



"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 25.11.22

Faith-Filled

and

Hopeful

Rights and Responsibilities (linking to Mary and Joseph having to travel to Bethlehem and being displaced and International Migrants day 18.12)

All God's people have the right to food, work, clothes, a home, school and medical care. These 'rights' are things that every person on earth needs in order to live a full life. But many people do not have them. Jesus wants people who enjoy these rights to help their sisters and brothers obtain their rights. It is not enough to feel badly for others. Jesus says it is our responsibility to see that everyone receives his or her rights.

Focus Hymns – 'Were you there?' and 'When I Needed a Neighbour'

Confirmation



Yesterday some of our Year 6 children along with children from Guardian Angels joined together to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation, with Bishop David Evans welcomed as Celebrant.

It was a joyous and special occasion witnessed by family, friends and the community of St John's and Guardian Angels.



*You are sealed with
the Holy Spirit of
Promise.*

*God has set His seal
upon you and no-one
can undo that seal.*

Eph. 1:13b



Class Activities - EYFS

EYFS have enjoyed lots of RE learning this week. We have learned all about Noah's Ark, saying sorry and the Hail Mary prayer! The children have worked really hard making their own ark after all of the terrible rain this week but also we have tried to extend our knowledge of the Hail Mary prayer by Finding out the meaning of words such as 'sinners' and 'Hail'. RE is one of our favourite subjects and we are going forth this week by trying to be more like Jesus.



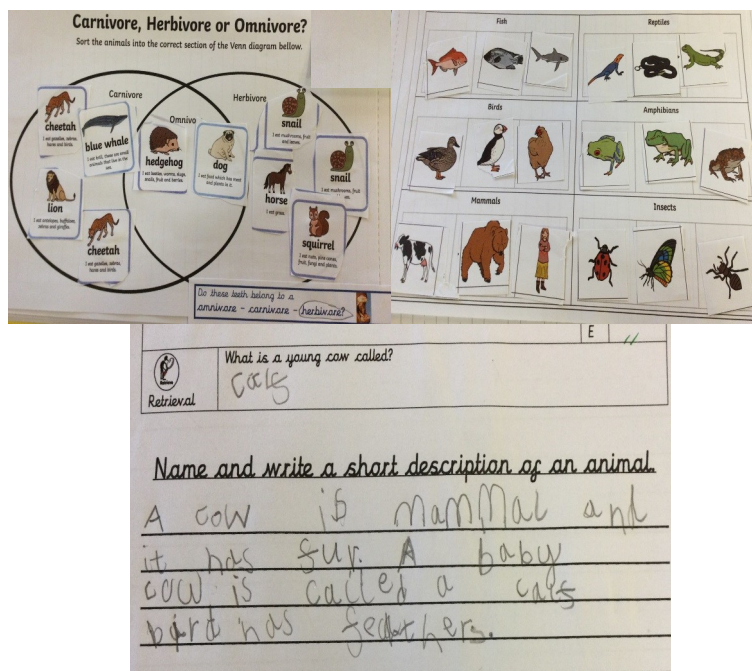
Science Superstars

Year 1's science unit this half term is Animals and their needs.

They have been exploring and describing different animals, putting them into their scientific categories such as reptiles, birds and mammals.

As well as, looking at what animals eat such as meat and plants. the children have been putting different animals into groups - herbivores (eat plants), carnivores (eat other animals) and omnivores (eat both other animals and plants).

Fantastic work Year 1. You are all science superstars. Well done!



Our Pope's Prayer Intentions

November

Children Who Suffer

We pray for children who are suffering, especially those who are homeless, orphans, and victims of war; may they be guaranteed access to education and the opportunity to experience family affection.



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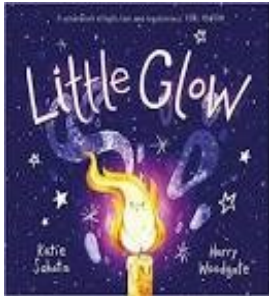
Mr G's Recommended Reads

Mr G's Recommended Reads....

This week my choices are inspired by the lighting of the first Advent candle, this Sunday.

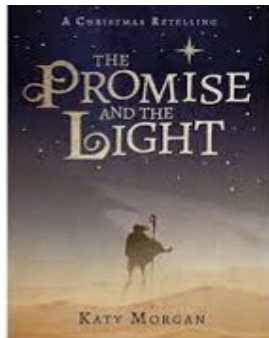
For our younger readers...

