Learning and loving with Christ as our teacher

SACRED HEART CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL & NURSERY

NEWSLETTER

30TH JANUARY 2024

Dear God,
Thank you for our families and friends and for the food we eat.
Please help the poor people who do not have any houses or enough food.
Amen
Written by Orlando



HELP the HOMELESS

Upcoming Key Dates

Spring Term	Year 5 Swimming
29th January	Assess, Plan, DO, Review face to face meetings – SENCO, Teacher, Parent, Child
30th January	Year 5 SPEC Presentation for parents at 2:30pm and 5pm. Parents may select which presentation they attend.
Wednesday 31st January	St John Bosco (Yr 6) wear own clothes to celebrate feast day.
Thursday 1st February	Head's Parents Forum in school 9:15 am. All parents are welcome to attend.
Friday 2nd February	NSPCC Number Day - the children come into school in their own clothes wearing something number related.
Friday 2nd February	Candlemas Liturgy in the hall
Monday 5th February – Friday 9th February	Feeling Good Week & Children's Mental Health Week
Tuesday 6th February	Internet Safety Day – Want to talk about it? Make space for conversations about life online.
Thursday 8th February	St Josephine Bakhita Class (Year 5) wear their own clothes to celebrate feast day.
Thursday 8th February	9:15am - Year 6 Year Group Mass in Church.

Headteacher's Message

Dear Parents and Carers,

A warm welcome to our latest newsletter. Over the last couple of weeks, the children have been truly dedicated to their studies, showcasing their hard work and commitment.
Exciting highlights have included our choir's enchanting performance at the O2 as part of the Young Voices Choir. Additionally, the children participated in a meaningful Racial Justice assembly, fostering awareness and understanding. On Friday, we proudly led a Mass to celebrate Father Jim's remarkable 50 years of ordination.
Find more details on these inspiring events and much more within the newsletter.
Wishing you a delightful week ahead!

Warm regards,
Mrs. Smith



SACRED HEART CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL & NURSERY

Young Voices Choir Takes the Stage at the O2

Tuesday 16th January, marked a momentous occasion for our choir as they took center stage as part of the Young Voices choir at the iconic O2 arena. It was a night filled with beautiful melodies, heartfelt performances, and an electrifying atmosphere that left everyone in awe.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to everyone who came out to support our choir at the O2. Your presence added to the excitement of the evening, and we are grateful for the encouragement you provided to our talented performers.

Thank you to Miss Bradley, Miss Rosenthall and Mrs Diaz for looking after the children during this trip.







Racial Justice Sunday Assembly

Last week, our school community gathered for a thought-provoking assembly about Racial Justice Sunday. During the assembly, our students actively participated in meaningful discussions, exploring the true essence of being fair and just. Together, we emphasised the significance of treating individuals of all races with kindness and equity.

In our collective prayers, we expressed our hopes for a world where every person, regardless of their race, is treated kindly and fairly. We envisaged a future where the principles of justice guide our actions and decisions.

To reinforce the valuable lessons learned during the assembly, students will be given homework related to Racial Justice Sunday.

We want to express our gratitude for the ongoing support from each member of our community. Your commitment to creating a nurturing and inclusive environment for our students plays a pivotal role in shaping their perspectives and contributing to the positive development of our school community.







Celebration Mass for Father Jim

Friday was a momentous occasion as we gathered to commemorate Father Jim's 50 years of ordained service with a special Mass filled with gratitude and love.

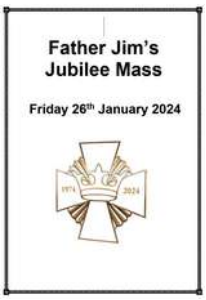
Father Jim has been a guiding light for our community, offering his unwavering support and heartfelt guidance to all, especially the children under his care. His dedication and commitment to our church have left an indelible mark on the hearts of those he has touched over the years.

During the Mass, the children expressed their gratitude in a touching way by presenting Father Jim with a heartfelt card. The card was filled with personal messages, reflecting the impact Father Jim has had on their lives and the love they hold for him.

