

Foundation 2 have been working so hard!

In Foundation 2, the children have been learning all about Owls following on from our exciting Owl Visit. We have been reading loads of different Owl stories, fiction and non-fiction including our main story book focus 'Owl Babies'.



The children have created beautiful Owl art work to showcase in our Owl project assembly as well as some fantastic sentences from the book. From this, we have been learning about human babies and how they need to be looked after and cared for. The children have been looking after our baby dolls in their continuous provision, gently bathing, dressing and caring for them.

In RE, Foundation 2 have been learning about Jesus choosing his Disciples. They were able to retell the story and talk about it to their friends. In



reflection, they thought about their own best friends in class and how they can help each other. They also spoke about how they could help Jesus by spreading love, kindness and happiness to everybody they know.

Our value of the month is determination.

In Foundation we have been talking about the power of 'yet'. We have learnt that there might be things that we cannot do, but if we stay determined and persevere, we will reach our goals!



As Chinese New Year approaches, Foundation 2 have been very excited to learn about all of the celebrations and rituals. We have been learning all about the ancient dragon and watching ancient dragon dances. Not only this, we have also been making Chinese New Year decorations for our classroom! Kung Hei Fat Choy!



Year 4 love swimming

Swimming in Year 4

For the last two weeks, Year 4 have taken part in swimming lessons in the afternoon. We have been so impressed with their enthusiasm and perseverance. At first, they were all a little nervous but they didn't let that stop them! The children have practised different swimming strokes and have shown so much improvement. They have been brave enough to jump in, sometimes in the deep end! As well as now swimming without armbands lots of the children also managed to swim 25m unaided which is a fantastic achievement.



The children also showed great maturity when walking to and from Guinea Gap and were very sensible when crossing roads and members of the public. Well done everyone! It would be fantastic to hear about any opportunities the children are given to swim out of school to help them gain even more confidence and keep up the new skills they have learnt.

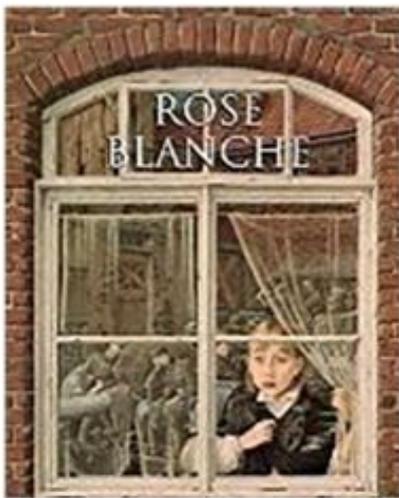
Accelerated reading

Year 4 have been working so hard on their accelerated reading and I am so impressed with their eagerness to take part and their determination to improve. They have been reading a wider range of books and are improving their comprehension skills. It is lovely to see the children enjoying reading different texts and also reading more at home. They will be taking part in their games afternoon on Friday to celebrate their great achievements.



Chinese New Year with Y6

On Monday, Year 6 celebrated Chinese New Year. We learnt how the 12 year annual zodiac works and found out that **we** were born in the year of the Ox. In Chinese culture, the Ox is a valued animal. Because of its role in agriculture, positive characteristics such as being *hardworking* and *honest*, are attributed to it. **A lot** like the pupils in Year 6! We celebrated with some delicious Chinese food served on red plates and red napkins. Red is a popular colour in Chinese culture, symbolising luck, joy and happiness. At the end of our tasty meal, we had great fun cracking open our fortune cookies and reading one another's paper fortunes. **Chinese New Year** in **2020** was on Saturday, the 25th of January. According to the Chinese 12-year animal zodiac cycle, the Chinese year beginning in 2020 is the year of the Rat. Each Chinese zodiac year begins on **Chinese New Year's Day**.



In English this week, we have focussed on diary writing. Our vehicle text is a very powerful historical fiction book by Roberto Innocenti set during the Second World War. **Rose Blanche** tells the story of a young German girl - Rose. Rose watches as the streets of her town fill with soldiers and tanks. Then, one day, she follows a truck into the woods and discovers a terrible secret. Rose Blanche was the name of a movement group in Germany who, at their peril, protested against the war. Like them, Rose observes all the changes going on around her which others choose to ignore. We know that the word '**diary**' comes from the Latin-*diarium* and means '**daily allowance**'. We have learnt the features (ingredients) of what makes a good diary entry and are practising these features to write in character as

ST JOSEPHS PARISH CENTRE

Over the last few weeks a group of people have got together to discuss the future of St Joseph's Parish Centre and make it a viable space for parish and community use. The building needs considerable refurbishment so there is an urgent need to obtain funding. To support the funding bids we need to provide information from possible user groups and a very short survey, only 2 tick box questions, has been compiled and can be completed on line:-

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/2M5SJV7>

The questions are very simple and it is really important that we collect as many replies as possible from all the parish / school / community groups who may be able to use the facilities when they are available. Please take 5 minutes to complete the survey as your help is essential in moving the project to a successful conclusion

Many thanks
Fr Devan

School Attendance

Attendance is good at present, well done to all who have still got 100%!

