



*"The word became a human being and, full of grace and truth, lived among us"*  
John 1:14

This half term's virtues are:

Friday 03.12.21

*Learned*

and

*Wise*



## Second Sunday of Advent

This Sunday marks the second week of Advent and the lighting of the Bethlehem candle, as a reminder of Mary and Joseph's journey to Bethlehem.

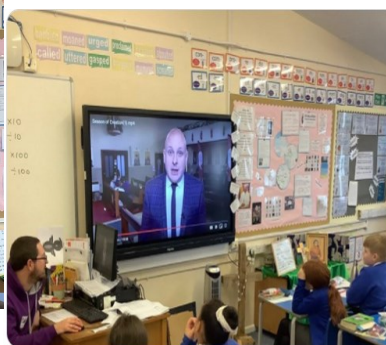
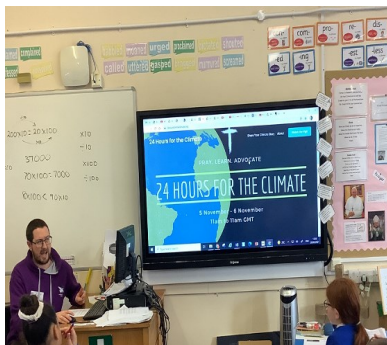
Here at St John's we have been praying together as we journey towards the final week of Advent, reminding ourselves that Advent is an excellent way to prepare our minds and hearts for Christmas.

## COP26 Workshop - Year 5

On Monday Year 5 worked with James from the Academy.

He shared lots of information about his experiences at COP 26 along with loads of videos and photographs from different parts of the world where he visited to support poor communities.

We learned about ways in which we can all help to save the planet.



# Class Activities - Early Years

EYFS welcomed December with snow! We had a fantastic time on Monday and decided to hold off our initial plans for the day and make the most of the rare weather conditions.

We watched a clip of 'The Snowman' and then went and made our very own snowman and dog (and threw a few snowballs!). We talked about what might happen that night and where he may travel. We then warmed up with a cup of hot chocolate.

We decorated our classroom ready for Christmas and we learned all about Advent and other ways we can prepare for the special day. We focused on the real meaning of Christmas and why it is such a special, holy time – Jesus, God's son was born.

We created Christingles to remind us of our faith during this time and looked at the beautiful Advent Wreath we have in our school hall...We are now in full preparation mode for Jesus' birthday with our Christmas production just around the corner and we cannot wait to share with parents!



## CAFOD - Advent Activity

### Second week of Advent

"Someone is shouting in the desert: 'Get the road ready for the Lord; make a straight path for him to travel.'" Luke 3:4

#### Create your own bauble

The gospel this week calls us to get ready for Jesus. Write or draw on your bauble what you will try to do differently this Advent to get ready for Jesus.

#### A straight path

Gather some pebbles and decorate them with words or images that remind you what Advent is all about: "hope", "peace", "joy", "love", "prepare" and think about how you will get ready for Jesus.

Make a straight path with your decorated pebbles in your home or outside to remind others who see them what this season is all about.

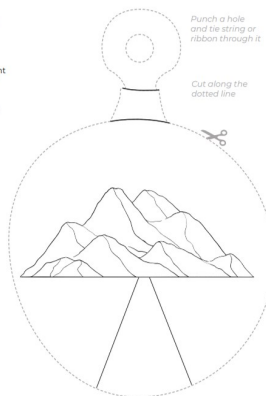
#### Prayer

Light two purple candles on your Advent wreath this week and say this prayer together as a family:

Patience God, you gave John the Baptist a special job to do, to get people ready for the coming of Jesus. Hear our prayers as we prepare:

(share your family's intentions here)

Help us to get our hearts ready for Jesus. Amen.



Punch a hole and tie string or ribbon through it

Cut along the dotted line

**CAFOD** Catholic Agency for Overseas Development

Charity no 160284 and a company limited by guarantee no 05587388

Our second Advent activity for you to enjoy completing with your child.



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# Science Superstars

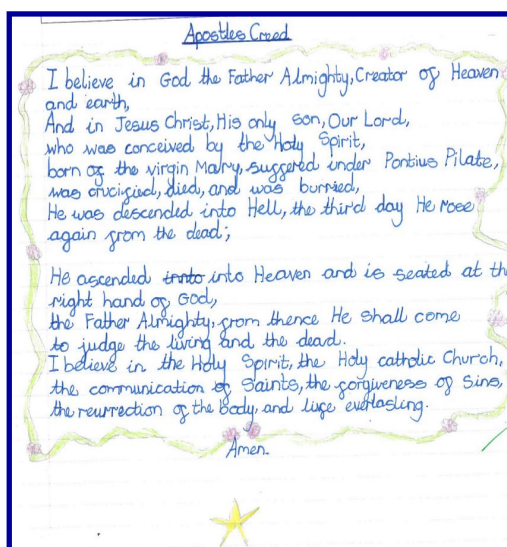
Year 3 predicted which materials are magnetic and carried out an investigation to test our predictions. We observed how magnets attract some materials and not others.

