



"In the beginning the Word already existed;  
the Word was with God, and the Word was God"

John 1:1

This half term's virtues are:

Friday 10.09.21

*Eloquent*

and

*Truthful*

## Welcome Back!

I wish you a warm welcome back as we reach the end of the first full week of this new academic year. Although we must still take care and be aware that the threat of Covid is still very much around us, it has been wonderful to feel a sense of normality return to our school days. We came together as a whole school, for the first time in eighteen months, to celebrate assembly. This was quite an emotional experience, made all the better by our children's exemplary behaviour. It was so lovely to join together in prayer and collective worship as a whole school community again. Also we truly raised the roof with our first hymn practice which again was truly joyous.

Although some routines have relaxed, we have still retained some of our previous Covid protection measures, such as splitting classes between our dining hall and hall for lunch and only having two classes on the playground at a time. If we do experience a significant outbreak of Covid within a specific group of children, then our school has a contingency plan in place which would see stricter measures put back in place.

However, to end back on a positive, behaviour this week, in all areas, has been excellent. Every child seems happy and excited to be back at school and teachers are really pleased with their effort and enthusiasm.

We have many exciting events and opportunities planned over the next few weeks and have introduced lots of new learning initiatives and resources, including: Accelerated Reader, MyOn, Power Maths and Sounds- Write Phonics to name just a few.

This September really does feel like a new beginning and we look forward to sharing lots of exciting news with you in the forthcoming weeks and months.



## Dates for your Diary

**Monday 13th - Friday 17th September**

Our Lady and All Saints Catholic Multi Academy Launch Week

**Monday 13th September**

PM - Year 1 Bikeability

All day - Reading Adventure Day

**Friday 22nd October**

2.00pm - Break up for October Half Term

**Monday 1st November**

8.55am - Children return to school

**Friday 17th December**

2.00pm - Break up for Christmas

**Wednesday 5th January**

8.55am - Children return to school

### Inset Days

**Tuesday 4th January 2022**

All day - Inset Day

**Monday 28th February 2022**

All day - Inset Day

**Monday 6th June 2022**

All day - Inset Day

*Online safety hero says...*



*Agree a clear set of rules  
about screen time to make  
sure your child isn't  
spending too much time on  
their devices.*

*#screentime*



## Sports Star of the Week



This week's Sports Star of the Week is Ashton B in Year 1 for displaying good dribbling skills in football.



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# St John's Year of Reading

We have named this academic year the 'St John's Year of Reading' as we intend to have a significant focus on this most important of skills. We have invested in new reading resources; have re-organised our school library; have installed new exciting reading areas around school and will shortly be introducing our new book exchange.

To introduce our Year of Reading with a bang we have an exciting event planned for this Monday. 'Welcome to Crow Castle' is a reading adventure day led by a group called 'Subject Revolution'. This will be an amazing event designed to engage children with books and generate a love of reading. The event brings famous books to life by combining live theatre, interactive videos, 3D designed backdrops, props and the original texts to put children right in the centre of both the stories and their own action-packed quest to escape the castle. Within the reading adventure, books are recreated as different rooms of the castle. The children must work in teams and journey into the books that have been brought magically to life and search for clues.

They will need to read, infer, comprehend, spell, scan, skim and riddle their way to freedom, or face the Crow Queen and her dragons!

I can't wait to share photographs next week!

## Welcome to Early Years!

Early Years have had a lovely start to the year. We've spent the first week exploring the learning environment and getting use to our new routines.

It's been smiles every day!



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# John Henry Newman - Open Evening

The open evening for John Henry Newman Catholic College takes place on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> September and will be a full face to face experience. Please book one of the 3 time slots (5pm, 6pm and 7pm) through this link <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/john-henry-newman-catholic-college-open-evening-tickets-169813598043> Or you can visit the website where you will also find a link to this booking form.

## New Covid-19 Isolation Guidelines

As you will be aware, schools are currently no longer required to operate a strict 'bubble' system. Before the summer, if any child or member of staff within a bubble tested positive for Covid then the whole group would be required to self-isolate. This rule has now changed.

Your child is now only required to stay at home if they have Covid 19 symptoms, are awaiting a PCR test result or have tested positive for Covid 19.