'Little Glow' by Sonia Sohta and Harry Woodgate



A rhyming celebration of hope, told through the eyes of an introverted lead character, observing the inspiring ways an inclusive community celebrates light through the year.

For our older readers...



'The Promise and the Light' by Katy Morgan

What if you were visited by an angel one night who told you that you were to give birth to the Son of God? How would you feel? What might you think?

Written as a series of vivid and dramatic first-person accounts, The Promise and The Light tells the stories of Mary, Joseph and Zechariah as they experience the events of the first Christmas. Written in a lively and engaging style, this imaginative yet biblically faithful book will captivate children aged 8-12.

Readers will be able to get inside the hearts and minds of some of the key players in the Christmas story and will appreciate the power and excitement of what happened and why it is so amazing for us today.

With 25 chapters, readers may choose to read a chapter a day during Advent.

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Christmas Holidays Ho Ho Ho

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Reminder - Non-Uniform Days

Please see below dates for the remaining Christmas Fayre non-uniform days along with the relevant donation request.

Friday 2nd December - donate chocolate

Friday 9th December - donate cakes



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Dates for your Diary

Friday 2nd December

All day - Non-uniform Day (donate chocolate for Christmas Fayre)

Friday 9th December

All day - Non-uniform Day (donate cakes for Christmas Fayre)

3.15pm - Christmas Fayre

Wednesday 14th December

School Christmas Dinner

Friday 16th December

2.00pm - Break up for Christmas holiday

Wednesday 4th January

8.55am - Children return to school

Inset days 2022 - 2023

Tuesday 3rd January 2023

Monday 27th February 2023

Monday 5th June 2023

National Online Safety

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

TIKTOK

TIKTOK is a free social media platform that lets users create, share and watch short videos ranging anywhere from 15 seconds to 10 minutes in duration. The app gained notoriety for its viral dances, trends and celebrity cameos and can be a creative, fun platform for teens to enjoy. However, it is also known for its addictive nature and has been linked to mental health issues. It is important for parents and carers to be aware of the risks and to provide guidance to their children.

AGE RESTRICTION
13+
(Content features are restricted to over-18s only)

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

- AGE-INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT**
While TikTok's 'following' feed only displays videos from users teenagers follow, the 'For You' feed will therefore be highly targeted and potentially inappropriate. It is also possible that children will be exposed to content that is not suitable for their age group. The app's algorithm is designed to show content that is similar to what the user has watched, so the more videos they watch, the more similar content they will see. This can lead to a cycle of watching increasingly inappropriate content.
- DANGEROUS CHALLENGES**
Due to TikTok's immense popularity, some young people have participated in dangerous challenges by videos challenging them to perform harmful or even deadly acts. One extreme example was the 'blackout' trend, which encouraged users to hold their breath until they passed out from a lack of oxygen. It led to two families filing lawsuits against TikTok over the tragic deaths of their children.
- CONTACT WITH STRANGERS**
With around 1 billion users globally, the potential for contact with strangers on TikTok is high. Users can easily connect with people from all over the world, and it is possible that children will be contacted by strangers who may attempt to groom or exploit them.
- IN-APP SPENDING**
TIKTOK is free, but users have the option to buy 'TikTok coins', which is the app's virtual currency. These coins can be used to purchase virtual gifts (which can be converted into real money) to other users for videos they like. This can be addictive, and the app's algorithm is designed to show content that is similar to what the user has watched, so the more videos they watch, the more similar content they will see. This can lead to a cycle of watching increasingly inappropriate content.
- ADDICTIVE NATURE**
Like all social networking platforms, TikTok can be addictive. Users show that young people are spending increasing amounts of time in it. In the UK, children spent an average of 53 minutes per day on the app, versus 58 minutes on YouTube. This can be addictive, and the app's algorithm is designed to show content that is similar to what the user has watched, so the more videos they watch, the more similar content they will see. This can lead to a cycle of watching increasingly inappropriate content.
- TIKTOK NOW**
Introduced in late 2022, the 'TikTok Now' feature lets users post a daily video or photo at the exact same time of day, giving them three minutes to take a video or post a photo. This feature can be addictive, and the app's algorithm is designed to show content that is similar to what the user has watched, so the more videos they watch, the more similar content they will see. This can lead to a cycle of watching increasingly inappropriate content.

