Another fortnight has passed us by and what a busy one it has been! The news that I am moving on at the end of this academic year has now been shared and I would like to thank parents and carers for lovely messages and cards. It is with very mixed feelings that I am moving on. St Joseph’s has been my ‘family’ for nine years and it is very much part of who I am. I have been blessed with wonderful children, supportive parents, hard-working and dedicated staff and governors to support me during my time here and the school has gone from strength to strength. The school is in a securely good place now, for the next phase in its’ journey—but it will always have a special place in my heart.

World Book Day – how much fun! Thank you to all of the children and staff who made such an effort to dress up as a Roald Dahl character! As ever the costumes have been varied and creative. Everyone looked amazing! The children thoroughly enjoyed the workshops that they had with Katie and Sarah, KS1 even has some lickable wall paper! Thank you to the parents who paid promptly – we are still waiting for 60 parents to pay. Please could you do so immediately to save office staff time chasing for payment—£3.50 per child.

Please can we remind all parents that they are responsible for their children when they are in the playground. Last week there was an incident when a toddler was knocked over by a child from OOSC on a Didi car – fortunately the toddler was not hurt! However, when the OOSC are using the playground for such activities, parents need to ensure that their little ones are kept out of harms way! On the Friday before half term a group of Year 4 children: Francesca, Emily, Hamish, Daisy, Faith, James, Millie and Harvey R planned, advertised and held a cake sale to raise money for CAFOD. They were very well supported by the Year 4 parents, who provided the cakes. They made an amazing £136.96! Thank you to the staff and parents who supported this event and enabling it to happen. We are so proud that our children show such empathy towards others to the point that they have invested the time it takes to make something like this happen. Well done to you all!

A small group of children: Ted, Joseph, Isabelle and Sadie represented Dursley District in county cross country last Saturday. The weather was terrible, but this didn’t put the children off! Well done to all of you—it was great to have such a large representation from St Joseph’s. Well done especially to Isabelle who is going on to represent Gloucestershire in the national cross country race in Leicester. Best of luck! Well done to the children and staff that took part in the pancake race. I’m sure you have heard all about the winners, but just to confirm Falcons were the winners overall! The children took part in the Lent retreat last Tuesday in order to prepare them for the season of Lent. Some of the stations were led by the Chaplaincy Team which was fabulous to see, but the whole experience was reverent, respectful and prayerful. Don’t forget that tomorrow night is the school Disco. Our PTA work tirelessly to raise much needed additional money for the school. Please do support them with their events. Hopefully, you have managed to book your parents evening appointments. Please make sure that you arrive in plenty of time as staff need to keep to the timetable so as to not overrun. It is such a lovely time for you to celebrate your child/ren’s hard work!

“Having faith does not mean having no difficulties, but having the strength to face them, knowing we are not alone”. Pope Francis
**Weekly REACh Awards**  
7th and 28th February 2020

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School</th>
<th>Students</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>St Mary</td>
<td>Gilbert, Bobbie and Finlay</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St Joseph</td>
<td>Megan, Dougie, Tansy and Isla C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St Peter</td>
<td>Darcie, Rosie, Evie-Mai and Matilda</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St Patrick</td>
<td>Safia, Florence, Jasmine and Autumn</td>
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<tr>
<td>St George</td>
<td>Amelia, Aeva and Harry H</td>
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<tr>
<td>St Teresa</td>
<td>Tilly, Summer, Eliza and Isabel Mc</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St David</td>
<td>Alfie, Posy, Freddie N and Ayla</td>
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</tbody>
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**Forthcoming events**

- **6th March**  PTA Disco 6 - 7.30pm
- **10th March**  Parents’ Evening
- **11th March**  Parents’ Evening
- **11th March**  KLB Hockey Tournament
- **13th March**  ECO meeting
- **18th March**  PTA AGM 7.30pm
- **19th March**  St Joseph’s Feast Day

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**Earth Hour**, which takes place on the 28th March 2020 at 8.30pm, is the world’s biggest switch off event – a moment millions come together for nature, people and the planet.

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**SCHOOL TRIPS**

Lots of exciting trips and events have been planned for the children please pay promptly by PARENTPAY. We thank the PTA for subsidising these events.

- **Y5 WW2 Experience Day on 1st April 2020** — £15 per child
- **Y4 Slimbridge Wetlands on 14th May 2020** — £13 per child
- **Y5 Sir William Romney experience day on 15th June 2020** — £3.50 per child

25 dinner accounts are in debit please try to keep your child’s dinner account in credit. Too much admin time is spent chasing payments. **THANK YOU**

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**Marling School Open Mornings**

The parents of boys, currently in Year 5, who are looking at Marling School Y7 entry in September 2021 may like to know our Open Mornings are scheduled for **Thursday 2 April** and **Thursday 25 June 2020**, arrive for either 9.00 or 9.30am, no need to pre-book. We look forward to welcoming you and your son(s). The Entrance Test takes place on Saturday 12 September 2020 - if you would like an emailed reminder to register when the registration window opens in June 2020, please email admissions@marling.school with ‘reminder to register’ in the subject line.

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**ST MARY’S**

Congratulations to Layla and Daisy who won the yummy cake recently. **THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!**

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**PTA EVENTS**— full communications on each event will follow at the appropriate time.

- **Friday 6 March** 6pm to 7.30pm: School Disco
- **Wednesday 18 March** 7.30pm: PTA AGM at school
- **Sunday 29 March** 1.30pm-4.30pm Easter Egg Hunt
- **Friday 10 July**: Summer Camp-Out at school

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**Ribston Hall High School**

Ribston Hall High School would like to invite Year 4 and Year 5 girls and their parents to our AIM (Admissions Information Morning) from **9am to 11am**. Student-guided tours of the school will be available

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**Thursday 23rd April 2020**

Ribston Hall High School would like to invite Year 4 and Year 5 girls and their parents to our AIM (Admissions Information Morning) from **9am to 11am**. Student-guided tours of the school will be available.

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**WORLD AUTISM AWARENESS WEEK** runs from 30th March to 5th April this year.

Y5/6 Girls Football tournament at Rednock 4th March the team were Holly, Willow, Ava, Isabelle D, Maisie, Leah and Layla. The girls played well showing excellent teamwork and represented St Joseph’s brilliantly. Thanks to Mr Holloway and Mrs Ferris for lifts, support and Jaffa cakes!