It is a key priority for us to ensure that attendance remains at 97% or above.

And to everyone who has made such an effort this week to be in school every day

Attendance overall including Foundation Stage: 94.6%

Attendance overall without Foundation Stage: 94.8%

Those who have already fallen below national average will be invited into Attendance Panel or receive a home visit from our Education Social Worker.



CLASS	LAST WEEK	THIS WEEK
Foundation 1 Mrs Fretwell	85.7%	92.3%
Foundation 2 Miss Allen	92%	84%
Foundation 2 Mrs Walker	92.7%	91.8%
Year 1: Miss J Turner	95.3%	98.7%
Year 1: Mrs Osiac	87.9%	95.7%
Year 2: Miss Last	96.4%	97.2%
Year 3 Miss Finnigan	95.2%	96.6%
Year 4 Miss Davies	95.2%	98.5%
Year 5: Miss J Allen	92%	95.6%
Year 6: Miss Morgan	96.8%	97.4%
Year 6: Mr Broughton	85.5%	92.7%



Family Mass

Thank you to all those families who support these Masses; the children love taking part, and we would like to encourage more families to share these special occasions.

**Please join us at 11am
on
Sunday 2nd February
in St Joseph's Church**



Baptismal Preparation

If you wish to have your child baptised at St Joseph's church you will need to attend a Baptism Preparation Meeting

The next meeting is 2pm
Sunday 9th February
St Alban's Parish Hall

You don't need to book a place, just come along for an informal hour of information and to collect an application form

Completed forms should be returned to the Parish Office to arrange a date



St Joseph's Catholic Primary School



“Together in faith we nurture, encourage and inspire each other to achieve excellence and become all that Jesus calls us to be”

Headteacher Mrs K Vernon

School Office 31st January 2020

Dear Parents

Mental Health Week – ‘Finding our Brave’

Next week in school as part of our joint project with Wallasey schools - ‘Wellbeing for Wallasey’ – we will be working together to support and promote the mental health and well-being of all in our school. Raising awareness of the importance of children’s mental health and wellbeing is so important with many young people facing so many challenges and difficulties in their lives.

The theme of Mental Health Week is ‘Find our Brave’- building children’s confidence and self-esteem so that they feel good about themselves. We have organised workshops for the children led by ‘Relax Kids together with special assemblies and class activities to explore these themes. We would like all children to come dressed in bright colours for our non-uniform day on Friday in exchange for a £1.00 donation to our campaign ‘Wellbeing for Wallasey’. Thank you for your support.

Family Mass

This Sunday our Year 2 children will be leading the Family Mass at St Joseph’s Church at the 11.00 Mass. This is always such a lovely opportunity for the children and they have been

recent Family Masses to see so many parents and children coming to join us for these Masses. It makes it so special for the children. Children should wear school uniform and arrive at church at 10.45. We would love to see you there.



Sacramental Preparation

This term we will begin our sacramental programme for First Forgiveness and First Holy Communion. These sacraments mark such a special and important step on your child’s journey of faith and we want to encourage as many children as possible to take part. The invitation is for all children who **are baptised Catholic in year 3 up to year 6**. If your child is not yet baptised and you would like them to receive the sacraments this year Baptismal meetings take place on the second Sunday of each month at 2.00pm St Alban’s Parish Hall. If you have any questions at all please come and see either myself, Miss Morgan or Mrs Airey – we’re here to help.

School Book Fair

We are delighted to announce the return of the school Book Fair next week. Books will be available to buy everyday next week after school from 3.40 in the school hall. Please come along with your child to browse and choose from the excellent choice of books at knockdown prices. Your purchases also help us to receive money towards free books for school



Safety

Please could I ask in the interests of safety that parents and carers do not come over to the school playground fence at playtime and lunchtimes to talk to the children. We regularly teach the children about stranger danger and they are told that they must never cross the white line marked on the school playground to talk to any adults at the school fence, even if that adult is familiar to them. Thank you for your support.

Every blessing

Mrs Vernon

Golden Assembly 31st January 2020	
Miss Allen	Esmee Gladden
Mrs Walker	Kai McNamara
Miss J Turner	Whole Class
Mrs Osiac	Whole Class
Miss Last	Whole Class
Miss Finnigan	Keira Pickles
Miss Davies	Lucie Evans
Miss J Allen	Kurtis Roberts
Miss Morgan	Lycan Jackson
Mr Broughton	Amelia Kasprzyk

preparing this week in school. It has been great at