Advice for Parents & Carers

- ENABLE FAMILY PAIRING**
Family Pairing allows parents to lock their child's account with their own, and control their settings remotely. Parents can then, for example, restrict the types of content their child can see, limit the amount of time they can spend on the app, and restrict their child's ability to send messages (and to whom). Children can't alter these settings without parental approval.
- MAKE ACCOUNTS PRIVATE**
Athough under-18s will have their TikTok account set to private by default, bypassing this setting is relatively easy. However, parents are recommended to manually set their child's account to private - meaning that their videos won't be visible to strangers and they won't be able to exchange messages with people who aren't on their friends list.
- LIMIT IN-APP SPENDING**
If your child is using an iPhone or Android device to access TikTok, you can alter the settings to prevent them from making in-app purchases. It's quite easy for a young person - without realising - to spend a significant amount of money on real money buying TikTok coins so they can unlock these features of the app.
- DISCUSS THE DANGERS**
If your child wants to use TikTok and you're happy for them to do so, it is crucial to talk about the potential risks in this type of app. Encourage them to think about the consequences of sharing personal information - and that they realise they could be exposed to inappropriate content. Thinking critically about what they see on TikTok can help children become generally more social media savvy.
- READ THE SIGNS**
If you're concerned that your child might be spending too much time on TikTok, or that they've been emotionally affected by something they've seen, it's important to know how to spot the possible signs. Increased irritability and a lack of concentration, potential self-harm, or are failing to complete homework or regularly not eating meals.

Meet Our Expert
Cathy Page is an experienced technology journalist with a track record of more than 10 years in the industry. Previously the editor of tech-based The Inquirer, Cathy is now a freelance technology journalist, editor and consultant.

NOS National Online Safety
#WakeUpWednesday

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Views of this guide do not reflect the views of the Department of Education. Content is of the date of release: 27.11.2023



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STARS OF THE WEEK!

Congratulations to

Oniellia F

in

Year 2

and Marley P in

Year 4

We're all really proud of you

This week's virtues awards were given to

Louie M

Nursery

Ruairi T

Reception

Riley T

Year 1

Roman-Ray F

Year 2

Saffire M

Year 3

Georgia H

Year 4

De'On M

Year 5

Ella A

Year 6

For being Faith-Filled and Hopeful

Attendance



Our school strives for 100% attendance. This week the class with the highest attendance was Year 4 with 95.3%. *Well done!*

Ready to learn Award



Congratulations, our most punctual classes this week were Reception, Year 2 and Year 6.

Birthdays



Happy birthday this week to: Ryan B, Dillon O'N and Roman-Ray F.



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Our fabulous tweets continue!!! Have a look at some of our most recent tweets! Please don't forget to join our tweeting community by tweeting us @SJBsolihull

Planned Tweet
St John the Baptist @SJBsolihull - Jul 17, 2020
If your child will be 3 before September we have space's available in our Nursery for mornings only or all day (if you qualify for 30 hours). Please get in touch if you'd like more information.



St John the Baptist @SJBsolihull - Nov 23

What emotion is this? The Year 1 children acted out different emotions for other children to guess. #PSHE The children correctly guessed that she was worried. @OurLadyandAIS1



St John the Baptist @SJBsolihull - Nov 23

In #PSHE the Year 1 children have been thinking about their emotions. They were very good at acting out the different emotions for others to guess. @OurLadyandAIS1



St John the Baptist @SJBsolihull - Nov 18

Year 4 studied the Art of Mathematics, making 'inukshuk' land markers. In Inuit tradition they are a welcome sight to a traveller and are also a sign of human endurance. #MathsWeekEngland @OurLadyandAIS1 #SJBMaths #SJBArt



St John the Baptist @SJBsolihull - Nov 18

Our Confrmandi did us proud today at Church. May the Holy Spirit psphine down on them and guide them. May they find wisdom in their chosen saints life. We look forward to your Confirmation. 🙏🙏🙏



St John the Baptist @SJBsolihull - Nov 23

Year 4 explored stories of the 'Sorrowful mysteries' in #Godlyplay. They dedicated their prayer intentions to the sadness in our World and prayed a decade of the Rosary, sending each rose to heaven with every Hail Mary said. #CatholicLife @OurLadyandAIS1 @BCPP_ #SJBRE 🙏🙏🙏



