



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

Luke 2: 32

This half term's virtues are:

Friday 06.01.23

Eloquent

and

Truthful

Catholic Social Teaching Focus

The Dignity of Work (linking with Fairtrade Fortnight 21.02-06.03)

Everyone's work is of value. There are many kinds of work. In each job, workers deserve to be treated with respect; work safely; work reasonable hours, and earn fair wages. They deserve this because they are made by God. Our work gives us the means to live, but it is also a chance to use the talents God gives us. Our work is our way of cooperating with God to help create a better world.

Focus Hymns – 'Lord of the Dance' and 'You are my Brother'

Welcome Back and Happy New Year!

Welcome back and Happy New Year! I hope that everyone has had a lovely Christmas; I've certainly heard about some lovely presents that were received!

A new year is a new beginning, and we look forward to the many highlights and new opportunities that the Spring Term will bring. We certainly have some great things planned!

Goodbye and Good Luck

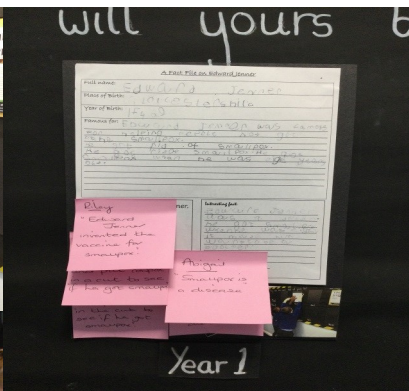
Sadly, Mrs Banks leaves our school community today. Her children have all attended St. John's and she herself has worked here for almost ten years.

We thank her for her dedicated service and hard work and, in particular for the kindness and patience that she has shared with so many of our children.

We would also like to wish her happiness and success in her new role at Forest Oak School.



Class Activities - KS1



Happy New to you all! Year 1 has returned to school ready to learn and full of enthusiasm.

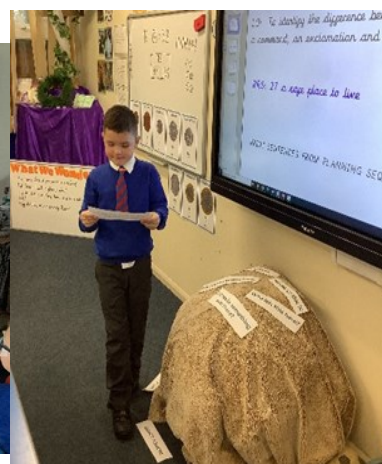
The children have been exploring the artist Miro. They completed a whole class work of art in the artist's style, thinking about the colours and shapes they wanted to use.



The Scientist of the Half Term is Edward Jenner, the children researched him and found out he was famous for inventing the vaccine for smallpox. Thank you to our Year 1 Class Scientists who displayed some of the children's work on the whole school science board.

Year 2 began the new year with a mysterious, fur mound in the classroom with different sentence types attached to it. We were able to sort the different types of sentences and discuss what we know about the unusual object and what we would like to know.

In our prayer service we focussed on the Epiphany and shared the gifts that we are going to give Jesus throughout this new year.



The Mapac January Sale!

Throughout January we are offering 10% Off Bags and Clothing to Schools with extended credit until April 2023.

We will also be running a sale to parents of our parent online schools at the end of the month. Make sure they sign up for more information.



Our Lady and All Saints
Catholic Multi Academy Company
Strong in Faith

Dates for your Diary

Friday 17th February

3.15pm - Break up for February Half Term

Monday 27th February

8.55am - Children return to school

Friday 31st March

3.15pm - Break up for Easter Holiday

Monday 17th April 2023

8.55am - Children return to school

Inset days 2022 - 2023

Monday 27th February 2023

Monday 5th June 2023

National Online Safety



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Solihull Parenting Team

Support, advice and signposting for all parents and carers in Solihull



SPRING TERM 2023

Open to all Solihull parents and carers



EMPOWERING PARENTS
EMPOWERING COMMUNITIES

BEING A PARENT GROUPS

Led by trained parent volunteers, the groups provide you with the tools to help manage challenging behaviour, improve communication, and build a positive relationship with your child.

The Being a Parent groups will be delivered both face-to-face and virtually, starting with a welcome session & then running weekly for a further 8 sessions:

FACE TO FACE:

Tuesday: 9.30am to 11.30am
The Bridge, Shirley (B90 3AG)
Dates: 17/1/23 – 21/3/23

Thursday: 9.15am to 11.15am
In The Woods Nursery (B37 5UH)
Dates: 19/1/23 – 23/3/23

Friday: 10am – 12pm
Meriden Adventure Playground
(B37 5TB)
Dates: 20/1/23 – 24/3/23

VIRTUAL via Microsoft Teams:

Tuesday: 6pm to 7.30pm
Target age: 9 years plus
Dates: 17/1/23 – 21/3/23

Thursday
6pm to 7.30pm
Dates: 19/1/23 – 23/3/23

UNDERSTANDING YOUR CHILD'S BEHAVIOUR

Led by Solihull professionals, the group aims to help you to manage challenging behaviour and improve communication, as well as building and understanding your relationship with your child. The group target age is 4-11 years, delivered face-to-face for 10 sessions:



Wednesday 9.30am – 11.30am
Solihull College
Woodlands Campus (B36 0NF)
11/1/23 – 22/3/23

Thursday 9.30am – 11.30am
Solihull College
Blossomfield Campus (B91 1SB)
12/1/23 – 23/3/23

FIVE TO THRIVE



For parents with children aged up to 4 years, the FIVE TO THRIVE building blocks explore practical things you can do to enhance your child's brain development, increase confidence in parenting and meet local parents.

