

ST. BEDE'S CATHOLIC JUNIOR SCHOOL

celebrating life and learning

Autumn 1: Issue 2

October, 2024

HARVEST PRAYER

Father, as we celebrate this season of thanksgiving

We give thanks for the blessings of food, provision and nourishment.

Please grow in us a harvest for the world.

Come sow a seed of hope within our souls Lord, that we might yield goodness, patience and kindness in abundance.

Sow a seed of peace in our lives Lord, that we might bear the fruits of forgiveness, compassion and righteousness.

Come sow a seed of love in our hearts Lord, that others would reap the blessings of family, friendship and community.

May each seed of hope, peace and love grow within us into a harvest that can be feasted on by all.



OCTOBER HALF TERM DATES:

SCHOOL CLOSSES ON THURSDAY 24TH OCTOBER AT 3.30 PM.

SCHOOL RETURNS ON MONDAY 4TH NOVEMBER AT 8.50 AM.

INSET: 25.10.24

WELCOME TO ST. BEDE'S NEW SCHOOL COUNCIL 2024-2025

The new School Council are now in place and are ready to really effect change in the St. Bede's school community.

The School Council is an identified group of pupils (one from each class) who act as representatives of their classmates in discussing school issues with the Headteacher, Assistant Headteacher and staff. Students are elected to represent the views of all pupils and also to improve their school. They help to make decisions about how the school is run and take on projects that support the children's learning and development, such as organising charity events, representing the school at outside events, or ensuring the school is environmentally friendly.

This year's school council are:

| | |
|------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Class 1 Bessie Gaskell | Class 6 Sophia Handley |
| Class 2 Alex Handley | Class 7 Evie Grady |
| Class 3 Sienna Baker | Class 8 Connie Bradshaw |
| Class 4 Leo Daci | Class 9 Finlay Burns |
| Class 5 Lily Goulding | Class 10 Annabelle Barrow-Doyle |

HATS OFF TO ST. BEDES! OPAL PLATINUM AWARD

As everyone is aware, we have been working really hard over the last couple of years to improve the quality and provision of play at St. Bede's Catholic Junior School.

Our final assessment with the school's OPAL mentor left us all feeling incredibly proud of how far we have come. We have been awarded Platinum status after achieving 100% of the standards required to be identified as an OPAL School.

The comment received from our mentor clearly illustrates our amazing achievement:

"You have really 'gone for it' with your OPAL provision. Mrs. Tiernan has created a culture that enabled Mrs. Lloyd-Green and Mr. Stalker to share the roles of curricular lead and coordinator in an effective and productive way that I haven't seen another school do. Mrs. Lloyd-Green and Mr. Stalker have worked so very hard to transform the play offer at St. Bede's with the help of Mr. Ortiz and the rest of the team. It was always a lovely warm familial school and now it's a school with tremendous OPAL play provision too. I'm delighted with your efforts and so very chuffed for you all to have achieved the 100%. My only school so far to do so. You have managed the balance of operational and strategic development well and certainly in the last year, this has been done really effectively. I'm so impressed and so happy all your efforts have paid off. Not just in your score, but in your playground and your children's play; it is totally transformed. Hats off to the whole team at St. Bede's; you don't get platinum unless it's a whole team approach embedded in the school structure and it so obviously is. I'm really looking forward to presenting your award." Ben Tawil.



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NUT ALLERGIES

At St. Bede's Catholic Junior School we strive to provide a safe environment for all pupils. It has come to our attention that some of our children have a severe allergic reaction to specific foods.

This allergic reaction (anaphylactic shock) can occur through ingestion of these products, cross contamination and breathing (nut) dust in the air. Some pupils may only need to touch an area that is 'contaminated' to have an allergic reaction.

Since this condition can be life threatening, we are asking all members of the school community for their help in minimising the risk to these children by:

Not giving children nuts or nut products in their packed lunches. This includes peanut butter sandwiches, other spreads containing nuts such as Nutella and snacks/bars containing nuts;

Asking children not to share their packed lunches;

Not sending cakes or food items containing nuts into school for birthday celebrations, sales or events.

