



"Here is the light you will reveal to the nations"

Luke 2: 32

This half term's virtues are:

Friday 07.01.22

Curious

and

Active

Welcome Back!

Welcome back and Happy New Year! I hope that you all enjoyed a happy and festive Christmas break. I'm sure that just like everyone at St John's you have now set new goals and aspirational ambitions for the forthcoming year. Our main aim is that every child has the best possible opportunity to catch up on time missed at school over the past two years. We continue with our catch up and keep up plans and will have more to share with you about these in the future.

We are introducing our brand new curriculum from this week. The Primary Knowledge Curriculum is designed to offer exciting themes and opportunities, whilst being very knowledge and fact based. All subjects are taught separately and have very clear learning goals. Our curriculum has been chosen following lots of research and we believe it will suit our children's needs perfectly. Exciting times!

Please support your child in their learning and progress by ensuring they are on time for school each day and attend every day unless they are genuinely too ill to leave the house. We will be focusing strongly on attendance and punctuality this term, as we aim to get back to as normal a school life as possible. Your support in this area really does make a difference.

Covid Update

As you will be aware there have been some recent changes to national policy regarding self-isolation for those who test positive for Covid-19 and for those who are close contacts. From 22nd December anyone in England who tests positive, can stop isolation if they:

- Take two consecutive LFD tests, at least 24 hours apart, with the first test on at least day 6 of their self-isolation
- Obtain negative results on both these days
- Do not have a high temperature

Unvaccinated adult contacts still need to self-isolate for 10 days and get a PCR test.

Fully vaccinated contacts and children between 5 -18 years do not need to self-isolate following contact with a positive case but are advised to do daily LFD tests for 7 days. As far as school is concerned, this means that if someone in your household tests positive for Covid-19, children can still attend school, but we ask that, where possible, they take an LFD test for 7 days to ensure they are Covid free.

As a fully vaccinated parent/ carer, you can bring your child to school (following contact with a positive case) but we ask that you definitely take an LFD test every day for 7 days, to ensure you are Covid free, before coming on to the school site.

Thank you for your on-going support



Class Activities - EYFS

EYFS returned to class with a very exciting week! We found a baby penguin covered in snow! The children enjoyed imagining where our new friend was visiting from and recorded some fantastic questions to ask him.

We also read the story 'Lost and Found' and created music to match different parts of the story. We had some new Nursery children join our unit and we can't wait to continue our learning journey throughout Spring term!



Booktastic! - Vending Machine

This week we officially launched our new book vending machine! Children will be able to earn a specific number of points by answering quiz questions based on books they've read and once they've earned the required number of points, will be issued with a token which they can use to choose a book to keep forever!

Pictured are some of our children using their token to select a book of their choosing. With a lovely selection of fantastic new books the children are eager to start earning points and more importantly, get reading!



Cold Weather Clothing

Due to the increasingly cold weather, please can you ensure that your child attends school with suitable clothing i.e. hats, scarves and gloves. Tights may also be preferable to girls.



Dates for your Diary

Wednesday 19th January 2022

Height & Weight Checks - Reception & Y6 children

Friday 18th February 2022

2.00pm - Break up for February Half term

Tuesday 1st March 2022

8.55am - Children return to school

Friday 8th April 2022

2.00pm - Break up for Easter Holiday

Monday 25th April

8.55am - Children return to school

Inset Days

Monday 28th February 2022

All day - Inset Day

Monday 6th June 2022

All day - Inset Day

Online safety hero says...



Playing games online with your friends is the same as playing with them in real life.

Be Kind, be fair and if something happens that upsets you—Tell a trusted adult.

#bekind #onlinegaming



Sports Star of the Week



This week's Sports Star of the Week is Shay M-W in Reception for great all-round effort in first lesson of the new year.