TUESDAY 10am – 12pm
The Bridge, Shirley
(B90 3AG)
10/1/23 – 14/2/23
7/3/23 – 11/4/23

WEDNESDAY 10am – 12pm
Three Trees Community
Centre (B37 7TP)
11/1/23 – 15/2/23
8/3/23 – 12/4/23

Book your place now, or find out more by contacting Solihull Parenting Team at: bsmhft.parenting@nhs.net or book via the Eventbrite QR code below:



Believe in children
Bernardo's



Attendance



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



Birthdays

Happy birthday this week to: Riley T, Zach P, Maisey M and Evie-May L.



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Science Superstars

Year 6 enjoyed completing a retrieval relay in their Classification unit. They have been learning lots about how animals are classified and categorised to support us with our understanding of living things.



THE ARCHDIOCESE of BIRMINGHAM



Saturday 31 December 2022: Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI, who served as Supreme Pontiff from April 2005 to February 2013, has died aged 95, the Vatican has confirmed.

A short statement from Matteo Bruni, Director of the Holy See's Press Office, said: *"With sorrow I inform you that the Pope Emeritus, Benedict XVI, passed away today at 9:34am in the Mater Ecclesiae Monastery in the Vatican."*

O God, faithful rewarder of souls,
grant that your departed servant Pope Benedict,
whom you made successor of Peter
and shepherd of your Church,
may happily enjoy for ever in your presence in heaven
the mysteries of your grace and compassion,
which he faithfully ministered on earth.
Amen.



Our Pope's Prayer Intentions

January

True Human Fraternity

We pray for all those suffering from religious discrimination and persecution; may their own rights and dignity be recognized, which originate from being brothers and sisters in the human family.



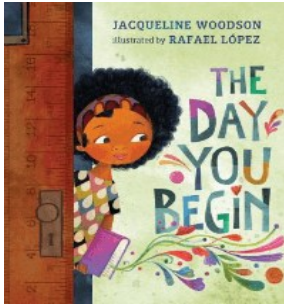
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Mr G's Recommended Reads

My book choices this week are influenced by the start of this new year, a time of new beginnings...

For our younger readers...

'The Day You Begin' by Jacqueline Woodson



Starting a new school can be overwhelming, and even more so if you feel different from your schoolmates. This gentle book is a wonderful reminder for children that everyone feels different at some point. The book teaches children that the key to overcoming that fear can be sharing your story with others.

For our older readers...

'The 1000 Year Old Boy' by Ross Welford



There are stories about people who want to live forever. This is not one of those stories.

Alfie Monk is like any other nearly teenage boy – except he's 1,000 years old and can remember the last Viking invasion of England.

Obviously, no one believes him.

So, when everything Alfie knows and loves is destroyed in a fire, and the modern world comes crashing in, Alfie embarks on a mission to find friendship, acceptance, and a different way to live... a new beginning

... which also means finding a way to make sure he will eventually die.



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Baptism of the Lord

Living God, we give thanks for water which gives us life. We pray that all your children around the world may have clean water to drink.

In this Sunday's gospel, we hear about how Jesus is baptised by John in the waters of the river Jordan. Water is a very important part of baptism, but it is also really important in our lives for other reasons. We all need water to live.

Gospel: Matthew 3:13-17

At that time Jesus arrived from Galilee and came to John at the Jordan to be baptized by him. But John tried to make him change his mind. "I ought to be baptized by you," John said, "and yet you have come to me!"

But Jesus answered him, "Let it be so for now. For in this way we shall do all that God requires." So John agreed.

As soon as Jesus was baptized, he came up out of the water. Then heaven was opened to him, and he saw the Spirit of God coming down like a dove and alighting on him. Then a voice came from heaven, "This is my own dear Son, with whom I am pleased."

John baptised Jesus in the river, and there was a voice from heaven that said something very important, confirming that he is the Son of God.

Water itself is very important. It is used in baptism to show that we are starting a new life with God. It symbolises cleansing and the removal of sins too.

Sadly, we waste huge amounts of water, which is such a precious, life giving commodity. Often, when we brush our teeth we will leave the tap running. We might make a drink, forget about it and throw it away later.

There are many people in the world who do not have clean water to drink. Many will have to travel for miles to collect enough water to stay alive.

When we think about living simply, let's make every effort not to waste water unnecessarily, this is such an easy thing to do and helps us to consider how we can make a fairer world for everyone.



God of life, help us to act so that no one goes thirsty and all people around the world have enough water for all their needs. Amen.

Have a lovely weekend.