



The Federation of St Mary's Catholic Schools

"I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me"

Philippians 4:13

12th January 2024

Respect

Compassion

Resilience

Dear Parents and Carers,

As part of our Arches curriculum we have been focusing on Science this week. The children have been taking part in LOTS of exciting activities and had fun being scientists.

Nursery

In Nursery the children have had lots of fun reading Harry and his Bucketful of Dinosaurs! Harry's dinosaurs went missing so the children drew lost posters to help find them. The children were overjoyed to receive a letter from Harry saying thank you along with some ingredients to make dinosaur cheesy biscuits! The children enjoyed making them, but enjoyed eating them even more!



Reception

This week the children have enjoyed being palaeontologists and exploring the dinosaur fossils hidden within the sand. We were very excited to have been sent our very own dinosaur egg and the children have been predicting what type of dinosaur will be hatched from the egg! The children also enjoyed freeing dinosaurs from ice. We discussed how and why the ice melts when in warmer conditions.

Year 1

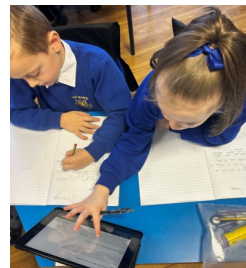
This week Year 1 have been looking at seasonal change and signs of winter. The children investigated how salt affects ice and why Mr Sean covers our playground in it when it's icy or snowy. We thought like scientists about how to keep the test fair and looking closely at the results.



Year 2

In year 2 the children have been using our brand new iPad to research health eating and healthy living and making their own life cycle models for a variety of creatures.

Science will be our focus in the Arches curriculum again next week before we move onto Art.



Number Day

On Friday we are inviting the children to attend school wearing an item of clothing with a number on it and make a donation to the NSPCC this will be via Teachers2Parents.

It can be a favourite sports top, cap, birthday badges or sash!



After School Club Offer

We are delighted to share with you our after school club for the second half of the Spring term. These will take place from 3.15pm-4.15pm. They will start on Monday 19th February. Booking details to follow.

	EYFS (Nursery and Reception)	KS1 (Years 1 and 2)
Monday	Playdoh Challenge Club	Lego Club Choir Football (Year 2 only)
Tuesday	Arts and Crafts Club	
Thursday		Sketching Club


Trips

In every year group, there will be 3 trips per year. Details and dates will be sent out shortly.



AWARD WINNERS

	Star of the Week	Bee Award
Nursery	Freya	Lilliah
RJ	Blaise	Cassidy
RT	Olivia	Hunter
Y1M	Alexander	Riley
Y1B	Ella	Frankie
Y2M	Sophia	Finley
Y2G	Evie-Rose	Charlie

	School Values Award	Lilyann
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Congratulations!

This half term

Dates for both Spring and Summer term have been emailed out this week. This half term's dates are below with the forthcoming week's highlighted.

Reception Come in and Count	10 th Jan 2.45pm
Y3 and Y6 Read and Feed	10 th Jan 3.00pm
TenTen: How to talk to your child about pornography @ Junior school	11th Jan 6.00pm
SEND and pastoral pop-in @ Junior school for the whole Federation	17 th Jan 2pm
Y1 and Y5 Read & Feed	17 th Jan 2.45pm (Y1) and 3.00pm (Y5)
Y4 With You Always session	17 th Jan 3.30-4.30pm
Y4 Read & Feed	24 th Jan 3.00pm
Y4W Class Prayer and liturgy	29 th Jan 9.10am
Y2 Read and Feed	31 st Jan 2.45pm
NSPCC number day	2 nd Feb – further information to follow
Y1M Class Prayer and liturgy	2nd Feb 9.05am
Children's mental health week	WB 5 th Feb
Safer internet day	6 th Feb
Infants' Parents Evening	6th Feb 3.45pm –6pm
EYFS Read and Feed	7 th Feb 2.45pm
Infants' & Juniors' Parents Evening	7 th Feb 3.45pm –6pm
Juniors' Parents Evening	8 th Feb 3.45pm onwards
Federation Art exhibition. All children will be producing a piece of art work during the week for you to view and buy.	9 th Feb 8.30am-9,30am



This week's prayer and liturgy theme:

News for Now!

w/c 22nd January

Drop what you're doing and come now! Jesus gives us the best news and this is His invitation - to listen to Him, turn back to Him and believe what He tells us because the kingdom of God is close at hand.

Mark 1:14-20

- You might like to talk to your child/ren about some amazing news that they have experienced e.g. the birth of a new sibling, them passing their spelling test, or getting a new pet. Then talk about the Good News – that God loves us, and Jesus shows us the way to a new life with God.
- In the Gospel, the first disciples dropped everything to follow Jesus. When something comes up that is really important to us, we can be quick to change our plans. You might want to talk about times when a family member had to drop everything and change plans quickly e.g. a parent leaving work to collect a sick child from school. Ask your child, what news would make them drop everything.

TAKEHOME



In the news this week

Motorists in Britain could be completing journeys using driverless cars by 2026 the transport secretary, Mark Harper, has predicted. He believes that fully autonomous vehicles, in which people become passengers in their own cars, will arrive in the UK that year and follow a gradual rollout. The government introduced a bill in a speech by King Charles III that paved the way for autonomous cars, without a safety driver, after pressure from industry, MPs, and Sir Patrick Vallance in his recent review of technology regulation.

Things to talk about at home ...

- Do you think you would like to travel in a self-driving vehicle?
- Make a list of the positives and negatives of self-driving vehicles.
- Do you believe we will see more self-driving vehicles on the roads over the next few years?

Please note any interesting thoughts or comments