

Y4 have a great 'No Pen Day'

Back on Wednesday 25th November, year 4 (along with all the other classes at St Joseph's) enjoyed "No Pen Day" to celebrate and raise awareness of the importance of oracy within our curriculum. Needless to say, the day was an absolute success! The children had a fantastic day filled with practical learning and discussion.



Year 4's day started with a focus upon listening skills. We began with a few 'listening games' designed to get the children to focus upon really listening hard. The first game involved the children taking it in turns to sit in the centre of the room, blindfolded and guarding a set of keys. Their task was simple (or so they thought); to point at the person who was trying to sneak up and steal the keys. This proved to be a great moment of realization for everyone when we stopped to listen, we realised how challenging it can be!



The next game involved the children memorising a shopping list as it grew. No easy task. Each child had to listen carefully to the children who came before, they then recited the list before adding their own items. For added difficulty, the list had to be in alphabetical order.



After we'd finished our listening games, the children moved onto mathematics.

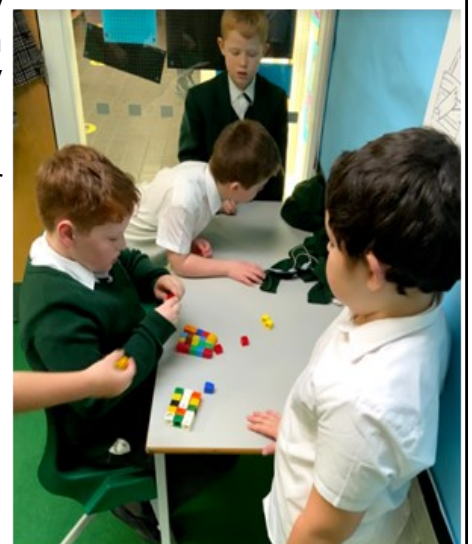
They were tasked with investigating division using practical resources. They worked in teams and produced a video each to explain what they had discovered

about division from their investigation. How many different ways can you divide this number? Do you always get a whole number? How is division related to multiplication? Year 4 excelled themselves and produced some fantastic reasoning.

For our English lesson, year 4 created new dialogue for the story that we've been studying (The Journey). The children then acted out their new scenes from the book, explaining how the characters might be feeling throughout their challenging journey to escape the war. The children were really mature with a difficult subject matter and produced some excellent dialogue to move the story narrative forward.

Our day finished off with a spot of debate. As part of our topic (migration), the children formed a class parliament to discuss the issue, "Should the UK limit the numbers of migrant and refugees that are allow to enter the country." I was really impressed with both teams. They debated really well, listened carefully to the points raise and skilfully developed their own counter arguments.

Overall, "No Pen Day," proved to be a massively valuable day that the children all really benefited from. I, for one, cannot wait for the next one!



Room on a Broom with F2



Foundation 2 have had great fun reading 'Room on a broom' by Julia Donaldson. We have been making our very own witches' potion. We investigated how to make our potion fizz. It was great fun and we got to see how different

things react when put together.

The children have loved dressing up to act out the story in the role play and are able to re-tell the story in great detail.

This week we have carried on reading Julia Donaldson books and have begun reading 'Stickman'. We love this story in Foundation 2 as it means the beginning of Christmas!!!!

We have decorated our 3 Christmas trees and

sprinkled Christmas all over the room. The children are now writing cards and Christmas lists in the writing area and making presents in the workshop. We are looking forward to starting our Christmas crafts next week.

The children have been working hard on our school nativity and even though it is a little different this year the children are really enjoying rehearsing and performing and I have no doubt they will do a fantastic job!

This year every class will perform a song within the play and the link will be sent out for all parents to

watch. We really hope you enjoy it!



Year 3 met the author, Jamie Littler!



Year 3 had a fantastic virtual visit from Jamie Littler, the author of the Frostheart series. He talked to us about how he became an author and we had the opportunity to ask questions. He showed us how he illustrated his characters and we took part in a draw along with him. He inspired us to think about what genre books we would like to write and we created our own character.

Active grammar!

Year 3 are working so hard on their writing and we are loving the more active parts of our lessons. Here we are during our active grammar, can you tell which verbs and adverbs we are acting out?

We have been writing our own



return stories, based around our text 'Jemmy Button'. We are working really hard on improving our vocabulary and have learnt lots of new words to use in our story, such as turbulent, voyage, yearn, civilised and extraordinary. Year 3 have recently started accelerated reader and they are all doing brilliantly. It is lovely to see them being so enthusiastic about their books and they are eager to

read and take part in their quizzes. The children have scored well so far and I cannot wait to see them progress further with this!

