Learning and loving with Christ as our teacher

SACRED HEART CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL & NURSERY

NEWSLETTER

17TH MAY 2024

Dear God,
Thank you for this day. Please help us in our time of need. Thank you for everything we have - our families, freinds and everything we have. Help us to do the correct things. Help us to be kind to others. Help us to take care of our world.
Amen
Written by Zoe



Upcoming Key Dates

Summer Term	Year 4 Swimming
Monday 13th May to Thursday 16th May	Year 6 Sats
Monday 20th May – Friday 24th May	Year 6 Residential Trip to Longridge Walk to School Week
Tuesday 21st May	9 – 10:15 – EYFS Sports Day 10:45 – 12:00 – Phase 1/2 Sports Day 1:15 – 2:30 – Phase 3/4 Sports Day
Monday 27th May – Friday 31st May	Half Term
Monday 3rd June	Inset Day
Tuesday 4th June – 7th June	Multiplication Check
Friday 7th June	Sacred Heart Feast Day Mass for Years 1 – 6 in Church at 9:15am. Phase 1/2 to lead. Whole school picnic at 12pm to 1:pm on the school field.
Monday 10th June – Friday 14th June	Multiplication Check and Phonics Screening

Headteacher's Message

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have had a busy few weeks with lots of learning and fun activities.
You can find out more about these in the newsletter.
Next week, our Year 6 pupils are going on their school trip to Longridge. We wish them a wonderful journey and hope they have lovely weather.
Next Tuesday, the EYFS Sports Day is from 9 - 10:15, Phase 1/2 10:45 - 12pm and Phase 3/4 from 1:15 - 2:30. You are most welcome to join us for this.
Thank you for your ongoing support and partnership in your child's education journey.
Take care and have a lovely weekend.

Warm regards,

Mrs. Smith





St Joseph's Feast Day

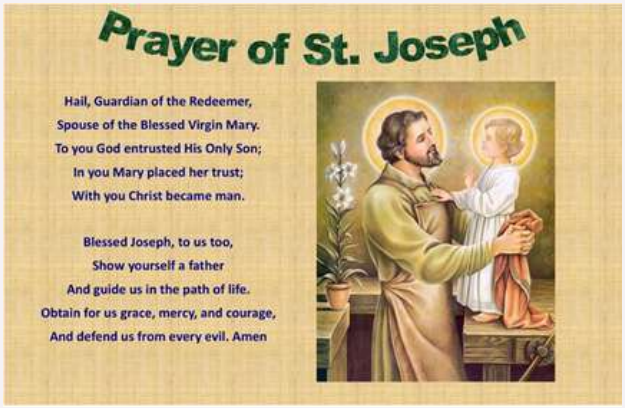
On Wednesday 1st May St Joseph's class celebrated their feast day. They wore their own clothes to school, learnt about St Joseph, held a special collective worship and made lillies to remind them of St Joseph. They also went to Nursery to visit their chicks.













Phase 1/2 Mass in Church

On Thursday 2nd May, Phase 1/2 had their phase Mass in Church. The children read brilliantly and sang enthusiatically. Thank you to everyone who joined us for this special occasion.

The theme of the Mass was 'Giving Thanks.' During the Mass the pupils gave thanks to God for the world, our cosy homes, our loving families, our firendships and our school. They also thanked Jesus for bringing light into our lives. They thought about how at Sacred Heart we are a heart that sees and a heart that acts.

Here are some of the ways the pupils continued to think about this when they were back in school.



They worked together to learn about God's Creation so that they can help look after it.



As it is the month of May, they asked Mary to help them to be disciples of Christ and to spread the light of Jesus.

Ascension Mass

On Thursday 9th May Years 1 - 6 went to Church to celebrate Ascension. The children listened to the readings from the bible and reflected on the meaning of Ascension - Jesus is with us forever.
The Feast of Ascension is celebrated forty days after Easter. On the Ascension, Jesus and His disciples gathered together for the last time. While they were together, Jesus was taken up to Heaven and disappeared into the clouds.
We say in the Apostle's Creed:
'He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come to judge the living and the dead.'
When Jesus ascended into Heaven, two angels appeared to the apostles and told them that Jesus will come back the same way He went up. At the end of time, Jesus will return again. In the meantime we are not alone. It may seem that we are but He is closer to us than ever.
Back in class the pupils completed activities on the Ascension and they have started work on Pentecost.








Chicks in Nursery

For two weeks in April, the Nursery pupils looked after chicks in their classroom. They learnt about the life cycle of chicks and how to look after them.
















Spotlight on Prayer and Liturgy

Prayer and liturgy are integral components of the religious and spiritual life of the Sacred Heart Community. During May all classes have been praying the rosary. We also held a May procession where the House Captains crowned Mary, the Year 5's from Year 5/6 sang a song about Mary and the choir also sang a song for Mary. As part of our prayer progression each phase has traditional prayers that they learn. Below is the traditional prayer that each phase are currently learning:

Phase	Prayer
Phase EYFS	**Hail Mary**
Phase 1/2	**Grace before meals** Bless us, O Lord, and these your gifts which we are about to receive from your bounty. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.
Phase 3/4	**Come, Holy Spirit** Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in them the fire of your love. Send forth your Spirit and they shall be created and you will renew the face of the earth. Let us pray O God, who by the light of the Holy Spirit, did instruct the hearts of your faithful, grant that by that same Holy Spirit, we may be truly wise, and ever rejoice in your consolation, Through Christ our Lord. Amen.
Phase 5/6	**The mysteries of the Rosary**