Our Lady and All Saints
Catholic Multi Academy Company
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Support for all parents & carers in Solihull

BEING A PARENT GROUPS

New 'Being a Parent' groups will be starting in soon, delivered virtually via Microsoft Teams. Commencing with a welcome session, the group will then run weekly for a further 8 sessions:

Tuesday	10am - 11.30am	0-9 years	25/1/22 – 29/3/22
Tuesday	6pm - 7.30pm	9 years plus	25/1/22 – 29/3/22
Wednesday	6pm - 7.30pm	0-9 years	26/1/22 – 30/3/22
Thursday	10am – 11.30am	9 years plus	27/1/22 – 31/3/22

Re-assuring to know
other parents have
worries & concerns
and it's not just me

I thought I might be
judged, how wrong I
was - it was relaxed,
open and non-
judgemental



The 'BEING A PARENT'

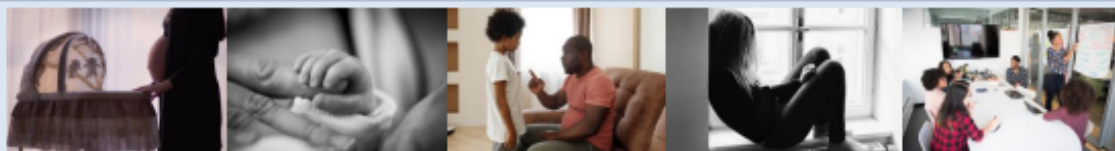
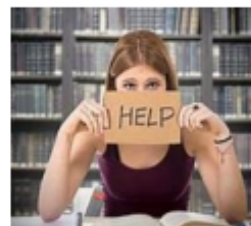
Groups are led by trained parent volunteers, and aim to help you to manage challenging behaviour, improve communication, build and understand your relationship with your child.

A supportive group where parents & carers of children aged 0-18 years can meet in a relaxed & friendly environment without their children, the sessions will run for 90 minutes via Microsoft Teams.

The weekly sessions give parents the opportunity to support one another, as well as share knowledge & experiences with the help of tried and tested resources from the 'Empowering Parents, Empowering Communities' programme.

Click on the link to
find out what parents
think of the groups:
[Being a Parent
summary](#)

Book your place now, or find out more by
contacting the Solihull Parenting Team at:
bsmhft.parenting@nhs.net
or by finding us on Facebook – Solihull
Parenting Team



ANTENATAL * POSTNATAL * UNDERSTANDING YOUR CHILD * BEING A PARENT * UNDERSTANDING MENTAL HEALTH





STARS OF THE WEEK!

Congratulations to

Kane S

in Year 2

and James H

in Year 3

We're all really proud of you

This week's virtues awards were given to

Eva-Rose H

Nursery

Evangeline F

Reception

Paisley McK

Year 1

Chloe H

Year 2

Charlie M

Year 3

William N

Year 4

Tyler T

Year 6

For being Curious and Active.

Attendance



Our school strives for 100% attendance. This week the class with the highest attendance was Nursery with 98.3% *Well done!*



Ready to learn Award

Congratulations, our most punctual class this week was Nursery.



Birthdays

Happy birthday this week to: Riley T and Zach P.



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Catholic Multi Academy Company
Strong in Faith

Baptism of the Lord

God of heaven and earth, you sent your Son Jesus to lead us to you. Send your Holy Spirit into our hearts so that we may have faith and courage to follow Jesus in all that we do.

In this Sunday's gospel, we hear about Jesus' Baptism and about something very special that happened after it, as he was filled with the Holy Spirit.

Gospel: Luke 3:15-16, 21-22

People's hopes began to rise, and they began to wonder whether John perhaps might be the Messiah. So John said to all of them, "I baptise you with water, but someone is coming who is much greater than I am. I am not good enough even to untie his sandals. He will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire. After all the people had been baptised, Jesus also was baptised. While he was praying, heaven was opened, and the Holy Spirit came down upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my own dear Son. I am pleased with you."

Jesus is the Son of God and he is filled with the Holy Spirit. We are all God's children and we are also filled with the Holy Spirit at our baptism.

The Holy Spirit can help to make us brave and to bring us joy. Just as we can tell that a tree is good because of the fruit that grows on it, we can tell if the Holy Spirit is working in us by the way that we act and how we treat other people.

Some fruits of the Spirit are love, peace, kindness and generosity. How do you think you can be kind, loving and generous to others? How can you bring peace?



We are all God's children no matter where in the world we live, no matter where we come from or what we look like, whether we are rich or poor. We are all members of the same family. And so we try to be loving, kind, generous and bring peace to all people. In this way, we hope that others will be able to see the fruits of the Holy Spirit and our baptism in all that we do.

God of love, as we gather at your table, we give thanks for your love. Fill us with your Holy Spirit and help us to show your love to others in all that we do. Amen.

Have a lovely weekend.

I. Gallagher

Mr I. Gallagher
Headteacher