We investigated the north and south poles of magnets using bar magnets. We found that opposite poles pull towards each other (attract) whilst the same poles push away (repel) each other.



## Excellent Work

This week's excellent work comes from Hareem T in Year 5.



## Christmas Dinner

Children will have the option of a delicious Christmas dinner with all the trimmings next Wednesday, 8th December.

The price of a school meal is £2.05 for Nursery children and £2.20 for children in Year 3-6. There will be no charge for children who are universal free school meals (Reception-Year2) or children who are free school meal eligible in Year 3-6.



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## Dates for your Diary

**Monday 6th - Friday 10th December**

Loving Week

**Thursday 9th December**

2.50pm - KS2 children singing to parents/carers

**Friday 10th December**

All day - Non-uniform day - 50p per child school fund (as no Christmas Fayre)

**Tuesday 14th December**

Whole school pantomime - virtual

**Friday 17th December**

All day - Non-uniform day (Christmas jumper day) no donation required

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

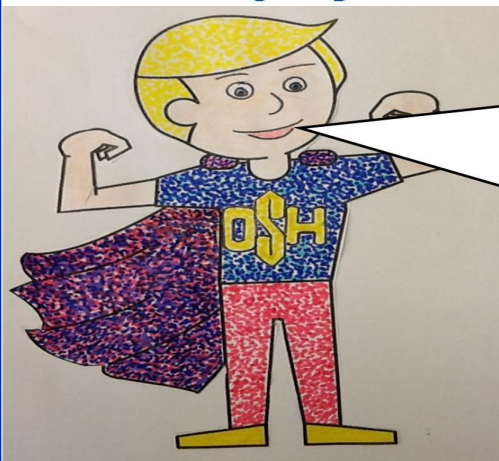
**Monday 28th February 2022**

All day - Inset Day

**Monday 6th June 2022**

All day - Inset Day

## Online safety hero says...



*If you have never met an online friend, how do you know they are who they say they are?*

*Always tell a trusted adult if you are not sure.*

(Taken from eCadet assembly about Online Friendships)

*#onlinefriendships*



## Sports Star of the Week



This week's Sports Star of the Week is Ruairi T in Nursery for excellent effort in team work.



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## STARS OF THE WEEK!

Congratulations to

Zach P

in Year 2

and Ruby M

in Year 6

We're all really proud of you

This week's virtues awards were given to

Benjamin H

Nursery

Tillie-Renae H

Reception

Tommy K

Year 1

Evelyn H

Year 2

Eloise M-S

Year 3

Olly K

Year 4

Aidan H

Year 5

Quenten G

Year 6

For being Learned and Wise.

### Attendance



Our school strives for 100% attendance. This week the class with the highest attendance was Year 4 with 96.2% *Well done!*



### Ready to learn Award

Congratulations, our most punctual class this week was Nursery and Year 6.



### Birthdays

Happy birthday this week to: Isaac A, Cassidy G and Tyler A.



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## Second Sunday of Advent

*Loving God, you want the whole world to welcome Jesus. Help us to prepare for his coming by changing our lives for the better. We make this prayer to you through Christ our Lord.*

In this Sunday's gospel, we are told that someone very special is coming. John the Baptist, our school patron saint, tries to help people get ready for this special person.

**Gospel:** Luke 3:1-6

*It was the fifteenth year of the rule of the Emperor Tiberius; Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip was ruler of the territory of Iturea and Trachonitis; Lysanias was ruler of Abilene, and Annas and Caiaphas were High Priests. At that time the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the desert. So John went throughout the whole territory of the River Jordan, preaching, "Turn away from your sins and be baptized, and God will forgive your sins." As it is written in the book of the prophet Isaiah:*

*"Someone is shouting in the desert:*

*'Get the road ready for the Lord;*

*make a straight path for him to travel!*

*Every valley must be filled up,*

*every hill and mountain levelled off.*

*The winding roads must be made straight,*

*and the rough paths made smooth.*

*The whole human race will see God's salvation!"*

God speaks to John the Baptist while he was in the desert. In response to this, he goes round to the people and tells them to be prepared for the coming of Jesus. He offers to baptise them so that their sins will be forgiven.

Advent is a time when we think about our actions and try to make sure that we are ready for the coming of Jesus. We think about what we could do better and try to make a change to our lives.



How will you make a difference to your own lives and to the lives of others around you this week as you prepare for the coming of Jesus this Advent?

*Merciful God, you sent John the Baptist to prepare the people for the coming of your Son, Jesus. Help us to get ready as well. Lead us to make positive changes in our lives and the lives of others around the world. Amen.*

Have a lovely weekend.

*I. Gallagher*

Mr I. Gallagher  
Headteacher