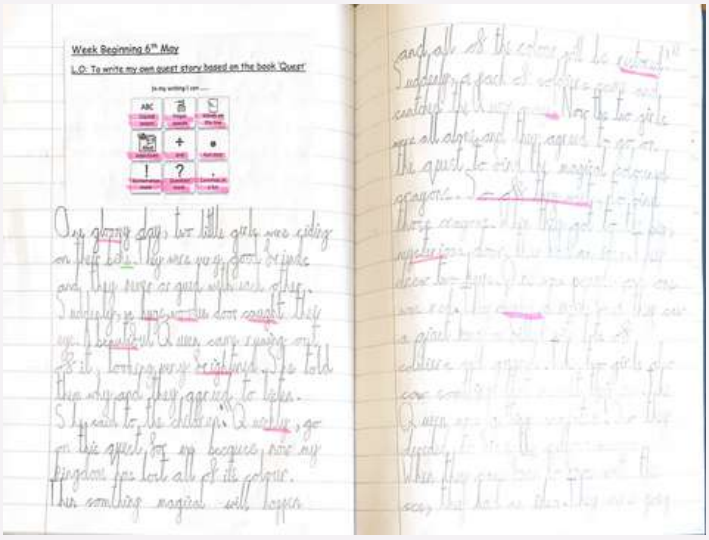


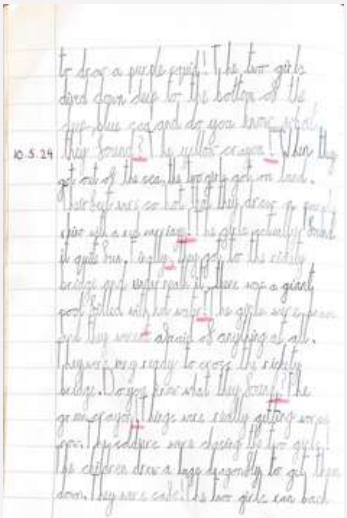


Spotlight on Writing

We use the book approach for our writing topics. This is where the pupils read a book as a stimulus for their writing. Each year group has a range of books and topics they complete. Twice a year the whole school focuses on the same book. Currently, the pupils from Year 1 up to Year 6 are writing stories based on the picture book Quest by Aaron Becker. Each year group has different grammar and text features that they are focusing on.

Year Group	Grammar & Text Focus
Yr N	Writing their name.
Yr R	Writing a simple sentence with a capital letter and full stop.
Yr 1	Joining words in sentences with the word and. Using a capital letter, full stop, question mark and exclamation mark. Using adjectives to descirbe words.
Yr 2	Using the following conjunctions - when, if that and because. To use time words to aid sequencing e.g. first, next, then. Using noun phrases.
Yr 3	Using the following conjunctions - when, before, after, while, so and because. Using adverbs e.g. then, next, soon, therefore. Using prepositions e.g. before, after, during, in, because of. Beginning to use inverted commas for speech. Beginning to use paragraphs.
Yr 4	Accurately using conjunctions and prepositions. Using fronted adverbials. Using inverted commas and other punctuation for speech. Organising ideas into paragraphs.
Yr 5	Using relative clauses beginning with who, which, where, when, whose and that. Using brackets, dashes or commas to indicate parenthesis. Linking ideas across paragraphs using adverbials of time, place and number.
Yr 6	Using semi-colons, colons and dashes to mark the boundary between independent clauses e.g. It's raining; I'm fed up. Linking ideas across paragraphs using a wider range of devices: repetition of a word or phrase, grammatical e.g. on the other hand, in contrast or as a consequence.

