



St. John the Baptist
Catholic Primary School

We will prepare the way by loving, living and learning with the Lord



"Go throughout the whole world and preach the Gospel to all people" Mark 16:15

Newsletter

This half term's virtues are:

Friday 19.06.20

Intentional

and

Prophetic

Phased Return to School

Well, it's still very quiet around school but lovely to see our children gradually returning. Year Six and Year One have been amazing; they have adapted so well and have really supported us in implementing and maintaining our new social distancing measures. We look forward to welcoming back children from Reception next week. You will have now heard that the government has decided that no further year groups will be returning to school before we break up for summer. We understand that will have been disappointing news for some of you but we are required to follow government guidelines when given. We await news on new guidance about the situation for our return in September.

Please rest assured that we cannot wait to have everyone back at St. John's and to get back to normal however this cannot be the case until we are told it is completely safe to do so. As soon as we hear about the government's intention for September we will inform you immediately so that you too can begin to plan.

Hand Sanitiser

Please can we remind you that **children should not bring hand sanitiser into school**. Hand sanitiser has a very high alcohol content (60-95%) and can cause alcohol poisoning if ingested leading to low blood sugar, seizures, coma and even death. We have hand sanitiser available to all of our bubbles, in their base classrooms. It is always administered under adult supervision to ensure regular and safe use. Thank you for your support in this matter.

Social Distancing

As you will be aware, all of our staff have worked incredibly hard to put a broad range of social distancing measures in place for children who are attending school. We are following all current government guidelines strictly. This includes placing groups of children into small social bubbles that do not have any contact with any other children or staff when they are in school. In doing this, we can ensure that the risk of cross infection and the spread of any outbreak of Coronavirus is limited or hopefully avoided.

However, some of our children are clearly telling us that they are playing out and mixing with their friends regularly outside of school - this includes children across different bubbles. We recognise that this has been a difficult and for some a lonely time **but allowing children from different households to mix is currently illegal**. It also seriously compromises our efforts to keep each of our social bubbles safe. We urge you to support social distancing guidelines and to support us in preventing any potential local rise in Coronavirus cases. If we all follow the guidelines, we will be able to return back to normal more quickly.

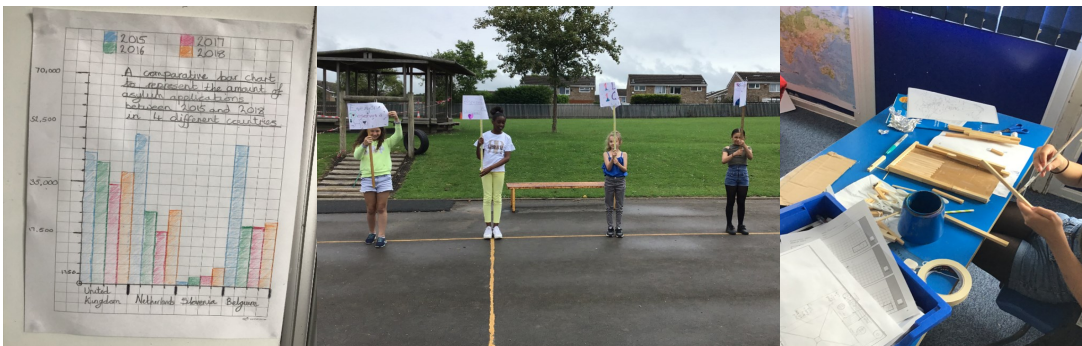
Year 1 - Prayerful Reflection

This week we welcomed back some of our Year 1 children, of course it was wonderful to see them back at school and even better to see the glorious colour bursting display of art work they produced! Created using oil pastels and a step by step approach during a time of prayerful reflection. Well done children.



Year 6 Activities

This week Year 6 children have explored the plight of refugees as part of 'Refugee Week'. The children compared applications for asylum across various countries, organised and held a protest about welcoming refugees to the UK and SJB and made more durable and stable refugee shelters. Look for more about the topic of refugees coming up on our Twitter page @RefugeeWeek.



Year 6 - PE

Year 6 having fun during one of their PE lessons.



Birthdays



Happy birthday this week to: Logan M, James H, Laila L, Esmae-Dolly P, Amelia H and Billy M.

Excellent Work

Year 6 have been looking at what it means to be a refugee and the struggles they face. The work below has been created by Litzy D. The work includes a letter written as a refugee, information showing what percentage of refugees different countries take and a discursive piece based on the story 'Orphans of the Tide'.

Should Seth be welcomed into the city?

If you have read Orphans of the Tide, a boy named Seth is fighting for his life. The city leaders (called the inquisitors) want to execute him as they fear he might be "The Vessel". But should they do that, or should they give him a chance and welcome him as a refugee?