Due to the severity of the problem, it is important that all parents/carers carry out the suggested measures and reduce the risk of allergic reaction to these children. All school meals provided by Mellor's Catering staff are nut-free and kitchen staff know which pupils have allergies.

As a school we endeavour to keep all of our children safe and well and ensure that pupils with allergies are kept away from the specific foods which can trigger anaphylaxis. We ask that parents/carers further support us with checking packed lunches.



LIVE SIMPLY OCTOBER CHALLENGE

Since September, we have invested in more recycling bins and we have learnt about how we can recycle, reduce and reuse.

In October, we will 'Live Simply' by supporting the Widnes Foodbank. Items needed include: tinned fish, tinned ham, tea, coffee, biscuits, pasta n sauce, microwaveable rice, tinned fruit and toilet roll. If each child donated just one item, we would have over 300 items to share with those in need.



ABSENCE

If your child is too ill to attend school, please ring and leave a message on the answerphone, preferably before 8.30 am.

If you have not contacted the school on the first day of absence by 9.15 am, then a member of the school staff will try to contact you. This is not a good use of resources but your child's well-being is of paramount importance. If school staff are not able to make contact, a home visit will be carried out as routine. Staff wish to ensure that your child is safe with you and has not been abducted or involved in an accident on the way to school.

If the school has to make contact on three occasions, rather than the person with parental responsibility informing the school of the reason for absence, then the Educational Welfare Officer (EWO) automatically visits the home to ascertain the reason for non-compliance with school policy.

If a child is absent for 5 days or more, then some form of medical evidence must be provided, e.g.: medicine prescribed by a medical practitioner.

When attendance falls below 90% the EWO is routinely involved with the situation. No further absence is authorised without some form of medical evidence.



MENTAL HEALTH DAY: TEA & TALK

Thursday 10th October, is World Mental Health Day. The school staff, and the Mental Health Support Team (MHST) will be available in the school hall from 9.00 am for parents/carers and family members to drop in for tea (or coffee) and a chat. The MHST will be providing direct, ongoing support to school families around mental health and wellbeing. This will include:

- Providing direct interventions to pupils with mild to moderate mental health conditions, such as anxiety, low mood or behavioural difficulties.
- Providing parent-led interventions for anxiety and challenging behaviour.
- Where young people require specialist support, making onward referrals for pupils to local services, such as child and adolescent mental health services (CAMHS).



AUTUMN TERM FUNDRAISING EVENTS

Reminders for diaries:

| | | |
|---|----------------------|-------------------------------|
| Friday 15 th November | 'Blue Friday' | School Day £1 donation |
| Monday 25 th November | Christmas Bingo | 5.30 - 8.00 pm approx |
| Tuesday 3 rd December 7.00 pm | School Production | Tickets only £2.00 |
| Wednesday 4 th December 1.30pm | School Production | Tickets only: £2.00 |
| Thursday 5 th December 7.00 pm | School Production | Tickets only: £2.00 |
| Friday 13 th December | Christmas Jumper Day | School Day £1 donation |
| Monday, 16 th December, 2024 | Christmas Film Night | 3.30 - 5.30 pm Tickets: £2.00 |
| Monday, 16 th December, 2024 | Christmas PJ Day | School Day £1 donation |

DOODLEMATHS & DOODLETABLES

A huge welcome to all of our Year 3 'Doodlers' – each and every one of you now have login details to join our school DoodleMaths and DoodTables apps. It is fantastic to see that the vast majority of you are using the applications daily and are already steaming ahead in the 'Greenzone'! I will soon be launching our 'Doodle Podium' again and hope to see lots of our Year 3s and other year groups achieving the 'Greenzone' level and achieving 'streak' certificates in assembly. Please can all parents encourage their child to use DoodleMaths often – 5/10 minutes a day is the recommendation – little but often shows to create greater progress and confidence in maths. If your child has forgotten their login details, please encourage them to ask their teacher for these.