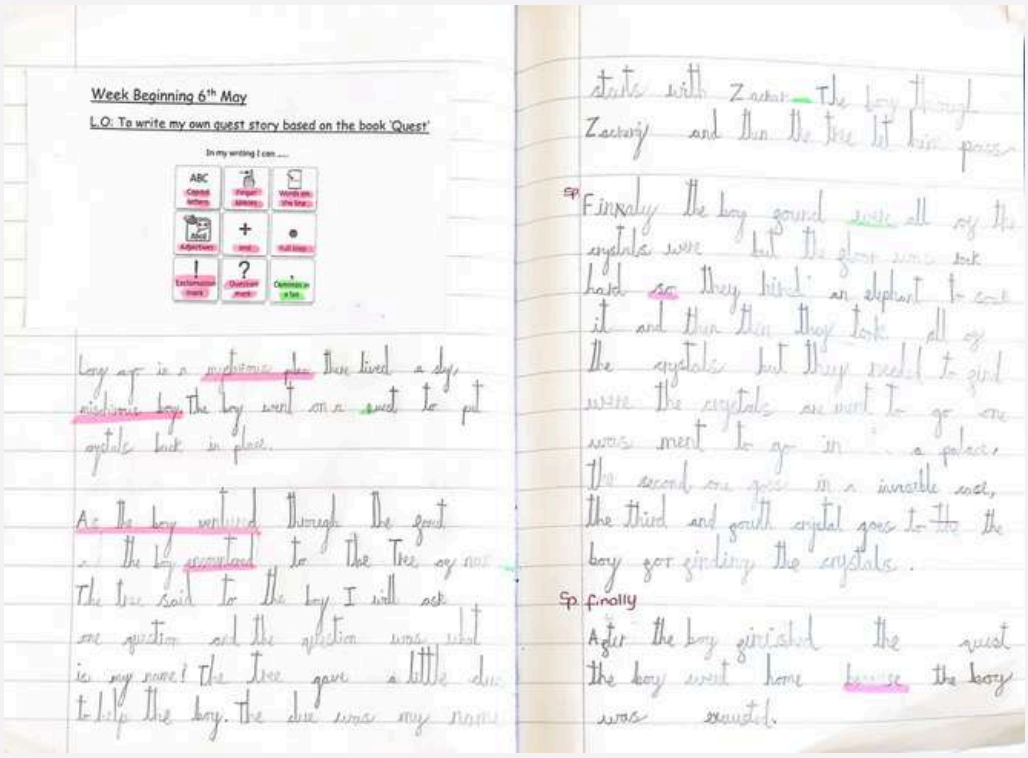








Spotlight on Writing



Week Beginning 6th May

L.O: To write my own quest story based on the book 'Quest'

In my writing I can ....

ABC Capital letters | Finger spaces | Words on the line

Adjectives | + and | . Full stop

! Exclamation mark | ? Question mark | , Commas in a list

Long ago in a mysterious place there lived a shy, mischievous boy. The boy went on a quest to put crystals back in place.

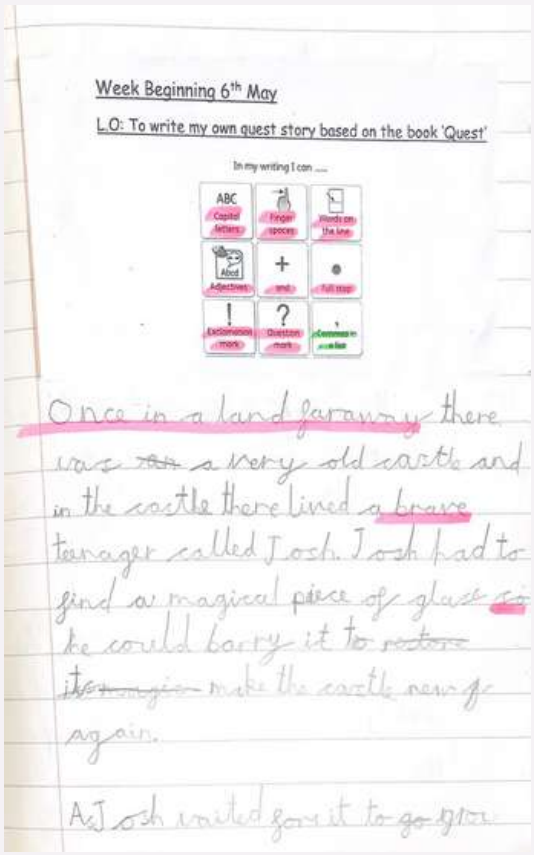
As the boy walked through the giant ... The boy carried to the Tree of ... The tree said to the boy I will ask one question and the question was what is my name? The tree gave a little clue to help the boy. The clue was my name

state with Z... The boy thought Zachary and then the tree let him pass.

Sp Finally the boy found ... all of the crystals were but the ... were not had so they hired an elephant to ... it and then they took all of the crystals but they needed to find ... where the crystals are went to go one was meant to go in ... a palace, the second one goes in a ... castle, the third and fourth crystal goes to the boy got finding the crystals.

Sp finally

After the boy finished the quest the boy went home ... the boy was rewarded.



Week Beginning 6th May

L.O: To write my own quest story based on the book 'Quest'

In my writing I can ....

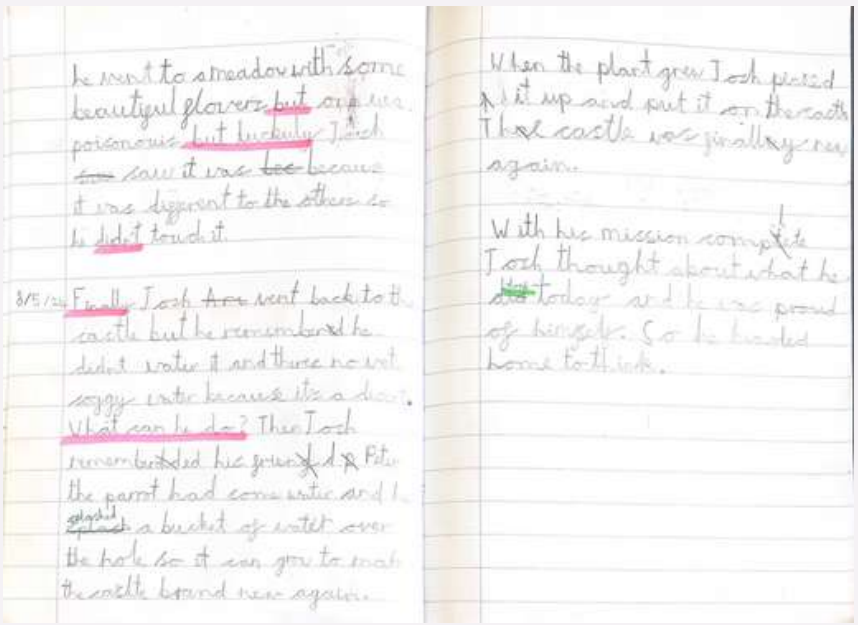
ABC Capital letters | Finger spaces | Words on the line

Adjectives | + and | . Full stop

! Exclamation mark | ? Question mark | , Commas in a list

Once in a land faraway there was a very old castle and in the castle there lived a brave teenager called Josh. Josh had to find a magical piece of glass so he could carry it to restore its magic to make the castle new ... again.

