



St. John the Baptist
Catholic Primary School

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



"In the beginning the word already existed; the Word was with God, and the Word was God" John 1:1

Newsletter

This half term's virtues are:

Friday 09.10.20

Curious

and

Active

Feast of St. John Henry Newman



Today sees the first Feast Day of St. John Henry Newman since his canonisation last year.

It will be a great day for celebration especially for our local Catholic secondary school.

St John Henry Newman, pray for us.

Harvest Donations - Non-Uniform Day



We will be holding a non-uniform day on Friday 16 October to encourage donations for our 'Virtual Harvest Festival.' Can we ask that the following classes donate specified items so we can really help our chosen charity, Sifa Fireside in Birmingham: Friday is PE day for Year 5 children and although we usually ask for our school PE kit plus blue/black tracksuits to be worn, for non-uniform day we will allow Year 5 children to wear their choice of kit but it must be suitable attire for a PE lesson.

Early Years - Dried Pasta

Year 1 - Dried Rice

Year 2 - Tinned soup

Year 3 - Tinned vegetables

Year 4 - Sugar

Year 5 - Tea

Year 6 - Coffee

Dates for your Diary

Friday 16th October

All day - non uniform day (Harvest donations)

Monday 19th October

All day - Inset Day (school closed to children)

Friday 23rd October

2.00pm - Break up for October Half Term

Monday 2nd November

8.55am - Children return to school

Friday 18th December

2.00pm - Break up for Christmas Holiday

Monday 4th January

All day - Inset Day (school closed to children)

Tuesday 5th January

8.55am - Children return to school

Friday 12th February

2.00pm - Break up for half term

Monday 22nd February

All day - Inset Day (school closed to children)

Tuesday 23rd February

8.55am - Children return to school

Online Safety - tip of the week!

Online safety hero says...



*Always keep your passwords
and personal information safe!*

*Use different passwords that
have a mixture of capital and
lowercase letters with numbers
and symbols.*

#beinternetsecure



Sports Star of the Week

This week's Sports Star of the Week is Thomas O'K in Reception for trying his best.



STARS OF THE WEEK!

Congratulations to Zach P in

Year 1,

and

De'On M in

Year 3.

We're all really proud of you.

This week's virtues awards were given to

Luca M	NN
Jacob N	Reception
Kelsey H	Year 1
Harvey E	Year 2
Danyal T	Year 3
Laceymae S & Amelia E	Year 4
Logan B	Year 5
Brodie D	Year 6

For being curious and active.

Attendance

Our school strives for 100% attendance. This week the class with the highest attendance was Year 3 with 99.3%



Well done!

Ready to learn Award



Congratulations, our most punctual class this week was Nursery, Years 2, 4, 5 & 6.

Birthdays

Happy birthday this week to: Zach H and Jordan C.

**HAPPY
BIRTHDAY**



Science Superstars



In Year 4, our current Science unit looks at the classification of animals and plants, something studied by the famous scientist Carl Linnaeus.

This week we looked at how invertebrates, animals without a backbone, are classified and went hunting for some within our school grounds. We used an identification key to recognise and classify any invertebrates we were unsure about.

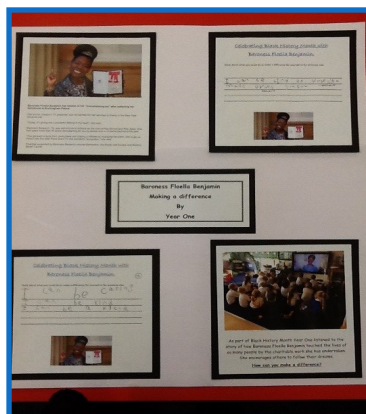
We found lots including an arachnid, molluscs and an annelid before we had to return to the classroom due to adverse weather conditions!

Maybe you could see if there are any invertebrates living in your back garden?

20 BLACK HISTORY MONTH 20



This month we are celebrating Black History Month, these pieces of work show how the children have been looking at the accomplishments of black people within the arts and sports industry and Year 5, who gathered in Collective Worship, taking time to reflect on Black History Month and keeping some famous figures who fought for equality in their prayers.