In addition to the card, a special plaque has been ordered to honour Father Jim's 50 years of dedicated service. This plaque serves as a symbol of our collective appreciation for the wisdom, compassion, and unwavering faith that Father Jim has shared with us throughout the years.

As we extend our deepest thanks to Father Jim for his remarkable service, we also wish him a lovely weekend filled with continued celebration. May these moments of joy be a reflection of the countless lives he has touched and the positive influence he continues to have on our community.











Prayer at Home

Please remember to use your Prayer at Home newsletters with your children at home. You have been sent home a copy and you can also access this on the Faith at Home page on the school website via the link below:

https://sacredheart682.herts.sch.uk/faith-at-home/

Prayer Bags

Parents play a crucial role in promoting faith at home by being role models of Catholic Values and teachings. Living out the faith through actions, kindness, forgiveness and love helps children see the practical application of their beliefs. Each week a different child in each class has taken home a prayer bag to support them with prayer at home. It has been lovely to see their prayers and photos that they have added to their class prayer diary.







RE Newsletter

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

SACRED HEART CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL& NURSERY

Learning over January at Sacred Heart School

The children have been working incredibly hard. Here are some examples of their learning across the curriculum.

Learning about the story of Noah's Ark and covenants in Phase 1/2.











Music in Phase 3/4





Racial Jusitice Homework in Phase 5/6






Learning about the Wise Men in Reception.




Developing their fine motor skills in Nursery.





Learning about measures in Maths in Year 2.






Learning about why Abraham was chosen.

Evie



Orla



Collective Worship in Reception.



SACRED HEART CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL& NURSERY

Catholic Social Teaching - Solidarity & Peace



This half term, we are focusing on Solidarity and Peace.

Solidarity is a word which can be overused and little understood. However, it is fundamental to the way in which we treat one another. If we truly believe that we are all sisters and brothers of one another, made in God's image and likeness as seen in the guideline of human dignity, then seeking the good of one another cannot be ignored. The quotation from St John Paul II is an ongoing challenge.

'[Solidarity] is not a feeling of vague compassion or shallow distress at the misfortunes of others.
It is a firm and persevering determination to commit oneself to... the good of all... because we are all really responsible for all.'
St John Paul II. Sollicitudo Rei Socialis

Solidarity is not just feeling sorry for those who suffer. It is a commitment to action. "We are all really responsible for all" – all of us. Wherever we are. Whatever our age. Whatever our circumstances. We are all responsible for one another, those close by, and those far away. All of our actions have consequences locally and globally. From how we treat people we meet in the street, to the coffee we buy in the supermarket. It is how we live out Caritas, love in action.

Caritas Ambassadors' Initiatives

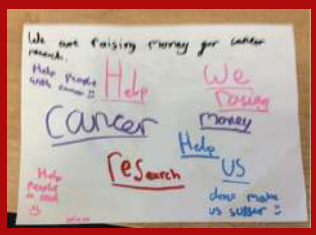
Our Caritas Ambassdors have asked pupils to come into school on Friday wearing something related to a number for NSPCC number day. A donation to NSPCC can be made through the school gateway. They also gave each class a charity box. They asked them to select a charity that their class would raise money for over the year. Here are the charities that the classes selected:

Nursery - St Anne: Watford Children's Hospital
Reception - St Joseph: Save the Children
Reception - St Francis: The Toy Project
Year 1 - St Anthony: Heart Foundation
Year 1/2 - St Cecilia: RNLI
Year 2 - St Therese: Place2Be
Year 3 - St Bernadette: The World Wildlife Fund
Year 3/4 - St Peter: Four Paws UK
Year 4 - St Alphonsa: Cancer Research
Year 5 - St Josephine Bakhita: Make a Wish
Year 5/6 - St Padro-Pio: Air Ambulance
Year 6 - St John Bosco: Make a Wish

Each class has a charity box in their class. Over the year, the children will complete fundrasiing activities for their charity. They can also complete their own fundraising at home.

