



St. John's Catholic Primary School

Newsletter 9 - 10th November 2023

Our values: In Christ we are: **Joyful** in our faith , **Aspirational** in our learning, **Confident** in being me, **Caring** in our hearts.

The Gospel for Sunday 19th November 2023 (Matthew 25:14-15.19-21): A Story about Talents Jesus spoke this parable to his disciples: 'The kingdom of heaven is like a man on his way abroad who summoned his servants and entrusted his property to them. To one he gave five talents, to another two, to a third one; each in proportion to his ability. Then he set out. Now a long time after, the master of those servants came back and went through his accounts with them. The man who had received the five talents came forward bringing five more. "Sir," he said, "you entrusted me with five talents; here are five more that I have made." His master said to him, "Well done, good and faithful servant; you have shown you can be faithful in small things; I will trust you with greater; come and join in your master's happiness.'"

Remembrance Assembly with a Special Guest

Today was a very special day! Children and staff relished the opportunity to 'break the rules' in exchange for a donation to the Christmas fair. In a slightly originally terrifying diary clash we also had Mr Martin Boffey, Leader of the Council, coming in to play his bugle for us during our Remembrance assembly (one of his many talents). I was then struck by how perfect the timing really was! We can dress as we like, wear our hair as we like, worship as we like because of the freedoms we are granted due to the brave service men and woman that have fought for our right to live in a democracy, a free land where we can be an individual. Today was a perfect example of that!

We used our assembly to think about those who today and in the past have shown such courage and selflessness. We listen to a beautiful and moving poem written and read by Maisie in Yr 5 inspired by World War One poetry studied in class. We reflected on the meaning of the poppies and had a display of the clay versions children across the school had created. We also learnt about the Windrush generation and how many Caribbean men and woman were in the forces fighting alongside us, yet often were unrecognized for their contributions. It was very moving to hear the 'Last Post' and see the children took a moment to remember those who gave so much and continue to give so much for us and our families.

Despite the fear that Prime would be in water bottles, Burger King's in lunch boxes and giant teddies would descend it has been a magical day full of fun and laughter. Thank you so much for all the kind donations and for the extra time it has taken to paint nails, braided hair and find costumes in the toy cupboards. The children have been great and really got into the spirit.



Kumusta! This half-term our focus language is Tagalog, from the Philippines, as we have many Tagalog speakers in our school. Our children will all be learning a few words of Tagalog in class, and a little about the Philippine culture. If any children from the Philippines would like to bring in any flags, souvenirs, traditional clothes, photos, etc, to show in class, please email the Office or tell Mrs Curtis. We would love to learn more about the language and culture of the Philippines! Thank you



In Year 4, Maisie brought in lots of beautiful Philippine souvenirs, which Zian and Aira helped her to share with the class. Then she taught us some Philippine phrases. Thank you Maisie!

Break the Rules Day - 10th November



A great day with the students breaking normal school rules, and bringing in exchange for items for the Christmas Fair



Exciting News!!!!



After many delays we are finally having new equipment being installed in the back play-ground. We are having 7 pieces of gym equipment around the edge of the daily mile track as well as a bucket swing next to the current climbing frame. The equipment will be on all-weather flooring to allow use for as much of the year as the weather allows without churning up the grass and getting muddy footwear and carpets!

You will notice from Monday 20th November for a week the field will be fenced off with construction. Please be mindful when coming into school to drop off and pick up your children. The children will be asked to remain on the concrete playground area for the week to ensure their safety.



Below are some pictures to give you an idea of what it will hopefully look like:



Attendance Award

100% for Year 3

Well Done!

Dates for your Diary

Odd Socks Day Monday 13th November - Anti-Bullying Week

Parents Evenings 14th and 15th November

Christmas Fair - Friday 24th November - 5pm - 7pm

Reception and KS1 Christmas Play dates: December 11th at 2.00pm, December 12th at 2.00pm and Wednesday 13th December at 9.30am

13th December 2.00pm - KS2 will be holding a depiction of the Christmas story at St John's Catholic Church – families welcome. Details to follow.