparation sessions. We are inviting all children in **Year 3 and above** to please complete and return the attached form, by Friday 17th November, if you would like your child to receive this Holy Sacrament. There will be a short parent meeting on the 13th December in school at 6pm.

November is Cut Your Carbon month

Eco-Schools is challenging all young people in England to take action on their carbon footprint. Completing 9 simple actions with families and friends will raise awareness, change behaviours, and Cut Your Carbon - a greenhouse gas responsible for driving climate change. Please see attached checklist of ways you can Cut your Carbon. Please ask your child to complete the checklist and hand to their class Eco Warrior at the end of November.

FOOD DONATIONS

We know that times are very difficult for many at the present time and that winter will bring even more problems. We are asking staff and families to please if possible, make an occasional donation of just one item of essential foodstuff e.g. a can or packet, which our Mini Vinnies will take along to the SVP at St Joseph's parish on a monthly basis.

As always we are grateful for your continued support for those in need.



TURN TILEHURST RED

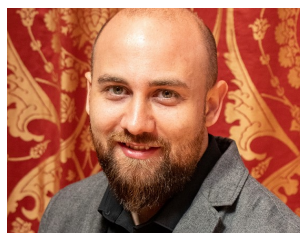
The School Choir will be singing at The Triangle on Friday 10th November at 11.30 for the Turn Tilehurst Red Remembrance Service. Please send in any loose change for the choir to take along to the service.

ANTI-BULLYING WEEK

Next week, 13th - 17th November, is Anti-Bullying Week. The theme for the week is '**Make A Noise**'. We will be reminding children about the definition that we use for bullying: STOP - Several Times On Purpose, and about the importance of speaking to a trusted adult if they experience bullying or see it happen. Anti-Bullying Week starts with **Odd Socks Day on Monday 13th November**. The idea of this day is to celebrate what makes each of us unique and to spread kindness. We therefore invite all pupils to come to school wearing odd socks (along with their usual school uniform) on this day. On Tuesday 14th, Danyl Johnson will be coming in to do some work on with children in Y5 & 6 in the afternoon.



SEMINARIAN OF THE MONTH



Nathan King is in his third year of study at Alan Hall in London. At the moment he spends his weekdays in studying and travels to the Cathedral to take up his duties at weekends. He will soon be moving to the Cathedral full time. One project he is involved in is the setting up of a library of spiritual books for a parishioner drop in group. He speaks about his very rewarding placement at a Caritas Centre for people with disabilities. He asks for our prayers for all those who are suffering in our world.

ST PAUL'S SCHOOL CHOR

On Monday evening, the St Paul's Catholic School Choir took part in the Junior Music Festival at the Hexagon with children from many other schools. Our children were absolutely brilliant, during both the afternoon rehearsals and the evening performance. Well done! A special thank you to Creams cafe, who accommodated us very kindly after tea time too.



CHRISTMAS JUMPER SWAP



Following the Eco Warriors 'Cut Carbon Month', we will be holding a Christmas Jumper Swap for the category - Say 'no' to a new item.

Please keep an eye out for details of the day that this will happen, but start digging out those Christmas Jumpers!



2023/2024 TERM DATES

Term 1 – Tues 5th Sept 2023 to Fri 20th Oct 2023, 3.20pm

Half Term Mon 23rd Oct to Fri 27th Oct 2023

Term 2 Mon 30th Oct 2023 to Wed 20th Dec, 1.00pm

Christmas Holidays Thurs 21st Dec 2023 to Fri 5th Jan 2024

Inset Day Mon 8th Jan 2024

Term 3 Tues 9th Jan 2024 to Fri 9th Feb 2024, 3.20pm

Half Term Mon 12th Feb to Fri 16th Feb 2024

Term 4 Mon 19th Feb 2024 to Thurs 28th Mar 2024, 1.00pm

Easter Holidays Fri 29th Mar 2024 to Fri 12th April 2024

Inset Day Mon 15th Apr 2024

Term 5 Tues 16th Apr 2024 to Fri 24th May 2024, 3.20pm

Bank Holiday Mon 6th May 2024

Half Term Mon 28th May to Fri 31st May 2024

Inset Day Mon 3rd June 2024

Term 6 Tues 4th June 2024 to Thurs 24th July 2024, 1.00pm.

Inset Day Fri 25th July 2024



CHRISTMAS FAYRE

Your child will be bringing home a gift bag. If you are willing and able to help, we are looking for gift donations to sell at our 'Children Only' gift stall at the Christmas Fayre.

This can be anything from unwanted gifts, toiletries, a scarf etc. Or simply pop along to the £1 shop and purchase something that a loved one would like to receive from your child.

Please drop these back to school and thank you, as always, for your continued support.

UNIFORM SALE

Our next 'Good As New' uniform sale will be on Friday 15th December.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

NOVEMBER

Thurs 9th	Parent Consultations 1.30–4.30pm
Fri 10th	Remembrance
Mon 13th	Odd Socks Day (Anti Bullying Week)
Wed 29th	Yr5/6 Trip to Winchester Science Park

DECEMBER

Fri 1st	Crazy Hair Day (nothing permanent) in exchange for a Fun Jar
Thurs 7th	Yr3/4 Topic Day
Fri 8th	Dress Down Day in exchange for a bottle for the Bottle Tombola
Sat 9th	Christmas Fayre (new date)
Mon 11th	Advent Liturgy 7pm at Church Yr3–6
Tues 12th	EYFS Nativity to Parents 2pm
Wed 13th	Christmas Lunch and Party Day
Thurs 14th	KS1 Nativity to Parents 2pm & 6.30pm
Mon 18th	Yr6 Fundraising Day
Tues 19th	Reconciliation in school 1.30pm
Wed 20th	End of Term 1pm

MESSAGES FROM THE OFFICE

OFFICE HOURS—Mon—Thurs 8.00–3.30pm, Fri 8.00–8.30 and 8.50–3.30pm

ROSARY

Weekly Rosary Group will be held at 9am each Wednesday. It is a very informal group, our prayers last only around 15 minutes, all parents and carers are most welcome, just turn up after dropping off children.

REQUEST FROM EYFS

Our Early Years Team are on the lookout for any socks and tights (ages 4 to 5) please.

HEALTHY SCHOOL

A reminder please that we are a 'Healthy School' and lunch boxes should reflect this. Please note that children are only allowed a fruit or vegetable snack at break time. Children in YrR, 1 & 2 are all provided with a piece of fruit under the Government Scheme.

NEW STARTERS September 2024

If you have a child due to start school, or know of anyone due to start, we have now set our Open Mornings for the September 2024 Intake

Thursday 23rd November 10am

Tuesday 5th December 10am

Wednesday 10th January 10am.

Booking is essential. Please pass the word around to friends and families to come and have a look around our Outstanding Catholic School, as judged by the Diocese.