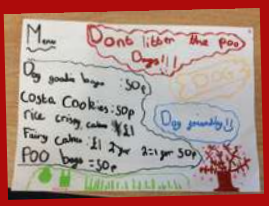
Well done to Freddie who donated some of his birthday money to his class charity.

Also well done to Oliver and Nieve who are organising a chairty event for their class charity. We look forward to hearing all about this.





CANCER RESEARCH UK



Save the Children

THE TOY PROJECT

WWF

British Heart Foundation



Lifeboats

Make-A-Wish UNITED KINGDOM

Place 2Be

Essex & Herts Air Ambulance
Your local life-saving charity

FOUR PAWS

SACRED HEART CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL& NURSERY

Learner Acronym Focus

Over the next two weeks, we are focusing on L for Love.

At Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School & Nursery we pride ourselves in being named after the Sacred Heart of Jesus. Jesus' most important message was to love one another.
Sacred Heart School is a heart that sees.
We:
Open our eyes to see
Open our ears to hear
Open our hearts to hear God's calling
Open our lives to God

Here are some practical ways to help pupils embrace these values:

- We develop service-learning projects that connect classroom learning with real-life community needs. For example, collecting food for the Bushey Food Bank, giving Christmas cards to the community, or fundraising for Mary's Meals.
- We create an inclusive environment where each student feels valued and accepted. We celebrate Black History Month and Racial Justice Sunday. We learn about different cultures and religions across our curriculum.
- We have selected literature and activities that promote empathy. Discussing stories or scenarios where characters demonstrate empathy can help children understand and relate to others' feelings.. We also teach active listening skills to help students understand the needs of others.
- We promote a culture of kindness within the school by recognising and celebrating acts of kindness. We have a "Kindness Tree" in the library where students can share their experiences of giving and receiving kindness.

British Values

Alongside this 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
- Tolerance of those of different faiths, races and cultures.

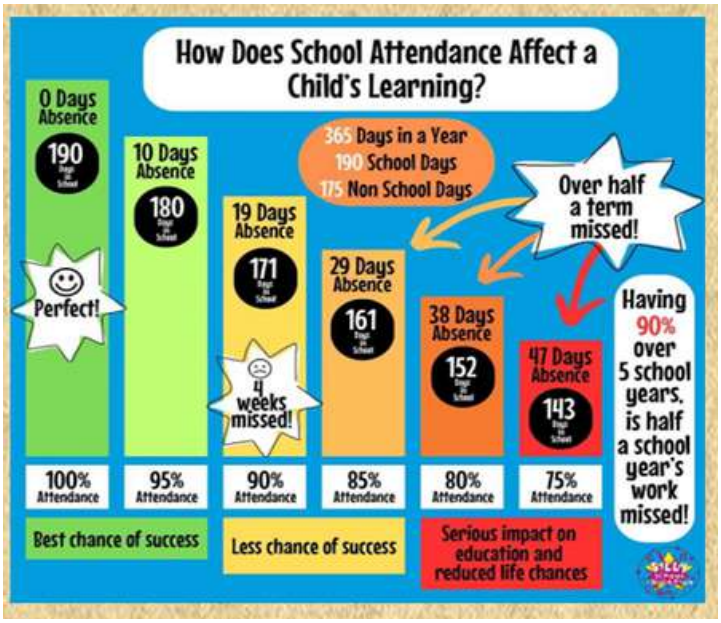
This half term, we are focusing on Individual Liberty. Some of the ways in which we promote Individual Liberty are:
1) Pupils create art work using pictures and words that represent who they are.
2) In lessons we encourage pupils to share their ideas and thoughts and to ask questions. This helps them to form their own opinions.
3) In lessons pupils play games together that develops their teamwork and collaboration and emphasises the importance of contributing to the group.
4) We use 'Zones of Regulation' to encourage pupils to express how they feel and they learn how to regulate their emotions.