Also, a huge well done to the children who completed the DoodleMaths Summer Challenge – they already have their certificates and pin badges are due to arrive soon.

Summer Challenge achievers: Daniel B, Kai B, Connie B, Eli D, Iris D (Y4), Connor F, Archie F, Jessica G, Emily P, Harry W, Reva W.



STONE AGE FARMING EXPERIENCE

Classes 1 and 2 have an amazing opportunity to visit a working farm as part of their Stone Age studies. During the visit, they will learn about wheat grinding, crop growing and even foraging. They will meet some farm animals and be able to take part in a cave painting workshop. This is definitely NOT a school uniform trip! Tracksuits / joggers are more appropriate along with sweatshirts / jumpers. Wellies are essential footwear as they can be washed and disinfected whilst at the farm. The children will also need a pair of shoes or trainers to wear on the journey home.

This is a new experience for teachers too. Miss Ramsey is looking forward to a pre-visit so that she will know more about the exciting activities the children will carry out in order to develop their understanding of how people lived in the Stone Age. I do hope that we don't encounter any woolly mammoths



FEAST OF ST. LUKE: 18th OCTOBER

SAINTS FUN FACTS

by John Sheppard

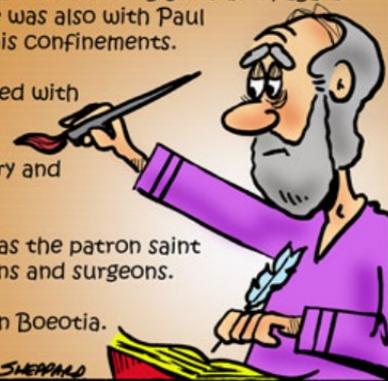
St. Luke was born in Syria and trained as a physician. He was also one of the most extensive writers of the New Testament. In addition to his gospels, he also wrote the 'Acts of the Apostles.'

He was one of 'the seventy' and worked with St. Paul, traveling to Rome and converting Jews and pagans to Christianity. He was also with Paul during several of his confinements.

Luke is also credited with being a prolific painter, creating many works of Mary and Jesus.

St. Luke is known as the patron saint of artists, physicians and surgeons.

He died at age 84 in Boeotia.



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The House Teams celebrate the Feast Day of their respective Saints with a Celebration of the Word) from the Gospels.

MATHS AMBASSADORS

I'd like to introduce our team of 'Maths Ambassadors':



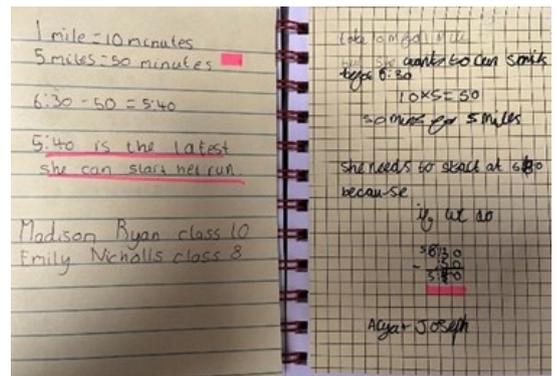
Our team of 'Maths Ambassadors' have already been busy supporting classes with their Mastering Number Sessions and advising Year 4s on effective ways to learn their multiplication tables. They will also be checking and updating our maths displays – looking out for

your useful 'flops' (mistakes in maths) and finding who has provided useful 'flips' (ways to flip the flop – correct the mistake). They are currently speaking to our staff to find out if they have any maths related problems we can try and help them with – so check out the board for the latest problems (Mr Stalker currently has an issue with his season ticket costs).

Well done to: Arya Mc, Emily N, Madison R and Jacob S (Year 6) for helping Mrs. Wainwright solve her running problem and Arya, Emmie and Jacob for helping Mrs. Tiernan with her hairdressing costs – that was challenging!

