



October 11th 2024

Laleham Lea

A Catholic Independent School for boys and girls aged 3 to 11

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Dear Parents

It was lovely to celebrate Mass with our Junior and Year 2 students this week in The John Fisher Chapel. A big thank you to Father Francis Murphy from John the Baptist who celebrated Mass with us on the Feast of our Lady of the Rosary. Year 5 students then attended Mass at John the Baptist as part of our weekly rota on Tuesday; Year 4 will be attending Mass next week.

Thank you to those of you who have sent in gifts for Harvest already. This year our Mini Vinnies have decided to support the work of St. Vincent Centre and donations will be collected by them next week. Thank you in advance for your support and generosity with this.

Well done to our footballers who took on Coulsdon School this week in their first match of the season returning a 3-1 victory! Well done boys. Next week we travel to Forestdale for a cup match.

On Thursday we were delighted to welcome three of our Governors who spent the day with us focusing on RE and the Catholic Life of the school. They visited classrooms, observed RE Lessons and spoke with many of our pupils. Father Peter's expertise were put to good use in the Year 3 classroom as they enjoyed a lesson about the sacrament of Baptism. This was a positive experience for us all and Governors praised the knowledge and enthusiasm of our students.

From next week we will be starting our series of Class-led assemblies with parents invited to join us in the Long Room for a celebration of work completed by the class. These will take place towards the end of each half term, starting with Year 6 next week.

Our PTA enjoyed a lovely parents' social last Friday at Purley Sports Club and have a busy calendar of events planned including Christmas Cards, a clothing collection and a Movie Night on November 15th—further details are in this newsletter. A big 'thank you' to the PTA also who have agreed to help with the cost of class trips this year—contributing £10 per child towards an educational visit. Year 3 have already taken advantage of this generous offer to help pay towards their upcoming trip to Butser Ancient Farm.

Wishing you all a sunny weekend

Mrs Reece

Acting Headteacher



Mini Vinnies—Harvest Collection

Our Mini Vinnies would like us to support the work of St. Vincent Centre with our Harvest donations this year. Laleham Lea families are always very generous with our charitable giving and with many local families in desperate need, our support has never been more vital. At St. Vincent Centre, the following items are required at this time:

Long life (UHT) milk, small jars of coffee, small bags of sugar, pasta, wholegrain pasta, rice, cereal, bread, tinned meat, tinned vegetables, tinned potatoes, toothpaste, soap, shower gel, nappies, sanitary products, washing up liquid, toilet roll. Donations will be collected by the St. Vincent Centre on Thursday October 17th. Thank you in advance for your support.



THE CATHOLIC LIFE OF THE SCHOOL



Thank you to Father Francis Murphy who joined us of our first School Mass of this year at The John Fisher Chapel on Monday afternoon where we also celebrated the Feast of our Lady of the Rosary. Year 6 children read with reverence and all students sang beautifully. A special well done to our Year 2 students who joined us at Mass for the first time.

Year 5 also attended Mass at John the Baptist on Tuesday where they took the opportunity to pray silently to Mary in front of their beautiful statue of Our Lady.



Focus on Catholic Social Teaching principals—Year 2 Stewardship

...the world we have received also belongs to those who will follow us." Pope Francis, Laudato Si' 159

"The Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it." Genesis 2:15

"Humankind still has the ability to work together in building our common home" Pope Francis, Laudato Si' 13

We are guardians of God's creation, living sustainably and enhancing the wellbeing of our planet.

Caring for God's Gifts

Year 2

"The Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it." Genesis 2:15



October—The Month of The Holy Rosary

In this month of the Holy Rosary, this week Prayer Club focused on praying the rosary and in this morning's assembly led the whole school in praying a decade of the rosary together. Classes have also been taking time to pray the rosary together during the course of this week.



How to pray the rosary

Follow each numbered step and hold the part of the rosary that corresponds with the color of the step.

- 1 Make the Sign of the Cross and say the Apostles' Creed
- 2 Say the Our Father
- 3 Say three Hail Marys
- 4 Say the Glory Be
- 5 Announce the first mystery and then say the Our Father
- 6 Say 10 Hail Marys while meditating on the mystery
- 7 Say the Glory Be (Optional: Say the O My Jesus prayer requested by Mary at Fatima)
- 8 Announce the second mystery; then say the Our Father and repeat these steps as you continue through the remaining mysteries.
9. Say the Hail, Holy Queen
10. Make the Sign of the Cross



THE CATHOLIC LIFE OF THE SCHOOL



Year 3—Baptism

Year 3 were very lucky to be joined by our Governor Father Peter this week as they learnt all about the sacrament of Baptism.



Class Assembly Dates

Parents are invited to join us for an assembly to celebrate the class's work on the following dates:

Year 6—Friday 18th Oct

Year 5 – Friday 29th Nov

Year 4 – Friday 31st Jan

Year 3 – Friday 28th Feb

Year 2 – Friday 28th March

Year 1 – Friday 25th April

Reception – Friday 20th June

STEM Club



This half term STEM Club have enjoyed making and testing balloon powered rockets using a variety of materials and last week took to the playground to see whose rocket could travel the furthest.