A J osh waited for it to go gro...



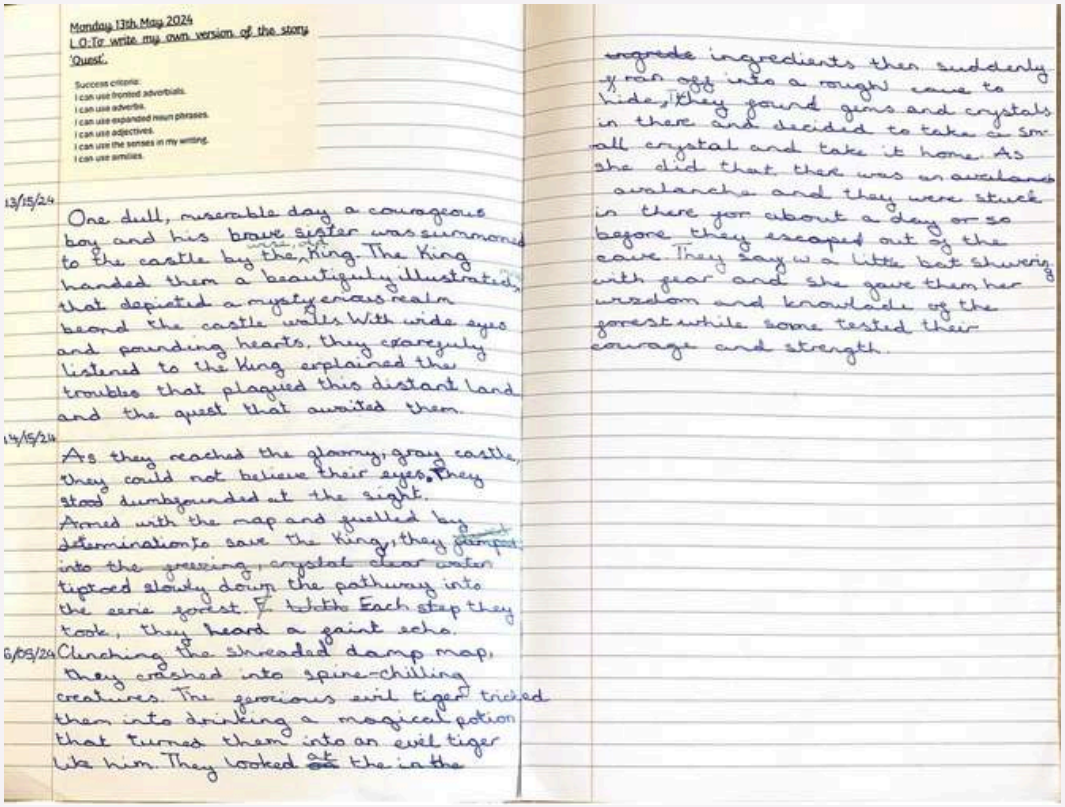
he went to a meadow with some beautiful flowers but ... poisonous but luckily Josh saw it was because it was different to the others so he didn't touch it.

3/5/24 Finally Josh went back to the castle but he remembered he didn't water it and there no wet soggy water because it's a desert. What can he do? Then Josh remembered his ... Fitz the parrot had some water and ... a bucket of water over the hole so it can grow to make the castle brand new again.

When the plant grew Josh placed it up and put it on the earth The castle was finally new again.

With his mission complete Josh thought about what he ... today and he was proud of himself. So he headed home to think.

Spotlight on Writing



Monday 13th May 2024
LO: To write my own version of the story 'Quest'.

Success criteria:
I can use fronted adverbials.
I can use adverbs.
I can use expanded noun phrases.
I can use adjectives.
I can use the senses in my writing.
I can use similies.

13/5/24

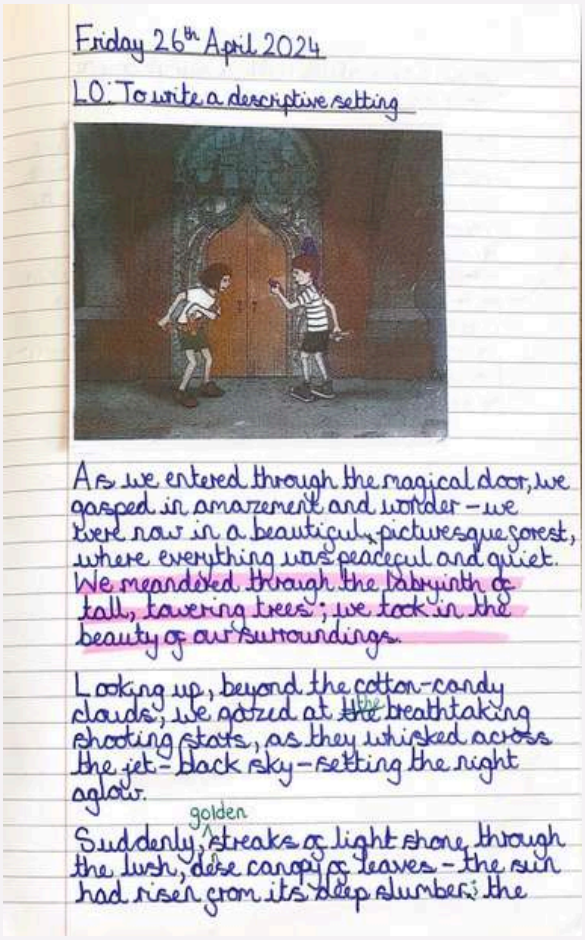
One dull, miserable day a courageous boy and his brave sister was summoned to the castle by the King. The King handed them a beautifully illustrated, that depicted a mysterious realm beond the castle walls. With wide eyes and pounding hearts, they carefully listend to the king explained the troubles that plagued this distant land and the quest that awaited them.