PROBLEM (Y3-Y6):

Mrs. Wainwright is now running much more slowly than usual, after her foot operation, and is averaging at just under 10 minutes per mile. She wants to run 5 miles each Wednesday but must be home before her son arrives home from football training at 6:30pm - what is the latest time she can set off on her run?



| | |
|----------------------|------------------------------------|
| 52 weeks in 1 year | 52 weeks |
| 4 weeks = 52 | 52 ÷ 5 = 10.2 |
| 52 ÷ 4 = 13 | Con method |
| spends 98.50 | 50 would have to go for 10.2 weeks |
| 1985.00 | 10 x 98.50 = 985.00 |
| 3295.50 | 2 washing boxes left |
| 8 | 11 x 98.50 = 1083.50 |
| 13 1280.50 | 14.85.00 she would |
| 98.50 x 13 = 1280.50 | + 98.50 save at 1280.50 |
| | 10 833.50 - 985 = 1295.50 |

PROBLEM (Y6):

Mrs. Tiernan spends £98.50 each time she visits the hairdressers! She usually makes her visits every 4 weeks but has decided to reduce her visits to every 5 weeks instead. How much, over a year, will she now save?



AUTUMN COFFEE MORNING: WEDNESDAY 23rd OCTOBER

We extend a warm welcome to our pupils and families for our first Coffee Morning of the academic year. This lovely 'breakfast' event will take place from 8.15 - 8.45 a.m. on Wednesday 23rd October. This is a chance to start the day off with time with your child whilst catching up with other parents/carers and staff. There will be books around the school hall for families to engage with along with a special Half Term Hamper Raffle. Raffle tickets will be available to purchase from Monday 14th October and will be on sale at the Coffee Morning event.



CLASS ASSEMBLIES

Parents/Carers, family members and friends are most welcome to share the celebrations at 10.00 am.

The following assemblies have been arranged for this academic year, though they are subject to change.

| DATE | TOPIC | CLASS |
|----------|--------------------------------------|--------|
| 11.10.24 | INTERNATIONAL DAY OF THE GIRL CHILD | C10 MG |
| 24.10.24 | CALLED | C3 VF |
| 15.11.24 | INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR TOLERANCE | C7 MH |
| 22.11.24 | GREAT THINKERS: WORLD PHILOSOPHY DAY | C4 RG |
| 6.12.24 | GOD'S MESSAGE: PROPHECY AND PROMISE | C1 AR |
| 20.12.24 | CHRISTMAS MEDITATION | C9 JM |
| 17.01.25 | SOURCES | C8 JW |
| 31.01.25 | GOD'S KINGDOM: GALILEE AND JERUSALEM | C2 LL |
| 14.02.25 | UNITY | C10 MG |
| 14.03.25 | SACRIFICE | C6 JJ |
| 28.03.25 | INTERNATIONAL DAY OF ZERO WASTE | C9 JM |
| 04.04.25 | EASTER MEDITATION | C7 MH |
| 02.05.25 | NEW LIFE | C3 VF |
| 23.05.25 | SAINTS AND ANGELS | C5 MH |
| 13.06.25 | WORLD OCEANS DAY | C1 AR |
| 20.06.25 | HEALING | C8 JW |
| 04.07.25 | CELEBRATION OF SPORT | C2 LL |
| 11.07.25 | GOD'S PEOPLE | C4 RG |
| 22.07.25 | LEAVER'S ASSEMBLY (1.30 pm) | Y6 |

CAFOD FAMILY FAST DAY

On Friday 4th October, pupils and staff came together to learn about CAFOD Family Fast Day, which also fell on the Feast Day of St. Francis of Assisi. Family Fast Day is a day of prayer and fasting that supports people who are struggling to eat. CAFOD calls each of us to pray, give and eat more simply in solidarity with our global family. This harvest season, CAFOD is urging us to give so that people around the world can learn new skills and fulfil their God-given potential. Thanks to the kind donations from our school community, we are sending £45 off to CAFOD. If you still wish to donate, please visit CAFOD's website.

'Whoever is kind to the poor lends to the Lord and will be repaid in full.'

Proverbs 19:17

'Whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.'

Matthew 25: 40