School Councillors

Our newly appointed school councillors have now been chosen. School Councillor is a very important role and we have total confidence that they will all do a fantastic job.

Reception - Ava-Rose B & Larcon-Jon B-H

Year 1 - Scarlett H & Summer B-R

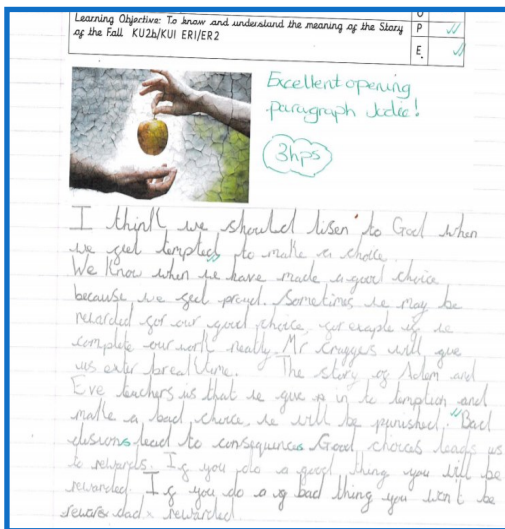
Y2 - Eloise M-S & Isaac A

Year 3 - Lacey-Rai N & Tyler-James C

Year 4 - Amelia E & Harley H

Year 5 - Joseph D & Tianna C

Year 6 - Carson D & Ini A



Excellent Work

This week's excellent work comes from Jody C in Year 6, who discussed how our actions can have positive and negative consequences.

We used the story of 'The Fall' as a stimulus. Well done Jody.

Curriculum Reports

Our subject leaders have produced wonderful reports, sharing all the fantastic events and opportunities that were provided for our children last year. Even considering lockdown, it's amazing to see just how many things took place. You can find the reports by clicking on the 'Celebrating Our Curriculum' tab on our school website homepage. I really recommend you taking the time to read them.

Parent/ Carers Consultations

We hope that you enjoyed the opportunity to talk to your child's class teacher yesterday. We're really pleased with how every child has settled back to school and has re-adapted following such a long period of time at home and we hope you are too. Please assist us in filling any gaps in learning by ensuring that your child completes all home work set and reads at home with you every day.

Remote Learning

We are currently finalising our remote learning plans, in line with recent DfE guidelines. If your child needs to self isolate in the future, either because someone in their household has tested positive for Covid-19 or in the unfortunate circumstance that school has to ask a whole class 'bubble' to isolate at home, they have the right to an education as similar as possible to the one they would receive in the classroom. This means the offering of 'live' lessons, a broad curriculum and the opportunity to receive regular feedback. We will continue to share our plans as they develop over the next few weeks. We are also committing to ensure that all families have access to the technology that they need to facilitate effective remote learning. Again, more information on this will follow.

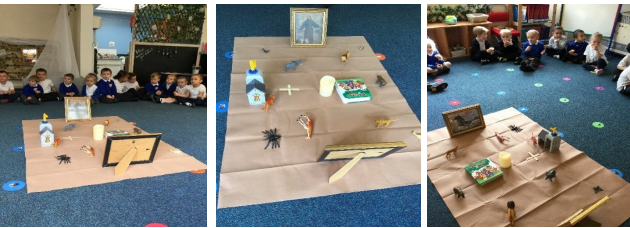
Class Activity

We thought it would be exciting to share with you just some of the fun activities and events our children have participated in this week.



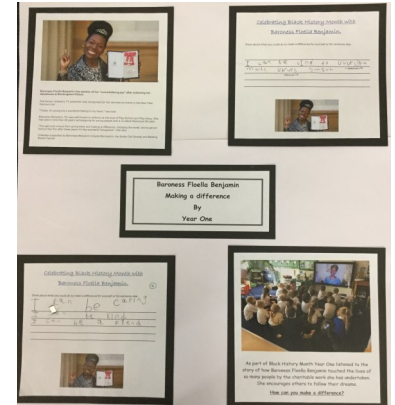
EYFS

This week the children in EYFS celebrated the feast day of St Francis of Assisi. We made a promise to try and be more caring towards others like St Francis was.