14/5/24

As they reached the gloomy, gray castle, they could not believe their eyes. They stood dumbgounded at the sight. Armed with the map and guelled by determination to save the King, they jumped into the freezing, crystal clear water tiptoed slowly down the pathway into the eerie forest. With Each step they took, they heard a faint echo.

6/05/24 Clenching the shreaded damp map, they crashed into spine-chilling creatures. The ferocious evil tiger tricked them into drinking a magical potion that turnes them into an evil tiger like him. They looked at the in the

engrede ingredients then suddenly y ran off into a rough cave to hide, they found gems and crystals in there and decided to take a sm all crystal and take it home. As she did that ther was an avalanch avalanche and they were stuck in there for about a day or so before they escaped out of the cave. They say w a little bat shivering with fear and she gave them her wisdom and knowlade of the forest while some tested their courage and strength.



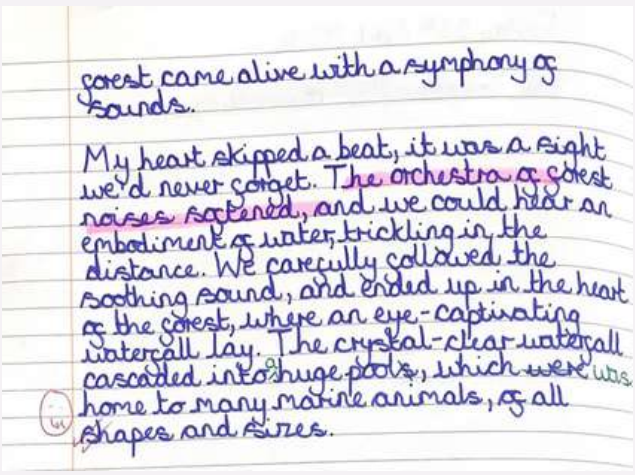
Friday 26th April 2024

LO: To write a descriptive setting

As we entered through the magical door, we gasped in amazement and wonder – we were now in a beautifully picturesque forest, where everything was peaceful and quiet. We meandered through the labryinth of tall, towering trees; we took in the beauty of our surroundings.

Looking up, beyond the cotton-candy clouds, we gazed at the breathtaking shooting stars, as they whisked across the jet-black sky – setting the night aglow.

Suddenly, golden streaks of light shone through the lush, dense canopy of leaves – the sun had risen from its deep slumber; the



forest came alive with a symphony of sounds.

My heart skipped a beat, it was a sight we'd never forget. The orchestra of forest noises softened, and we could hear an embodiment of water, trickling in the distance. We carefully followed the soothing sound, and ended up in the heart of the forest, where an eye-captivating waterfall lay. The crystal-clear waterfall cascaded into huge pools, which were was home to many marine animals, of all shapes and sizes.



Catholic Social Teaching – Dignity of the Worker

During this half term, we are focusing on Dignity of the Worker.
Pope Francis said that:

'Work is fundamental to the dignity of a person. Work anoints us with dignity, fills us with dignity, makes us similar to God, who has worked and still works, who always acts…"'

Pope Francis
Feast of St Joseph the Worker, May 2013

Some of the ways we are focusing on this are:

- In assemblies and lessons, the pupils are learning about the principles of Dignity of the Worker.
- Across the curriculum, pupils are also learning about Dignity of the Worker. For example in Maths lessons pupils explore fair wages and economic justice.
- Pupils are going on field trips to local shops and businesses that promote Dignity of the Worker such as RefillAbell in Bushey who source their products from ethical, sustainable, organic and local (where possible) businesses.
- Pupils are engaging in letter-writing campaigns to raise awareness about unfair labour practices and promote fair trade. Phase 5/6 have written letters to Mrs Smith asking for fair trade tea and coffee to be purchased for the staff room and for fair trade products to be used for school lunches.
- Pupils are writing and delivering thank you letters to workers in the local community.
- Pupils are taking extra care to ensure that they tidy all of their things at the end of the day so that the cleaners have tidy classrooms to clean.

Eco Ambassadors' Initiatives

The Eco Ambassadors have ordered compost and strawberry plants which they hope to plant before half term.
Next week, is Walk to School Week. We all know the health benefits of walking so please help us this week to reduce congestion by supporting children in being more active and help reduce lower carbon emissions during this Walk to School Week.
The Eco Ambassadors would like all our pupils to try and walk, cycle or scoot to school during this week. If it's not possible to walk all the way, then it would be great if you could park 10 minutes away from school and walk or scoot the last part of your journey.
Each class will have a poster featuring a map of Hertfordshire and the aim is to take a 'virtual' walk by helping Buster The Dinosaur (the Active and Safer Travel Team mascot) walk around Hertfordshire. Every time a pupil travels sustainably, a dot can be coloured in.
Following on from Walk to School Week, we will be supporting Clean Air Day on Thursday 20th June 2024, more information will be given closer to the date.