World Mental Health Day



Thursday was World Mental Health Day and Mrs Jose led a special assembly all about taking care of our own mental health and that of our friends too.

We discussed the importance of talking about our feelings and who we can go to if there is something worrying us.

Caring for God's World



This week, we thought of the things we can do to take care of God's world. Even simple things—like watering plants, feeding the birds, or picking up litter—are all ways we can worship God with our actions! By treating the world, plants, animals, and other people with kindness and respect, you care for God's world!



We made a brilliant bird feeder by up-cycling plastic material!



Reception Class enjoyed a visit to our school Nature Trail. We put out new bird food in preparation for the colder months and are keeping a watchful eye out to see which birds it will attract. We planted a variety of herb seeds and can't wait to share these with our chefs in the school kitchen once they are grown. We also took turns to pick up litter to ensure our Nature Trail is always looking amazing! What a fantastic job Reception Class did caring for God's world!

Nursery

This week Nursery have been looking at the topic 2D Shapes. To extend our learning further, we have been completing a range of activities and will be challenging ourselves by looking at 3D Shapes next week. This week we have:

- Been naming 2D Shapes and discussing their properties.
- Listening to a story called 'Shapes are Everywhere' by Charles Ghigna.
- Completing a cutting and sticking activity, focusing on repeated patterns.
- Reinforcing our fine motor skills using the pegboards to create a 2D shape.
- Using a variety of materials to create our own shape collage.



Year 1



After much anticipation and excitement from the children, we finally conducted our blindfolded taste test in Science this week. Using their sense of smell and touch alongside taste, children tried sour lemons, salty crisps and bitter chocolate along with other foods. There were lots of opinions about which tastes children preferred and which ones they



most definitely disliked but ginger was not on the top of their favourite tastes! Year 1 behaved impeccably and Mrs Khan would like to give them a round of applause for being great sports and trying all of the items on their plates!

Year 2



In Art this week children drew a pirate ship rocking on a painted sea. They mixed tones of colours inspired by artist William Turner and used a paint splashing technique inspired by Jackson Pollock.

Year 3



Year 3 have been creating beautiful African patterns on fruits in Art this week to link with Harvest as well as Black History Month using Batik style designs.

Year 4



Year 4 were set a task to create a collage inspired by Charles McGee—known for his diverse creations which touch upon important themes such as race and social justice.

Mrs Khan was in awe of their artistic talents and so very proud of their sheer passion and determination to produce such outstanding work.

This was supplemented by a thought-provoking diary entry written in the perspective of Harriet Tubman, whose bravery ensured she found freedom as she entered the borders of Pennsylvania; free at last!

Year 5



Year 5 were tasked with researching the life of artist Alma Thomas for homework and created their own artworks inspired by her unique style.

Year 6



There has been lots of collaborative group work going on in Year 6 this week including creating these fantastic volcano models in DT. They have been made from recycled materials and even include a syringe pump to demonstrate the explosion and lava flow!

Stars of the week



Karate Kid!



A huge 'well done' to our Year 4 Karate champ who made it to the Quarterfinals of the British Open Kyokushin Karate 2024 Championships.

We wish him the best of luck for the upcoming Belgium Open Championships later this month!

Tee-d up for stardom!



Well done to our Golf Star who came 1st in the Order of Merit in the Robert Rock Tour 2024.

Dates for your diary this term

- Year 5 and 6 Swimming on Nov 14th & 28th, Dec 12th
- Oct 14th—Nasal Flu—please complete online form asap.
- Oct 17th—Mini Vinnies—Care home visit & Harvest donation deadline.
- Oct 18th—PTA Xmas Card deadline
- Oct 21st—Half Term (Nov 4th—Return to school in winter uniform)
- Nov 11th—Year 3 Butser Farm Trip
- Nov 13th—Anti-Bullying Week
- Nov 15th—PTA Movie Night
- Dec 3rd—Christmas Carols (Yrs. 3-6) 6pm
- Dec 6th—EYFS/KS1 Nativity Plays
- Dec 13th—End of Term 2pm.

Mass at John The Baptist

The following classes will be attending Mass at 10am at John the Baptist on the following Tuesdays this term. (Public Mass, parents are welcome to join too but students will not be reading/actively involved in Mass). **Oct 15th—Year 4, Nov 3rd—Year 3, Nov 12th—Year 2, Nov 19th—Year 1, Nov 26th—Year 6, Dec 3rd—Year 5, Dec 10th—Year 4.**



Movie Night (Reception-Y6) is in the diary for November 15th—tickets on sale via the PTA account after half term (please ensure funds are transferred to the correct account).



We are pleased to be taking part in Bag2School clothes recycling scheme—branded bags will be sent home next week for you to fill with adult and children's clothing, shoes, hats, belts, handbags etc. over half term. Items can also be put into black bin sacks if needed (no carrier bags please).

Our PTA will be paid by the KG for all bags collected.

Please bring your filled bags back to school on the morning of **Wednesday November 6th**.



Students have been busy designing their Christmas Cards for Xmas4Schools and these should have been brought home this week. Please complete your details on the back and return to school before next Friday.

Designs will then be sent off to be uploaded and you will be emailed/texted details of how to order cards and gifts directly from Xmas4Schools. Last year we raised over £100 for the PTA!