

SJF NEWS

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Friday 26th March 2021



Citizen of the Week

This week our special award goes to **Hyrum** in **Y2** who understands why it is important to keep going, especially when things get tough, and never give up! Hyrum is a very determined young man when he puts his mind to achieving something. He views the world with such wonder and awe and has an incredible imagination. He loves to express himself in his beautiful drawings and artwork and is an absolute expert, knowing all there is to know, about Pokemon! Congratulations Hyrum, you are a star and thoroughly deserving of the award this week!

COVID-19 Update

Letter to our children from Gavin Williamson MP, Secretary of State for Education



I wanted to let you all know how grateful I am for the way you have responded to the huge challenges you have all faced throughout the coronavirus pandemic.

Whether this is your first year at school or your final year of college, I know the disruption you have all faced to your education since the pandemic began has been incredibly challenging and has meant completely changing the way you learn - either learning remotely at home or continuing at school or college with fewer of your friends around you and lots of safety measures in place.

Whether you were at home or at school, the disruption last term and throughout last year asked a lot of you and your families. I am filled with admiration for the incredible way you all responded and the resilience you have shown. Not being in school or college with your teachers and friends was a huge sacrifice. Everything you did, with the help of your families and your schools and colleges, and everything you missed out on - time in school, taking exams, seeing friends, playing sport and much more - made such a huge difference to helping us stop the spread of the virus. I want to say a huge thank you to all of you.

Getting all young people back into school and college safely has been my priority throughout the pandemic. I know how vital it is not just for your education but also to spend time with your friends and to feel happy and secure. All our lives have changed a lot in the past year but the challenges that young people have faced have been some of the hardest. I will continue doing everything in my power to make sure that all of you are supported to boost any areas of work you've had less time at school to study, get the qualifications you deserve and have the opportunities you need to succeed.

Continuing to follow all the safety measures your schools and colleges have worked hard to put in place, as well as taking a test twice a week, is so important and helps us to stop the virus spreading. The testing that thousands of you have been taking part in at school and college is a vital part of this. I am so grateful to you and all the staff who have supported you to do this. I know your schools and colleges have worked incredibly hard to prepare you to test yourself at home.

As most of you at secondary school and college move to testing yourself regularly at home, it's vital that you continue to test and report online twice a week through the Easter holidays and after you return to school. Home testing twice a week for you and everyone you live with makes a huge difference and means you are playing a really important role in helping us move back to a more normal way of life. Your school or college will continue to support you and make sure you have tests. You and your family can also find out more about home testing [here](#).



I was delighted to see the enthusiasm with which so many of you returned to school at the beginning of March and I am sure you have had a wonderful few weeks catching up with your friends and teachers. It was fantastic to meet pupils delighted to return to school on my visits to schools like Arden Academy and Bedford Free School and to see so many more of your reunions on social media. I hope that the new term will be just as enjoyable and successful for all of you.

Rt Hon Gavin Williamson CBE MP, Secretary of State for Education

Government Update: Primary School Pupils & Rapid Asymptomatic Testing

On advice from Public Health England (PHE), pupils in primary schools and children in nursery settings are not included in the rapid asymptomatic testing programme.

PHE has advised that there are currently limited public health benefits to testing primary-aged pupils with lateral flow devices (LFD). In addition, primary-aged pupils, particularly younger children, may find the LFD testing process unpleasant and are unable to self-swab. We are advising that primary-aged pupils should only be tested if they are symptomatic, in which case their families should follow the guidance by clicking [here](#) and [book a PCR test](#) for the child.

Update: Greg Fell, Director of Public Health, Sheffield

Please click [here](#) to access the short film online and also please read an important letter from Mr Fell's which is being sent out with this newsletter.

General Information

- **SJF Risk Assessment** (Version 12, March 2021) – click [here](#)
- **SJF Reconnection Plan** (Version 2, March 2021) – click [here](#)
- **SJF Staff Lateral Flow Testing** – click [here](#)
- **How parents can order COVID-19 lateral flow home test kits** – click [here](#) ← **This might be of interest**

Term 4 Smiley Scores

 <p>St Andrew's House</p> <p>213</p>	 <p>St David's House</p> <p>169</p>	 <p>St Patrick's House</p> <p>190</p>	 <p>St George's House</p> <p>197</p>
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Congratulations to Lottie and Keyla in Y2 for achieving 100 smileys! We are all very proud of you!

Red Day: Friday 23rd April 2021

To mark the feast of St George, the members of Red House only are invited to dress down and wear something red to school on Friday 23rd April 2021, instead of school uniform. Pupils in the other Houses must wear uniform.

SJF Calendar/Forthcoming Events

Click [here](#) to view our online calendar.