Caritas Ambassadors' Initiatives

Next week, the Caritas Ambassadors are carrying out their Community and Participation Catholic Social Teaching by helping Phase EYFS, Phase 1/2 and Phase 3/4 with their sports days. We look forward to seeing all the sporting activities and fun.

To end this half term's focus on Dignity of the Worker the Caritas Ambassadors have asked each phase to make thank you cards.



Phase EYFS	**Writing thank you cards for Caddy who cleans the Infant classrooms and the staff who work in their phase.**
Phase 1/2	**Writing thank you cards for our school cooks and the staff who work in their phase.**
Phase 3/4	**Writing thank you cards for Chris who cleans the Junior classrooms and the staff who work in their phase.**
Year 5	**Writing cards for the office staff, our caretaker and the staff who work in their phase.**
Year 6	**Writing cards for the staff who work at Longridge, the staff who took them on their residential trip and the staff who work in their phase.**











Sporting News

Netball Match Report

This week, on Monday, we played a netball match against The Grove Academy. We all played really well and won 12-1. Well done to Lucy who won 'Player of the Match'.

We all tried our best and well done to the team who came second.

Well done to Orla, Alannah, Lucy, Caitlin, Inaya, Isla, Lauren, Ava, Eabha-Mae, Chika, Amelie, Freya and William.

Well done to everyone who took part.

Thank you to Claudia for teaching us and for helping us to win.

Written by Orla



Football Match Report

Two weeks ago some of the boys played in a school football match against The Grove Academy.

The players were Henry, Thomas, Caleb, Fernando, Joseph, Ethan and Rocco.

It was a fantastic game and we won 3-0. Everyone played fantastically with out any subs.

We thank Mr Aston for arranging the game.

Written by Thomas and Ethan



Football Tournament Match Report

On Tuesday Sacred Heart played in a tournament. We lost the first two matches 1-0 and 2-1. After that we gave it our all and won 2-0. In our fourth game we drew 2-2 and in our final game we won 2-1.

Well done to Kieran, Declan, Freddie, Maria, Loulou, Mason and Theodore.

Thank you to Mrs O'Connor for cheering us on, to Mr Aston for coaching us and to our parents who took us to the tournament.

We came 3rd in the tournament and showed great determination and courage. We were awarded a certificate for great effort and teamwork.

Written by Declan, Freddie & Kieran



RE Parent Information



RE Newsletter
Please click on the link below to read the latest RE Newsletter.
www.tentenresources.co.uk/prayers-for-home/parent-newsletter/

Prayer at Home
You can access our latest Prayer at Home newsletter on the link below: https://sacredheart682.herts.sch.uk/2023-2024-prayer-at-home-newsletters/



Wednesday Word
The Primary School Wednesday Word is an online resource that allows you to reflect on the weekly Gospel. You can access this on the link below:
Wednesday Word



Sacred Heart Church Services
The weekend Mass times at the church are as follows:
Saturday - 6pm
Sunday - 8:30am, 10:30am, 6pm
There is children's liturgy during the 10:30am Mass.

Parish Newsletter
You can access the parish newsletter on this link:
https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/bushey/weekly-newsletters/

Wellbeing

Our mental health is a fundamental part to our overall health and well-being. As a parent, you play a huge role in supporting your child's mental well-being. Nurturing and loving care build a strong foundation, helping your child to develop the social and emotional skills they need to lead a happy, healthy and fulfilled life.
The Unicef website has expert tips and resources to help you support your child's and your own mental health.
https://www.unicef.org/parenting/mental-health-and-well-being



Learner Acronym Focus

Currently we are focusing on E for Effort. Below are ways in which we support the pupils to put maximum effort into their leaning.

- We help pupils to develop a growth mindset by teaching them that abilities can be developed through dedication and hard work.
- We help the pupils to set themselves short and long-term goals.
- We connect tasks to the children's interests and show how they are relevant to their life.
- We give the children some choice over their activities to increase their sense of ownership and motivation.
- We celebrate success through verbal feedback, written comments, stickers, house points and celebration assemblies.
- We encourage pupils to self reflect on their progress and effort, discussing what strategies worked and what didn't.
- We encourage cooperative learning through group projects and activities.



British Values

We also actively promote British values to ensure our pupils are prepared for life in modern Britain. Pupils are encouraged to regard people of all faiths, races and cultures with respect and tolerance and understand that while different people may hold different views about what is 'right' and 'wrong' all people living in England are subject to its law. The key values are: Democracy, Rule of Law , Individual liberty , Mutual respect and Tolerance of those of different faiths, races and cultures.

