

2023/24

NUMBER 25

Thursday 21st March 2024

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ST PAUL'S SCHOOL NEWSLETTER 25



THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

Thanks to his role in salvation history, Saint Joseph has always been venerated as a father by the Christian people. This is shown by the countless churches dedicated to him worldwide, the numerous religious Institutes, Confraternities and ecclesial groups inspired by his spirituality and bearing his name, and the many traditional expressions of piety in his honour. Innumerable holy men and women were passionately devoted to him. Among them was Teresa of Avila, who chose him as her advocate and intercessor, had frequent recourse to him and received whatever graces she asked of him." (Pope Francis, *Patris Corde*, 1)



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

A SINGLE GRAIN



John's Gospel uses the metaphor of the grain of wheat falling into the earth and dying. When it is planted/buried those in ancient times felt, it died and then was brought back to life in a new form of a plant. Jesus is saying that if a grain of wheat isn't planted, then it does nothing and remains alone. It is just a single grain and it stays that. But if it's planted, then it dies and brings forth a plant that yields grain. It bears fruit only by dying. That metaphor is used to explain his death; by dying he will bring forth great fruit. The focus of Jesus' address is his followers, because He wants to tell them the message that those who love their life will lose it. Why? If they hold on to life alone, without thought of God then, like a grain, they stay alone. Those, however who are willing to die for the Kingdom of God, will keep it for eternity. Let us pray that we choose not to stand alone, but rather continue our journey with Christ.

HEADS UP

St Jude

This week, St Jude did practise SATS and wrote a balanced argument about whether Corporal and Capital Punishment should be brought back to the UK. They also designed a protective armour for Edgar the Egghead who had to survive a two story fall unscathed.



CELEBRATION OF THE WORD

During Lent, our Mini Vinnies lead our Monday Celebration of the Word. You can find a copy of the readings and prayers on our website each week.

<https://www.stpauls.w-berks.sch.uk/page/?title=Our+Prayer+Life%3A+Lent&pid=757>



WEDNESDAY MORNING MASS

St John's Class walked to Mass on Wednesday 20th, Mrs Oster was very impressed with the beautiful way they conducted themselves during Mass and on the walk there and back. St James' Class will be attending Mass at St Joseph's on Wednesday 27th March at 9.30am.

Parents and families are welcome to join them.



100% Attendance Owl awarded to St Paul's Class for week ending 15th March 2024

95% Whole School attendance for week ending 15th March 2024

LENTEN REFLECTION

Pupils from the Middle School, Year 3 & 4, will be performing the Lenten Reflection in school during the final week of term.

Tuesday 26th March performance for the school

Wednesday 27th March 2pm performance to parents

Wednesday 27th March 6.30pm performance to Parents.

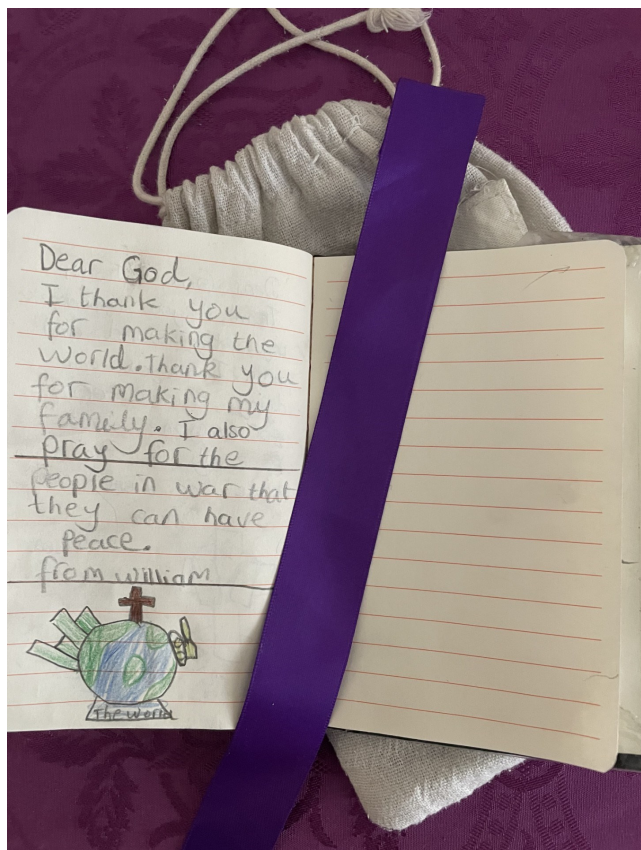
Tickets are not required for these performances.

For the evening performance could children please return to school at 6pm.

NO PHOTOGRAPH'S OR VIDEOING OF PERFORMANCES Due to safeguarding protocol we have to enforce a blanket ban on parent's videoing or photographing any part of any performance in school.

PRAYER POUCHES

Children take it in turn to take the Prayer Pouch home each week, to say/write a prayer with their families. This is an example of a prayer from last week. These are presented during Celebration of the Word on a Monday morning.



MESSAGES FROM THE OFFICE

OFFICE HOURS—Mon—Thurs 8.00—3.30pm,
Fri 8.00—8.15 and 8.45—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.

CHARITY RAFFLE TICKETS

The last day for purchasing Charity Raffle Tickets will be Friday 22nd March. Tickets will cost 20p each and staff will generously be providing prizes.



END OF TERM

Reminder that Term ends at **1pm on Thursday 28th March.**

URGENT

The St Joseph's Parish Foodbank are short of tea bags, coffee and long life milk. Any donations of these or other food items will be much appreciated by our local families.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

March

Thurs 21st Last Street Dance
Fri 22nd LKS2 Topic Day TBC
Sat 23rd 10.30am First Holy Communion Session
Mon 25th 1.30pm Reconciliation
Wed 27th Lenten Reflection 2pm and 6.30pm
Thurs 28th 1pm END OF TERM

APRIL

Mon 15th INSET DAY—School closed to pupils
Tues 16th Pupils return
Sat 20th 10.30am First Holy Communion Session
Sat 27th 10.30am First Holy Communion Session

MAY

Sat 11th First Confessions at Church
Mon 13th SATs Week
Sat 18th First Holy Communion
Fri 24th Sports Day followed by Family Picnic
Mon 27th HALF TERM Week

JUNE

Mon 3rd INSET DAY—School closed to pupils
Tues 4th Yr6 Moving UP Photo
Mon 10th Class Photos
Tues 11th Yr5 Trip to Ure Museum of Greek Archeology
Wed 12th Yr6 Trip to Ure Museum of Greek Archeology
Fri 21st Fun Jar for Crazy Hair
Fri 28th Mass for St Peter and St Paul at school

JULY

Mon 1st Yr6 Douai Mass
Fri 5th Dress Down for Bottle Tombola
Fri 5th Family Fun Night (3.30—7pm)
Mon 22nd Leavers Mass 10am at Church
Wed 24th 1pm END OF TERM