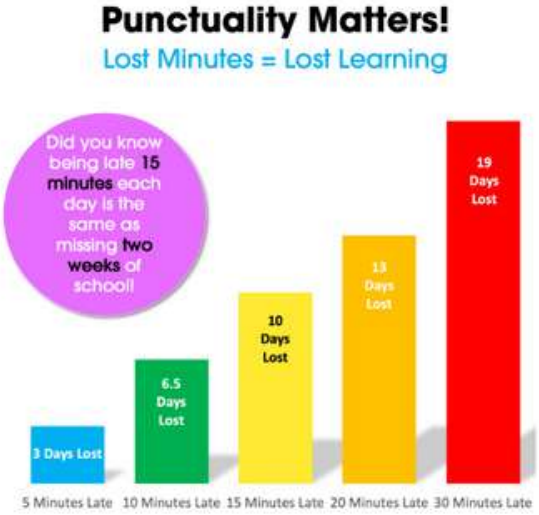
You can nurture individual liberty at home by fostering open communication, respecting your child's choices, and encouraging decision-making through age-appropriate responsibilities and positive reinforcement.

SACRED HEART CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL & NURSERY

Attendance and Punctuality Update

Our current attendance rate stands at 95.3%, and while this is commendable, we aim to achieve a target of 97%. Regular attendance and punctuality is crucial for your child's academic progress, 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.





Lumi Nova



School Crossing Patrol

Hertfordshire County Council are recruiting for a School Crossing Patrol for our school. Please see the flyer below:



SACRED HEART CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL&NURSERY

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.



Nursery Admissions

Nursery 2024 School Admissions

If your child was born between 1st September 2020 and 31st August 2021 and you would like to apply for a place in Nursery at Sacred Heart School for September 2024, please complete our Nursery application form and submit this directly to our school office, along with any supporting documents.

If you would like to visit our school please contact the school office, 01923 901179, or email admin@sacredheart682.herts.sch.uk to arrange a tour with Mrs Smith, Head of School.

On our website, you will find a copy of our school brochure, which will give you an insight to our school and the Nursery class, our application form and our Nursery Admissions Policy.

The Certificate of Catholic Practice is signed by priests for all practising Catholics defined by Canon Law, which includes weekly attendance at Mass on Holy Days of Obligation; this form is available from your parish Priest.

If you would like a paper copy of any of the documents, please contact the school



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SACRED HEART CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Spring Term Dates

Dear God,
We are thankful for this day and for this beautiful world you made for us to grow up in.
Help us to protect and care for it as we care for each other.
Help those who are unhappy or struggling.
We promise to always be kind and helpful.
Written by Bernie



Date	Event
Monday 29th January	Assess, Plan, DO, Review face to face meetings – SENCO, Teacher, Parent, Child
30th January	Year 5 SPEC Presentation for parents at 2:30pm and 5pm. Parents may select which presnetation they attend.
Wednesday 31st January	St John Bosco (Yr 6) wear own clothes to celebrate feast day.
Thursday 1st February	Head's Parents Forum in school 9:15 am. All parents are welcome to attend.
Friday 2nd February	NSPCC Number Day - the children come into school in their own clothes wearing something number related. A dopnation for NSPCC can be made on the school gateway.
Friday 2nd February	1:30pm – Candlemas Liturgy in the hall
Monday 5th February – Friday 9th February	Feeling Good Week & Children's Mental Health Week
Tuesday 6th February	Internet Safety Day – Want to talk about it? Make space for conversations about life online.
Thursday 8th February	St Josephine Bakhita Class (Year 5) wear their own clothes to celebrate feast day.
Thursday 8th February	9:15am - Year 6 Year Group Mass in Church
Friday 9th February	Phase 3/4 Trip to Bushey Museum
Monday 12th February	Electric Umbrella Co. Production at school
Tuesday 13th February	Computing including Internet Safety Parent Presentation
Wednesday 14th February	Ash Wednesday Service in Church
Thursday 15th February	Phase 3/4 Trip to Bushey Museum
Friday 16th February	Phase 3/4 Trip to Bushey Museum
Monday 19th February – Friday 23rd February	Half Term
Monday 26th February	Children return to school
Tuesday 27th February	Maths Parents Presentation in School
Wednesday 28th February – Friday 1st March	Yr 5 Retreat - SPEC