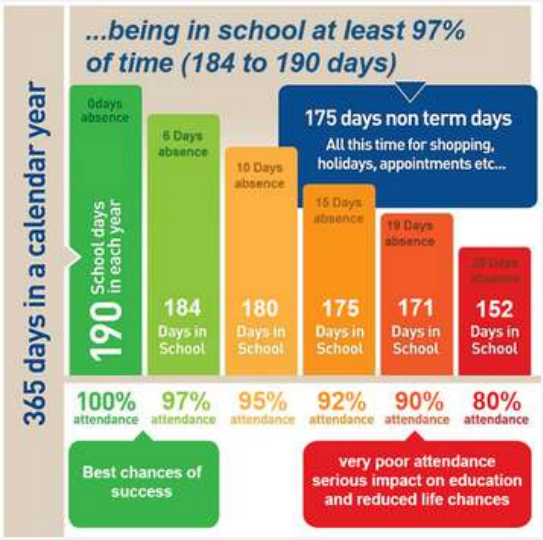
This half term, we are continuing to focus on Mutual Respect which links closely to our Catholic Social Teaching unity Dignity of the Worker. Some of the ways in which we will promote Mutual Respect are:

- Our curriculum explicitly teaches and emphasises the importance of values such as respect, empathy and kindness.
- In Catholic Social Teaching lessons, pupils will learn about the importance of everyone being treated with dignity in the work place.
- In RSE lessons pupil discuss, debate and role-play scenarios that highlight respectful behaviour.
- We have a buddy system where our Year 6 pupils are paired with a Reception pupil. This promotes role modelling and encourages older pupils to support and guide their younger peers.
- In the pupils' prayer books the pupils express their thoughts and feelings about the importance of showing respect to everyone.



Attendance and Punctuality Update

Our current attendance rate is still 96%. Thank you for your support with this as we are getting closer to our target of 97%. Regular attendance and punctuality is crucial for your child's academic progress and for fostering a positive and structured learning environment for the entire class.



We thank you for supporting this by ensuring your child is in school unless they are unwell and by dropping them off to school on time.

If in a school year, you are late every day by...	You would have lost approximately...	or you would have missed approximately...
5 Minutes	3.5 Days from School	18 Lessons
10 Minutes	7 Days from School	35 Lessons
15 Minutes	10 Days from School	50 Lessons
20 Minutes	14.5 Days from School	73 Lessons
30 Minutes	22 Days from School	110 Lessons

Pupil Premium Funding

In certain circumstances, schools are able to claim approximately £1,600 of extra funding per child for pupils whose parents are in receipt of various benefits. This funding is available to all eligible children in school, from Nursery to Year 6. The criteria are the same as they would be for applying for 'free school meals' in KS2. The money can be used to support anything that improves a child's enjoyment, wellbeing, achievement or attainment at school. The funding could be used to pay for individual music tuition, 1:1 maths/literacy support, Breakfast Club and After School Club places, etc.
If you think that you or your partner may be eligible to claim this extra money for your child please apply directly using the following website:

https://www.gov.uk/apply-free-school-meals

Once successfully applied for, this funding will remain in place each year that your child is with us. However, you will need to reapply for the funding when your child moves from Nursery to Infant and Infant to Juniors (when they leave Nursery to move to Reception and when they leave Year 2 to move into Year 3). If you have any queries, please speak to the School Office in confidence.

Learning and loving with Christ as our teacher

SACRED HEART CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Summer Term Dates

Dear God,

We are grateful for the world you have given us. You are our Shepherd and we are your sheep. Help us to look after the world. Guide us into the light and help us to make good choices.

