



"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 09.12.22

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'

Journey to the Stable

On Wednesday morning, Year 2 enjoyed participating in an interactive 'Journey to the stable'.

They met characters and animals from the Christmas Story.

They came away with a deeper understanding of the Nativity and they took home a handmade lantern.

It was a lovely experience for everyone.



Great Christmas Bake Off - Year 4 Fundraising

Year 4 have worked hard in their DT project. They have designed and researched how to make cost effective 'Christmas Cookies'. We talked about the cost of living and looked at the prices of ingredients. We made a design and talked about how to make the cookies appealing to all consumers.

We are raising money to buy our class donkey 'Shocks' a new coat for Christmas.

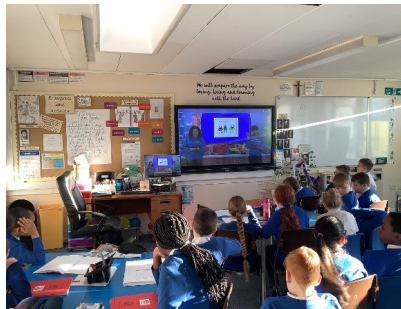


Class Activities - KS2

Year 4 have been busy getting ready for their great Christmas Cookie bake off. Bringing their cookie designs to life!



Year 6 have been enjoying making their clay relief tiles in Art and DT for their Italian Renaissance art unit. They also enjoyed their Be Internet Legends assembly!



Next Friday, 16th December will be 'Christmas Jumper Day' Christmases gone by have always seen a fantastic array of Christmas jumpers!

So let's see if we can make this another year where we all break up for the Christmas holiday, feeling as festive as possible!



Our Pope's Prayer Intentions

December

Volunteer Not-for-Profit Organizations

We pray that volunteer non-profit organizations committed to human development find people dedicated to the common good and ceaselessly seek out new paths to international cooperation.

School Photographer

The rescheduled date for school photographs is Wednesday 8th February, all necessary information will be sent out closer to the date.



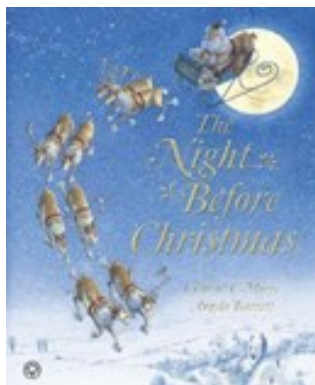
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Mr G's Recommended Reads

This week, my theme is Christmas and I have gone completely traditional as I remember reading both books to my own boys each Christmas.

For our younger readers....

'The Night Before Christmas' by Clement. C. Moore



"'Twas the night before Christmas, when all through the house / Not a creature was stirring, not even a mouse..."

Start a new tradition with an annual, all-family reading of the Clement Moore verse on Christmas Eve –

this magical, snow-covered version captures all the excitement of the countdown to the big day.

For our older readers...

'A Christmas Carol' by Charles Dickens (re-told by Tony Mitton)



The classic Dickens story and the true spirit of Christmas with this lovely rhyme retelling.

The beautiful, atmospheric illustrations will immerse children in to the past, Victorian Christmas present and Christmas future; this is the perfect introduction to a story of redemption, hope and festive joy.



Dates for your Diary

Monday 12th December

9:30am - KS1 Christmas Performance

Wednesday 14th December

9:30am - Early Years Christmas Performance

PM - School Christmas Dinner

Thursday 15th December

Pm - Early Years & KS1 Christmas Party

3:30pm - KS2 Christmas Performance

Friday 16th December

All day - Christmas Jumper Day (no donation required)

PM - KS2 Christmas Party

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

CALL OF DUTY: MODERN WARFARE II

The Call of Duty (CoD) series is a worldwide gaming phenomenon, with millions of copies sold every year. While 2022's release, Vanguard, wasn't quite as well received, this latest entry - Modern Warfare II - has so far proved a massive commercial success. A sequel to the recent Modern Warfare reboot (and not to be confused with the original Modern Warfare 2, from back in 2009), the game is an online shooter which features - unsurprisingly - extreme violence, rendered in realistic graphics. Amid the explosions and political nature of the plot, there's much for parents to be aware of.

AGE RATING
PEGI 18

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

VIRTUAL VIOLENCE
Like most of its predecessors in the franchise, Modern Warfare II carries on its age rating from PEGI 18, content for suitability. This means players are encouraged - according to PEGI's wording - to expect "gross killing or violence towards defenceless characters".