Therefore, even if we do experience limited positive cases, all children, without symptoms, even those who may have had contact with a positive case, should attend school at all times. This also applies to siblings in the same household.

## Year 1 Bikeability

Year 1 Bikeability will be taking place on Monday 13th September, children will be provided with bikes and helmets so there is no requirement for parents/carers to send them in. Your child will be coming home with a consent form today, please ensure you complete the consent form and return it to school with your child Monday morning. If we do not receive a consent form your child will not be able to take part.

## Reminder of School Times

Thank you to the vast majority of families who have adapted to the return of normal start and end of school day routines. For those who have arrived late at any point this week can I remind you that the school gates are open from 8.45am – 8.55am in the morning. Any arrivals after this time will need to sign in at the school office but please aim to adapt your morning routines to ensure that this is not necessary. At the end of the day, all classes now finish school at 3.15pm.

## PE Kits

Please ensure that your children attend PE days in school wearing correct school kit. This year, we are also asking children to wear their school jumper or cardigan so they look smart. Football kits and other branded sportswear are not permitted. When the weather turns colder children are allowed to wear black or dark blue, non-branded tracksuits.



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## STARS OF THE WEEK!

**Congratulations to**

**Jax R**

**in Year 1**

**and Leon McG**

**in Year 4**

**We're all really proud of you.**

**This week's virtues awards were given to**

<b>Ava D</b>	<b>Reception</b>
<b>Larcon-Jon B-H</b>	<b>Year 1</b>
<b>Scarlett H</b>	<b>Year 2</b>
<b>Miley M-D</b>	<b>Year 3</b>
<b>Emelia K-D &amp; William N</b>	<b>Year 4</b>
<b>Luke K</b>	<b>Year 5</b>
<b>Devon M</b>	<b>Year 6</b>

**For being Eloquent and Truthful**

### Attendance



Our school strives for 100% attendance. This week the class with the highest attendance was Year 4 with 98.6%

*Well done!*

### Ready to learn Award



Congratulations, our most punctual classes this week was Reception.



### Birthdays

Happy birthday this week to: Daisy-Mae W, Johnathan D, Larcon-Jon B-H, Tia-May B and Malala H.



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## Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

*Christ Jesus, you call us to follow you. May we have the courage to answer that call, even in the most difficult times.*

In this Sunday's gospel, we hear about how it is not always easy to follow Jesus or to accept what God wants to happen in our lives. Even Peter, one of Jesus's disciples found it difficult at times.

### **Gospel: Mark 8:27-35**

*Then Jesus and his disciples went away to the villages near Caesarea Philippi. On the way he asked them, "Tell me, who do people say I am?"*

*"Some say that you are John the Baptist," they answered; "others say that you are Elijah, while others say that you are one of the prophets."*

*"What about you?" he asked them. "Who do you say I am?" Peter answered, "You are the Messiah." Then Jesus ordered them, "Do not tell anyone about me."*

*Then Jesus began to teach his disciples: "The Son of Man must suffer much and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the teachers of the Law. He will be put to death, but three days later he will rise to life." He made this very clear to them. So Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. But Jesus turned around, looked at his disciples, and rebuked Peter. "Get away from me, Satan," he said. "Your thoughts don't come from God but from human nature!" Then Jesus called the crowd and his disciples to him. "If any of you want to come with me," he told them, "you must forget yourself, carry your cross, and follow me. For if you want to save your own life, you will lose it; but if you lose your life for me and for the gospel, you will save it."*

Peter believed that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God. He had faith in Jesus. But then Jesus started to tell the disciples about what would happen to him. That he would suffer and be killed, but that after three days he would rise again. Peter struggled to believe all this - he did not want to believe that his friend, the Son of God, would suffer and die.

Peter felt afraid that Jesus might leave them. And he wanted to protect Jesus from harm because he cared about him.

It is sometimes hard to do what God wants us to do, just like it was for Peter, because we are afraid, and we do not want to get hurt, or for those that we love to be hurt.

Jesus tells us that it will not always be easy to follow him, but that we must have courage, because God will always be with us.

What will you do over the coming week to show that you follow Jesus?



*God of light, as we try to follow you, give us the courage to reach out and help others, so that we can build a fairer world. Amen.*

Have a lovely weekend.

*I. Gallagher*

Mr I. Gallagher  
Headteacher