Amen

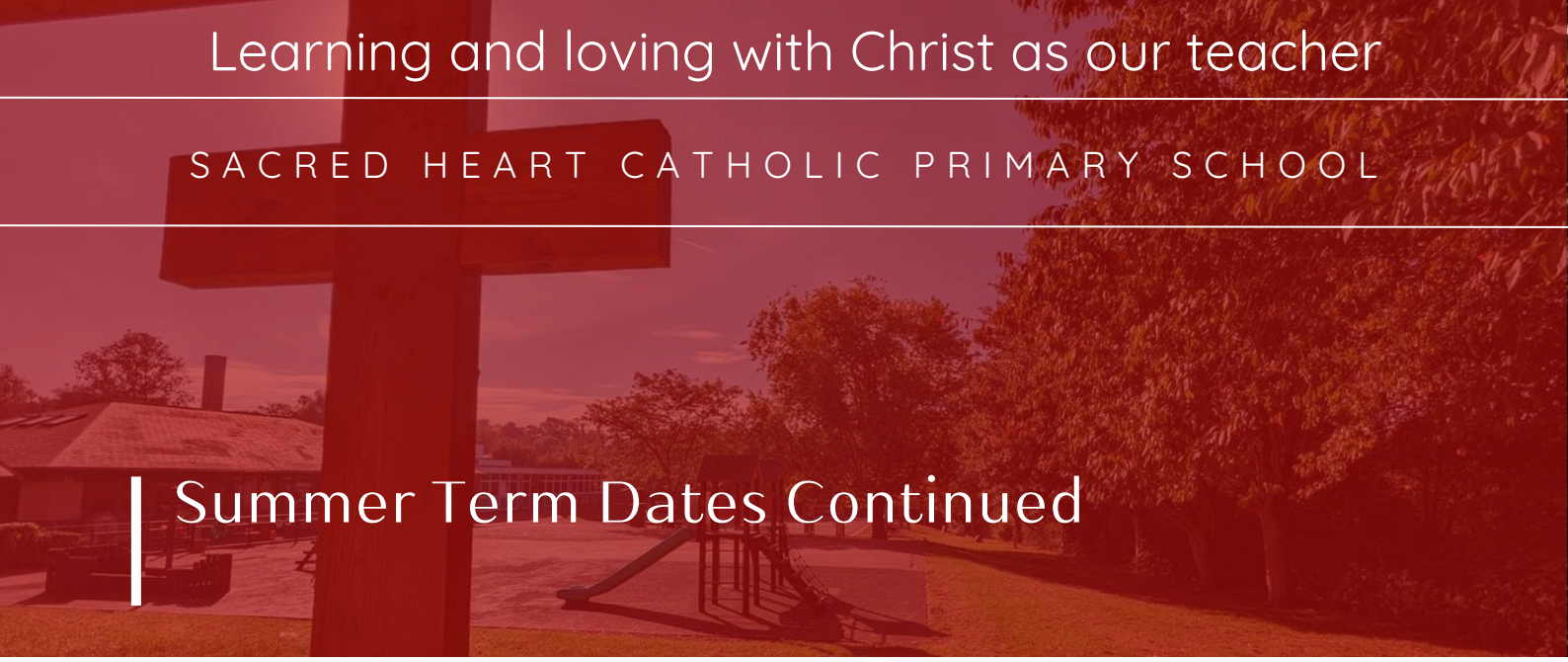
Written by Freddie





Any changes highlighted in yellow

Date	Event
Swimming	Year 4 Swimming Summer Term
Monday 13th May to Thursday 16th May	Year 6 Sats
Monday 20th May – Friday 24th May	Year 6 Residential Trip to Longridge
Monday 20th May – Friday 24th May	Walk to School Week
Tuesday 21st May	9 – 10:15 – EYFS Sports Day 10:45 – 12:00 – Phase 1/2 Sports Day 1:15 – 2:30 – Phase 3/4 Sports Day
Monday 27th May – Friday 31st May	Half Term
Monday 3rd June	Inset Day
Tuesday 4th June – 7th June	Multiplication Check
Friday 7th June	Sacred Heart Feast Day Mass for Years 1 – 6 in Church at 9:15am. Phase 1/2 to lead. Whole school picnic at 12pm to 1:pm on the school field.
Monday 10th June – Friday 14th June	Multiplication Check and Phonics Screening
Thursday 13th June	St Anthony (Yr 1) wear their own clothes to celebrate their feast day



Summer Term Dates Continued

Monday 17th June – Friday 21st June	Sports Week
Monday 17th June	All classes from Nursery up to Year 6 - Fathers' Day class assemblies – these will be live streamed.
Tuesday 18th June	9:15 – Phase 5/6 Sports Day
Thursday 20th June	Head's Parents Forum in school 9:15 am. All parents are welcome to attend.
Monday 24th June – Friday 28th June	One World Week
Monday 24th June	All Year 1 visit to St James's Church
Monday 24th June	Year 5 and Year 5/6 visit to Bushey Synagogue
Tuesday 25th June	International Day
Tuesday 25th June	9:30am – 11am SENCO Drop Ins – If any parent would like to meet Mrs Travers please contact the office and they will give you a time slot.
Tuesday 25th June	Phase 3/4 visit to Bhaktivedenta Manor
Tuesday 25th June	All Year 2 visit to St James's Church
Wednesday 26th June	Year 1 (St Anthony) class trip to Ashridge
Wednesday 26th June	Year 6 visit to Bushey Synagogue
Thursday 27th June	Phase 3/4 Mass in Church - 9:15 - Parents are welcome to join us
Thursday 27th June	Year 1/2 (St Cecilia) class trip to Ashridge
Friday 28th June	St Peter and St Paul Mass in Church - 9:15 - Parents are welcome to join us
Monday 1st July	St Peter's Class (Yr3/4) wear their own clothes to celebrate feast day which was on 30th June.
Tuesday 2nd July	St Bernadette's (Yr 3) Trip to Chiltern Open Air Museum
Wednesday 3rd July	St Peter's (Yr 3/4) Trip to Chiltern Open Air Museum
Wednesday 3rd July	Reception Trip to Willows Farm
Wednesday 3rd July	6 – 7:30pm – Phase 5/6 Production
Thursday 4th July	St Alphonsa's (Yr 4) Trip to Chiltern Open Air Museum
Thursday 4th July	Year 2 (St Therese) class trip to Ashridge
Thursday 4th July	6 – 7:30pm – Phase 5/6 Production
Thursday 11th July	Transition Day
Friday 12th July	St Anne's class (Nursery) wear their own clothes to celebrate the feast day of St Anne which is on 26th July.
Thursday 18th July	End of Term - School finishes at 12:30 pm for Years R up to Year 5 (pupils have lunch in school). School ends at 1:30pm for Year 6 pupils. 9:15 – Year 6 Leavers Mass in Church



Learning and loving with Christ as our teacher

SACRED HEART CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Dates for 2024 - 2025

Monday 2nd September	Inset Day - children are not in school on this day
Tuesday 3rd September	Inset Day - children are not in school on this day
Wednesday 4th September	School starts for children
Friday 25th October	Inset Day - children are not in school on this day
Monday 28th October - Friday 1st November	Half Term
Monday 4th November	School starts for children
Friday 29th November	Occasional Day - children are not in school on this day
Friday 20th December	End of Term - school finishes at 1:15pm
Monday 6th January	School starts for children
Friday 14th February	End of Term
Monday 17th February - Friday 21st February	Half Term
Monday 24th February	School starts for children
Friday 4th April	End of Term - school finishes at 1:15pm
Tuesday 22nd April	School starts for children
Monday 5th May	May Day Bank Holiday
Friday 23rd May	End of Term
Monday 2nd June	Inset Day
Tuesday 3rd June	School starts for children
Thursday 17th July	End of term - school ends at 12:30pm