St John the Baptist @SJBsolihull - Nov 22

During our Christ the King #collectiveworship Yc3 said "follow in his footsteps and listen to him" as ways we can show that we honour Jesus as our King. They understood when Jesus said "You will join me in paradise" he meant we would join him in Heaven. @BCPP_ @OurLadyandAIS1



St John the Baptist @SJBsolihull - Nov 18

Year 4 explored the wisdom and faith Mary showed us through many Bible stories shining our light on her faith. They looked at the different images of Mary throughout the world. They started to create their artwork based on the Annunciation. @OurLadyandAIS1 @BCPP_ #SJBRE 🙏🙏🙏



St John the Baptist @SJBsolihull - Nov 17

It was lovely to welcome nursery parents into school for our nursery rhyme workshop. The children enjoyed singing rhymes and getting creative with their family members. Everybody Involved had a wonderful morning celebrating @worldrhymeweek @OurLadyandAIS1 #wnw22



St John the Baptist @SJBsolihull - Nov 18

Just a few of our fantastic finished book sleeves! Year 4 loved the design and make process. They have already put them on their books to keep them safe and special. #SJBOT #SJBWeAreDesigners #SJBWeLoveReading @OurLadyandAIS1 @BCPP_ 🙏🙏🙏



St John the Baptist @SJBsolihull - Nov 17

Year 4 have been enjoying many activities during Maths Week England including helping Numberella solve puzzles and sharing our love of reading with 'How Big is a Million?'. We also learned about Katherine Johnson and how she helped NASA. #MathsWeekEngland @OurLadyandAIS1



St John the Baptist @SJBsolihull - Nov 17

The #SJBschoolChoir sang their hearts out tonight using their #GodGiventalent. We are so proud of them all being so brave with their talents. #SJBschoolChoir @OurLadyandAIS1 @BCPP_ 🙏🙏🙏



St John the Baptist @SJBsolihull - Nov 17

Year 4 are so grateful to all family members that came in to help us with our book covers. The Nans that came imparted their knowledge on us all with their #GodGiventalent. Watch this space for our final pieces of work. #SJBWeAreDesigners #SJBOT @OurLadyandAIS1 @BCPP_ 🙏🙏🙏



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First Sunday of Advent

Loving God, you sent your Son Jesus into the world to show us how to live. Help us to be ready when he comes. Help us to make all visitors feel welcome and cared for.

This weekend sees the first Sunday of Advent. Advent is a special time when we get ready for the coming of Jesus. It is very exciting when we know that someone is coming to visit us. We make sure that we are ready when they come. Today we are going to think about what it means to be welcoming, and how we get ready to welcome Jesus.

Gospel: Matthew 24:37-44

Jesus said to his disciples: "The coming of the Son of Man will be like what happened in the time of Noah. In the days before the flood people ate and drank, men and women married, up to the very day Noah went into the boat; yet they did not realize what was happening until the flood came and swept them all away. That is how it will be when the Son of Man comes. At that time two men will be working in a field: one will be taken away, the other will be left behind. Two women will be at a mill grinding meal: one will be taken away, the other will be left behind.

Watch out, then, because you do not know what day your Lord will come. If the owner of a house knew the time when the thief would come, you can be sure that he would stay awake and not let the thief break into his house. So then, you also must always be ready, because the Son of Man will come at an hour when you are not expecting him."

The gospel story is telling us that we must be ready when Jesus comes again, but that we cannot be exactly sure when that will be, so we must try to be ready all the time.

Jesus tells us we may be very surprised when he comes. Lots of surprises are very good. Sometimes people surprise us by coming to visit us at home when we are not expecting them. Or we might go to visit members of our family or our friends.

How does it feel to go somewhere for the first time? What would you like others to do to make you feel welcome if you were going somewhere new? And how can we make other people feel welcome? How can we welcome them in our homes? In our school? In our church?

Jesus asks to be ready when he comes again. How do you think we can get ready to welcome Jesus in our lives?



Generous God, we give thanks for all those people who have visited us, or whom we have visited. Help us always to welcome the people we meet in life, no matter who they are or where they come from. Amen.

Wishing you all a lovely weekend.