OFFENSIVE CHAT & MESSAGING
Most CoD players are likely to spend the majority of their time on Modern Warfare II in online multiplayer modes. This entails constant chat and messaging with other players. The game's built-in chat system allows players to communicate with each other, but it also means that players can be exposed to offensive language and behaviour. Parents should be aware of this and consider whether their child is ready for such interactions.

IN-GAME PURCHASES
Modern Warfare II follows the same model of in-game purchases as its predecessor. Players can buy various items, including skins, weapons, and perks, using real money. These purchases are optional, but they can be tempting for children. Parents should set limits on how much money their child can spend on in-game purchases.

POLITICAL SENSITIVITY
Previous CoD games have been accused of attempting to glorify war and violence. Modern Warfare II is no exception. The game's story is set in a world where the US is at war with a fictional terrorist group. The game's graphics and sound effects are designed to be as realistic as possible, which may be disturbing for some children. Parents should be aware of this and consider whether their child is ready for such content.

AN ADDICTIVE EXPERIENCE
Multiplayer modes in Call of Duty are highly addictive. The game's fast-paced action and competitive nature can lead to children spending long hours playing. This can interfere with schoolwork and other activities. Parents should monitor their child's gaming habits and encourage them to take breaks.

Advice for Parents & Carers

RESPECT THE AGE RATING
Based on accurately recreating combat situations, Call of Duty is a game that is not suitable for children. Parents should ensure their child is old enough to play and that they understand the risks of playing. They should also consider whether their child is ready for the game's content.

SET SPENDING LIMITS
If your child is likely to be tempted by buying that "must-have" weapon or skin, set a limit on how much money they can spend on in-game purchases. This will help to prevent them from spending too much money on the game.

CLOSE OFF COMMUNICATION
Unless they're playing with their real-life friends, it may be best to turn off your child's chat and messaging. This will help to protect them from offensive language and behaviour. Parents should also consider whether their child is ready for such interactions.

TRY OTHER MODES
If it seems that your child only ever plays Modern Warfare II in multiplayer, encourage them to try the game's single-player campaign. This will help to reduce their exposure to the game's competitive nature and may be more enjoyable for them.

Meet Our Expert
David Corbridge is a Senior Editor of technology and entertainment news. He has been working in the gaming industry for over 10 years and has written extensively about video games. He is a member of the British Computer Society and has been involved in several industry projects. He is also a frequent speaker at gaming conferences and events.

National Online Safety
#WakeUpWednesday

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GROUP A STREP

(Group A Streptococcus)



Group A Streptococcus is the name given to a type of bacteria sometimes found in the throat or on the skin. Most people who come into contact with Group A Strep remain well and symptom free.

Group A can cause throat infections, scarlet fever or skin infections such as cellulitis or impetigo. These infections are usually treated with antibiotics. In some rare cases, it can cause a severe illness also known as Invasive Group A Strep 'iGAS'

Signs and Symptoms to look out for:

Sore throat



Headache



High Temperature



Nausea and vomiting



A generalised pinhead rash that feels like sandpaper, typically on the chest and stomach to start.



If you think you, or your child may have scarlet fever/strep A:

- See your GP or contact NHS 111 as soon as possible
- Make sure that you/your child takes the full course of any antibiotics prescribed by the doctor
- Stay at home, away from nursery, school or work for at least 24 hours after starting the antibiotic treatment, to avoid spreading the infection.



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STARS OF THE WEEK!

Congratulations to

Keyano K-F

in

Reception

and Tyler A in

Year 5

We're all really proud of you

Attendance



Our school strives for 100% attendance. This week the class with the highest attendance was Year 2 with 93.6%. *Well done!*

Ready to learn Award



Congratulations, our most punctual classes this week were Year1.

Birthdays



Happy birthday this week to: Tyler A, Tiahnah B and Tyler A.



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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

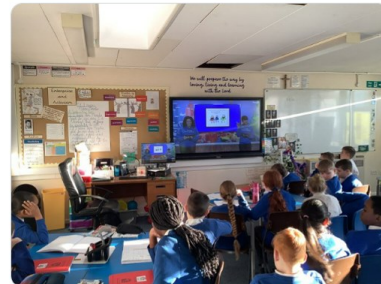
Pinned Tweet
St John the Baptist @SJBsolihull · Jul 17, 2020
If your child will be 3 before September we have space's available in our Nursery for mornings only or all day (if you qualify for 30 hours). Please get in touch if you'd like more information.