Many people think that Seth is not the vessel as they should give him a second chance. They think this because his only concern about his family when he came to this "only" city. He was an innocent boy no one knows what he did in his past. People do think to themselves he was clearly upset and that he was only a child. What harm could he do?

The other side of the story is that people fear he is "The Vessel" because he came out of a whale without any oxygen and they do not know how long he was in there for. They never met the person he is a stranger to them they never know if he could turn on them if they give him a second chance. Furthermore, people think he could be acting as if he does not know what is happening just for an act. Moreover, he could turn on them whenever he likes. He could let the ENEMY kill them. How did he get in the whale if he is not the vessel?

However, they could tell he was scared and upset why would the enemy choose a scared little boy as his power to return. He clearly only cares about his family then the crowd staring at him. What could he do to them he was stuck in a whale for how long. He looks like he has not ate for days let alone beating him up and wanting him dead for no crimes he has done that we do not know about. What happens if he has something wrong with him?

On the other hand, he could have carried a disease in our country as we know. People think he could be dangerous to them and a threat to their kids, family and city. Either way, where did he come from if where the "only" city the only way is he has been sent by the enemy. In fact, he was sent here he was ordered to come here and attack us at any moment when they do not expect it to happen. Yet that is why we should kill him and burn him alive. Could he be the vessel?

In my opinion, I think they should give him a chance not knowing what has happened in his past life or what he has done. He could be the god of the sea and be sent here to help them with the enemy. Put the guardsmen to watch his every step to make sure he is not talking to himself or doing anything bad.

By Litzy.

SYRIAN

My name is Litzy. I'm a 11 year old girl and I was forced to leave my country due to war condition. I was sad because this was my childhood home and it's going to be destroyed. I am going to Turkey it might be expensive but it's better condition than Egypt. Our flights took a large chunk of money during our first week there. A smuggler came up to me saying he could get us to Greece for £3,000 per person. It was very tempting but I refuse to pay him. Just so he didn't scam us. Once again we have another choice we could travel by sea and less chance of getting caught or by land and high risk. I was tired so I picked sea. My kids were hurting me. There were 500 people on the boat after a long day on sea the boat broke down. The guard only could make one call because his battery was low. I could call the Coastguards or Smuggler I decided on coastguard because the smuggler could just leave us here. The Greek coastguard didn't come but the Turkish coastguard did. I am now at the refugee camp.

	Country	Refugees (1000s)	Population (1000s)	% of Population
1.	France	305	66896	0.456%
2.	Germany	669	82648	0.808%
3.	Jordan	2861	9456	30.26%
4.	Lebanon	1477	6007	24.59%
5.	Turkey	2869	79512	3.608%
6.	U.K	119	65657	0.181%

Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time

God of all, you watch over us all with so much care. Help us to feel that you are near in all that we do. Help us to remember that everyone is precious in your sight.

In this Sunday's gospel, we hear about how God takes care of us no matter who we are. We are reminded that God is with us in every part of our lives so we should not be afraid.

Jesus said: "So do not be afraid of people. Whatever is now covered up will be uncovered, and every secret will be made known. What I am telling you in the dark you must repeat in broad daylight, and what you have heard in private you must announce from the housetops. Do not be afraid of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; rather be afraid of God, who can destroy both body and soul in hell. For only a penny you can buy two sparrows, yet not one sparrow falls to the ground without your Father's consent. As for you, even the hairs of your head have all been counted. So do not be afraid; you are worth much more than many sparrows!"

"For those who declare publicly that they belong to me, I will do the same before my Father in heaven. But if anyone rejects me publicly, I will reject him before my Father in heaven."

Jesus' friends were afraid and didn't know what to do. They felt that they weren't very important and that God may not look after them. But Jesus told his friends that they were worth more than many sparrows. If we ever feel afraid, we can remember those sparrows in the gospel and be reminded that God loves us even more.

Jesus also said that, because God was looking after them, his friends need not be afraid to speak up and tell everybody about Him and the things he said.



God loves us all and so we are called to take care of one another, to love one another, no matter where in the world that we are. We are also called to protect and care for the earth, so that everyone can share in the good things that God has given us.

God of life, help us to see the beauty of your world, and to treat all people around the world with respect and love. May we share your hope and love with others.

Amen.

Headteacher: Mr.I.Gallagher

Arran Way, Smiths Wood, Birmingham B36 0QE

Telephone: 0121 770 1892 Fax: 0121 779 7177

Email: office@sjb.solihull.sch.uk

www.sjb.solihull.sch.uk

I. Gallagher

Mr I. Gallagher
Headteacher