Year 1

Year 1 looked at famous black people for Black History Month.



Year 2

Year 2 are reading Man on the Moon by Simon Bartrom. We have had a series of English lessons based on this text. This week we created our own aliens to write descriptions of.



Year 3

In Year 3 this week we discussed, made fact files and created oil pastel pictures of St Paul, our class Saint. The children were excited to hear that we now have our own class Saint and researched him well. We look forward to his feast day in the new year.

Year 4

Year 4 came together within the first few weeks of school to create patches for our class banner. This week it was finally unveiled after some very hard work from Miss Ward and Mrs Turner!



Year 5

Year 5 began their music lessons this week with Mrs Roe from the Solihull Music Service. This included lots of listening skills and fun action games.



Year 6

This week in Year 6, we have been busy making our Ancient Greek pots. We looked at the origins and meanings behind the different types of pots, choosing which style we would like to emulate. To add a modern twist to our work, we will paint them using symbols and images associated with the 21st Century. We also had our first guitar lesson with Mr Edwards, where we learnt some Mexican tongue twisters! He taught us how to care for and use the guitar, whilst teaching us the difference between strings and their pitch levels. Our commitment to the Daily Mile is going strong, where we are beginning to feel both the physical and mental benefits of daily exercise 🧘♀️🧘♂️ Our Moki Bands were real encouragement, creating healthy competition amongst other classes to see who could get the most steps in during a week! We managed 200,000, which is enough steps to get us to London!



Twenty-eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

God of welcome, you invite us to follow in your ways and enter into your kingdom. May we answer your call.

Gospel: Matthew 22:1-14

Jesus again used parables in talking to the people. "The Kingdom of heaven is like this. Once there was a king who prepared a wedding feast for his son. He sent his servants to tell the invited guests to come to the feast, but they did not want to come. So he sent other servants with this message for the guests: 'My feast is ready now; my bullocks and prize calves have been butchered, and everything is ready. Come to the wedding feast!' But the invited guests paid no attention and went about their business: one went to his farm, another to his shop, while others grabbed the servants, beat them, and killed them. The king was very angry; so he sent his soldiers, who killed those murderers and burned down their city. Then he called his servants and said to them, 'My wedding feast is ready, but the people I invited did not deserve it. Now go to the main streets and invite to the feast as many people as you find.' So the servants went out into the streets and gathered all the people they could find, good and bad alike; and the wedding hall was filled with people.

"The king went in to look at the guests and saw a man who was not wearing wedding clothes. 'Friend, how did you get in here without wedding clothes?' the king asked him. But the man said nothing. Then the king told the servants, 'Tie him up hand and foot, and throw him outside in the dark. There he will cry and grind his teeth.'"

And Jesus concluded, "Many are invited, but few are chosen."

In this Sunday's gospel, Jesus tells us another parable to try and explain what the kingdom of heaven is like.

The king's son was getting married. He invited lots of people to the party but when the day came and the king sent out his servants to fetch the people they did not come. He tried again, but the people just weren't interested in coming.

So the king sent out his servants to stand in the middle of the street to invite everyone they could find to the wedding. In the end the wedding hall was filled with guests all taking part in a grand feast.

The king in Jesus' story represents God and the wedding is the kingdom of heaven. We are all invited by God to enter into the kingdom of Heaven. It is a place where everyone is welcome. But we have to be ready to go.

God asks us to be kind, to be welcoming and invite others to share in what we have so that everyone has enough food to eat and clean water to drink, to bring peace, to stand up for what is right, to care for and respect one another and to love our neighbour. By answering God's invitation and being kind and generous and welcoming and fair, we can help to reflect God's kingdom here on earth. We will help other people to see that we care for everyone, no matter who they are or where they come from, and the world will become a better, fairer place for all people to live.



Loving God, strengthen and help us as we try to say yes to your invitation to be with you, by living lives of sharing, kindness, respect and love. Amen.

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Have a lovely weekend

I. Gallagher

Mr I. Gallagher
Headteacher

Archdiocese of Birmingham