St John the Baptist @SJBsolihull · 18h
Year 4 have been baking up a storm in 'Our Great Christmas Bake Off!' Watch this space for our finished product, and stall at our Christmas Fayre 🍰🍰 #SJBOT #SJBOST @OurLadyandAllSt @BCPP_



St John the Baptist @SJBsolihull · Dec 8
Year 6 have enjoyed their Be Internet Legends assembly today! #BeInternetLegends



St John the Baptist @SJBsolihull · Dec 2
Our #SJB Choir were amazing tonight. They sang their hearts out and blew us away with their #GodgivenTalents. Music speaks what cannot be expressed. #SJBFamily #SJBChoir @OurLadyandAllSt @BCPP_ @BhamDES 🎵🎵🎵



St John the Baptist @SJBsolihull · Dec 1
Our year 4 #prayerandliturgy led by our boys spoke to the heart. They talked of 'Hope' and shared prayer intentions for the world. They gave each classmate a candle of 'Hope' to take home. #SJBFamily #Advent #CatholicLife @OurLadyandAllSt @BCPP_ @BhamDES 🕯️💖



St John the Baptist @SJBsolihull · Nov 30
Our Year 4 children have been busy preparing our #prayerandliturgy. They have explored 'Hope' and come up with a way to spread the light of Jesus through the hope he brings to us all, even in the darkest of times. #SJBRE #CatholicLife @OurLadyandAllSt @BCPP_ @BhamDES 🕯️🙏💖



St John the Baptist @SJBsolihull · Nov 30
The season of #advent has begun. Year 4 have been to our #prayerandliturgy cupboard to collect items to change our prayer focus. #CatholicLife #Advent #SJBRE @OurLadyandAllSt @BCPP_ @BhamDES 🙏💖



St John the Baptist @SJBsolihull · Nov 30
EYFS have enjoyed redecorating their prayer tree to match the colour of Advent (purple). The children enjoy speaking to God in this special place. #CollectiveWorship #CatholicLife #RE @OurLadyandAllSt



St John the Baptist @SJBsolihull · Nov 30
In #PSHE Y1 looked at the feeling of anger and the consequences of their actions. They knew you should say sorry and ask for forgiveness. "Forgiveness is saying 'It's alright'" Ivan told us. We role played Jesus taking away our sins and bringing us closer to God



St John the Baptist @SJBsolihull · Nov 28
The season of Advent has begun and our EYFS children have helped to prepare our classroom. #Advent #CatholicLife @OurLadyandAllSt @BCPP_



Third Sunday of Advent

God of hope, you sent your Son Jesus to bring good news to people who are poor. Help us to be that good news, so that all people around the world can make a better life for themselves and their families.

In this Sunday's gospel, we listen to Jesus say that he came to heal the sick and to bring good news to the poor. We are going to think about how we can be that good news and help to change the lives of others around the world.

Gospel: Matthew 11:2-11

John the Baptist heard in prison about the things that Christ was doing and he sent some of his disciples to him. "Tell us," they asked Jesus, "are you the one John said was going to come, or should we expect someone else?"

Jesus answered, "Go back and tell John what you are hearing and seeing: the blind can see, the lame can walk, those who suffer from dreaded skin diseases are made clean, the deaf hear, the dead are brought back to life, and the Good News is preached to the poor. How happy are those who have no doubts about me!"

While John's disciples were leaving, Jesus spoke about him to the crowds: "When you went out to John in the desert, what did you expect to see? A blade of grass bending in the wind? What did you go out to see? A man dressed up in fancy clothes? People who dress like that live in palaces! Tell me, what did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, indeed, but you saw much more than a prophet. For John is the one of whom the scripture says: 'God said, I will send my messenger ahead of you to open the way for you.' I assure you that John the Baptist is greater than anyone who has ever lived. But the one who is least in the Kingdom of heaven is greater than John.

John the Baptist, our school patron, wants to make sure that Jesus is really the special person that he has been waiting for, so he sends some friends to check.

Jesus answers them by telling them that he is the one who has come to heal the sick and to bring good news to the poor. This answer tells John that Jesus really is the person for whom he has been waiting.

We are all part of one family, God's family, and God asks us to love each other and care for each other. But what does it mean to bring good news to people who are poor?

What can we do to help other people, either our friends, family, or people locally or in other countries whom we have never met? Sometimes even small things can make a big difference; any action that is done to help others is bringing good news to them.

How will you try to be like Jesus, helping others and bringing good news to people who are poor in the next week?



Generous God, we thank you for all the good things that you have given us. Help us to follow the example of Jesus, to care for others and to bring good news to people who are poor. Amen.

Wishing you all a lovely weekend.