A BIG well done to all of year 3.

School Attendance

Attendance is below our target, well done to all who have achieved or are close to 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: 93%

Attendance overall without Foundation Stage: 94%



CLASS	LAST WEEK	THIS WEEK
E2 : Mrs Higgins	86%	89%
Foundation 1 : Miss Howard	86%	89%
Foundation 2 : Miss Turner	95%	95%
Foundation 2 : Mrs Walker	98%	97%
Year 1 : Miss Last	97%	96%
Year 2 : Miss Finnigan	92%	94%
Year 3 : Miss Davies	98%	98%
Year 4 : Mr Broughton	91%	90%
Year 5 : Miss J Allen	96%	92%
Year 6 : Miss Morgan	87%	86%

Pupils should wash their hands:

before leaving home

on arrival at school

after using the toilet

after breaks and sporting activities

before food preparation

before eating any food,

including snacks

before leaving school.



Our churches are now open again for masses on Monday at 9.30am, Wednesday at 12noon and Sunday 11am and 6.30pm.

Christmas Masses

St Josephs

Christmas Eve 4.30pm and 6.30pm

Christmas Day 11am

St Alban's

Christmas Eve 4pm and 6pm

Christmas Day Midnight and 9.30am

To keep everyone safe we will be following all the usual guidelines (mask-space-sanitize) and using a booking system for all masses. We have 70 seats for each mass and seats will be allocated as requests are received. If you want to reserve ticket/s please call **638 1520** or email at stalbanandstjoseph@yahoo.co.uk and leave your name, number, mass time and number of tickets. Many thanks.



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 M Hollis

School Office 4th December 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

I hope that you are all well and have coped well with the recent lockdown restrictions. As we move into a new tier system, please take note of the new restrictions. It is important that we continue to work together to adhere to government guidance, in order to keep our school community and own families safe.

The latest government advice can be found at: <https://www.wirral.gov.uk/health-and-social-care/health-wirral/coronavirus-update>

Poster outlining Tier 2 Restrictions: please copy and paste link to open file. https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/938048/COVID-19_Tier_Posters_2020_Final_High_Print.pdf

This year we are asking the children to bring any Christmas cards and gifts that they would like to give out, into school by Monday 14th December. These will then be kept in quarantine until Thursday the 17th December; they will then be distributed accordingly. Unfortunately, any gifts and cards received after this date will be in quarantine until after Christmas. This is to ensure that we are adhering to our risk assessment restrictions.

On Friday the 11th we are participating in a Rudolph Fun Run. Children are to come to school in their PE kit; fun antlers and red noses will be provided for every child. Please share the sponsor form provided with family and friends, sponsorship money will be donated to

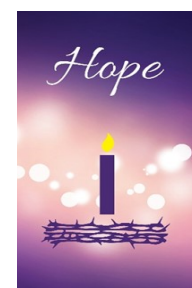


Wirral Hospice, St John's.

I am extremely proud of our children and how they conduct themselves and strive to achieve their best

in school. They are a credit to our school community and an inspiration to us, especially in these unprecedented times. By the end of Monday you should have received a report electronically for your child. Please contact the school office if you haven't received one or if you would like to discuss the content of your child's report.

This week we started our Advent journey, with the focus on the Advent message of hope and light. As a school we joined together virtually to think about what Advent means to us. The children have been reflecting on their Advent promises and Hopes for the future and have added these to our display in the foyer.



Each Wednesday The Wednesday Word will be shared on your child's class Dojo. The Wednesday Word is packed with family activities related to the issues and messages present in the weekly liturgies. Please take the time to share these messages and activities with your family and friends.



*Christ our Light
Shine in our lives with hope
and promise*

*Give us right vision so that we remain attentive
to this holy season
Remind us to look for you in small acts
of kindness and love
We await your coming with wonder.
Amen*

May the Lord's blessings be with you and your family during this Advent season.

Mrs Hollis



COVID—19

Many thanks for continuing to support us in our mission to keep our St Joseph's community safe during this pandemic. I am proud of how the children take necessary safety measures in their stride. I must ask that all adults adhere to national social distancing guidelines and wear a face covering at drop off and collection times.

I have noticed that many families that are not adhering to this measure, we can't afford complacency. If you have an arranged meeting in school you will be required to provide your own face covering.