Spring Term Dates continued

Date	Event
Thursday 29th February	Head's Parent Forum in school
Friday 1st March	Non-Uniform day. To celebrate St David's Day the children may wear red, white, green or yellow clothes. We ask for a £1 donation towards the school funds via the School Gateway.
Tuesday 5th March	Parents can go into school to see their children's work.
Thursday 7th March	World Book Day - children come into school dressed as a character, object or something related to a book.
Friday 8th March	Mothers' Day Assemblies - live streamed - TBC
Monday 11th March	Parent Consultations – Reception (St Joseph), Year 1/2 (St Cecilia), Year 3/4 (St Peter)
Tuesday 12th March	Parent Consultations – Reception (St Francis), Year 1 (St Anthony), Year 3 (St Bernadette)
Wednesday 13th March	Parent Consultations – Nursery (St Anne), Year 5 (St Josephine Bakhita), Year 4 (St Alphonsa), Year 6 (St John Bosco)
Thursday 14th March	Parent Consultations – Year 2 (St Therese), Year 5/6 (St Padre Pio)
Friday 15th March	Children come in wearing green, white and orange to celebrate St Patrick's Day. Non-Uniform day. We ask for a £1 donation towards the school funds via the School Gateway.
Monday 18th March	Senco Drop Ins - 9:30 am- 11am. Please ring the office if you would like to book a slot.
Tuesday 19th March	Phase 3/4 Lent Play in school - 9:15am
Wednesday 20th March	Phase 3/4 Lent Play in school - 9:15am
Thursday 21st March	Junior Lent Service in Church - 10:30am
Thursday 21st March	Reconciliation for Years 3 - 6.
Thursday 28th March	End of Term and Easter Bonnet Parade. School finishes at 1:15pm.
Monday 15th April	Children return to school



Learning and loving with Christ as our teacher

SACRED HEART CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Summer Term Dates

Date	Event
Swimming	Year 4 swimming every Friday up to Friday 24th May
Tuesday 16th April	St Bernadette's Class (Yr 3) wear own clothes to celebrate feast day which is on 16th April.
Thursday 18th April	Beginning of Term Mass - Year 3 to lead
Tuesday 23rd April	Non-Uniform day. To celebrate St George's Day the children may wear red and white clothes. We ask for a £1 donation towards the school funds.
Tuesday 23rd April	5pm - Religious Education Parent Presentation in school
Thursday 25th April	Year 5 Year Group Mass in church
Monday 29th April – 1st May	Assess, Plan, Do, Reviews
Tuesday 30th April	Head's Parents Forum in school 9:15 am. All parents are welcome to attend.
Wednesday 1st May	St Joseph's Class (Reception) wear their own clothes to celebrate St Joseph's feast day
Thursday 2nd May	Phase 1/2 Mass in Church
Monday 6th May	May Day Bank Holiday
Tuesday 7th May – Thurs 9th May	Assess, Plan, Do, Reviews
Wednesday 8th May	5pm – Spanish Parent Presentation in school
Thursday 9th May	Ascension Mass in Church
Monday 13th May to Thursday 16th May	Year 6 Sats
Monday 20th May – Friday 24th May	Year 6 Residential Trip to Longridge
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
Swimming	Year 3 swimming every Friday up to Friday 12th July
Monday 3rd June	Inset Day
Tuesday 4th June – 7th June	Multiplication Check
Wednesday 5th June	5pm - Music Parent Presentation in school
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
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.
Thursday 27th June	Phase 3/4 Mass in Church
Friday 28th June	St Peter and Paul Mass in Church
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	6 – 7:30pm – Phase 5/6 Production
Thursday 4th July	St Alphonsa's (Yr 4) Trip to Chiltern Open Air Museum
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