Attendance this week			
1 st	FS2	99.0%	A virtual visit from Bobby
2 nd	Y4	98.8%	A virtual visit from Brenda
3 rd	Y2	98.3%	A virtual visit from Elvis
4 th	Y1	98.0%	
5 th	Y3	95.3%	
6 th	Y5	95.2%	
7 th	Y6	92.4%	
Target = 98%		Average Attendance = 96.8%	



Get Set, GO!			
1 st	Y1	91%	
2 nd	Y6	89%	
3 rd	FS2	86%	
4 th	Y4	84%	
5 th	Y3	78%	
6 th	Y2	76%	
7 th	Y5	66%	
		Average = 81%	



SJF School Council Update

Updates from councillors will resume as soon as the School Council is able to start meeting again. Thank you.



Our Weekly SJF Sixty Second Challenge

We hope everyone had fun participating in last week's 'Star Jumps' challenge! It was amazing to see everyone having a go and trying their best!

This week's challenge is called 'Around the World'! How many times can you pass the ball around your waist in sixty seconds? If you drop the ball you need to pick it up quickly and carry on.

Please click [here](#) to watch a filmed demonstration by one of our fantastic Sports Majors. Why not have a go? Don't forget to let your teacher know how many you can do in 60 seconds. Have fun everyone!

Our Catholic Life

Parish News

Information about parish life including the times and arrangements for Masses, Confession and arrangements for Easter 2021 is available via this link to the parish website: <http://www.ourladyoflourdessheffield.org.uk/>.

Our Lenten Prayer: 'The Confiteor'

I confess to almighty God
and to you, my brothers and sisters,
that I have greatly sinned
in my thoughts and in my words,
in what I have done,
and in what I have failed to do;

through my fault, through my fault,
through my most grievous fault;
therefore, I ask blessed Mary ever-Virgin,
all the Angels and Saints,
and you, my brothers and sisters,
to pray for me to the Lord our God.



Weekly Liturgy of the Word

Thank you to Mrs Barrett, Miss Heath and of course the young people of Y6 for leading our Liturgy of the Word this week. Our next Liturgy will be led by the young people of **Y4**. It will be available to watch by next (Maundy) **Thursday 1st April 2021**. To access this and all previous recordings, please click [here](#).

Lent Class Liturgies

These will continue to take place in every class every day leading up to the Easter holiday, except PE days and when a class has Music or French lesson at the end of the day. Sadly, COVID restrictions mean that we cannot invite parents/carers to join us this year, but we look forward to a time when this will be possible again. In the meantime, please be assured that our families are all, very much, in our thoughts and prayers.

Holy Week Explained

Next week is Holy Week, the final build up to Easter. Here is an explanation provided by the Catholic Family Website (<https://cathfamily.org/holy-week-explained/>)

Holy Week is a wonderful season of services and Masses that enable us to reflect on the mystery of God's love.

Easter can also make us uncomfortable because it challenges us to reflect on, and acknowledge our own sinfulness. We would rather believe that our weaknesses are acceptable, but this is the whole point.

Easter is the time for a new spiritual discipline; a chance to evaluate and meditate on our own imperfections and stand in awe of the radical love of God who died to set us free.



Palm Sunday (28-03-21)

The Service is slightly longer than a usual Sunday Mass which marks the beginning of Holy Week. We begin by reading a recount of Jesus' entry into Jerusalem on a donkey. Palms are blessed with holy water. This part of the service can take place outside, but if not practical, can take place inside before Mass begins.

The Gospel reading recounts the whole passion story, which is why this day is also known as "Passion Sunday". Palm Sunday has a bitter-sweet tone. On the one hand the story is upbeat with the crowd joyfully proclaiming Christ as the long-promised Messiah, yet by the end of the week, he is executed brutally.

Holy Thursday (01-04-21)

In the morning is the **Chrism Mass** where the holy oils are blessed by the Bishop at the Cathedral, along with as many Diocesan priests as available, for use during the coming year.

In the evening is the **Mass of the Lord's Supper**. This includes the washing of the feet. It is the night of Our Lord's last meal with his Disciples; His torment in the Garden of Gethsemane; His betrayal by Judas, arrest and trial.

Mass is concluded with the stripping of the sanctuary of all decoration (flowers, altar cloth, banners etc) and by the transfer of the Eucharist from the tabernacle to the Altar of Repose (usually a side altar). Everyone is then invited to stay in church for a while afterwards to 'keep watch' with Christ, as Jesus asked His disciples to keep watch while he prayed in the Garden of Gethsemane (known as the Agony in the Garden).

Good Friday (02-04-21)

"It was now about the sixth hour and, with the sun eclipsed, a darkness came over the land until the ninth hour. The veil of the temple was torn right down the middle; and when Jesus had cried out in a loud voice, he said, 'Father, into your hands I commend my spirit.' With these words he breathed his last." (Luke 22)

There are two services; the Stations of the Cross in the morning and the Lord's Passion at 3pm.

Stations: There are a variety of traditions for encountering the Stations of the Cross and there are two approved versions. Most churches observe the tradition of having the 14 stations displayed on the walls of the church, a tradition dating back to St Francis of Assisi). Pope John Paul II instigated the Scriptural Way of the Cross which includes the Agony in the Garden and an optional 15th one for the Resurrection.

Celebration of the Lord's Passion: This is not a Mass but is a communion service with the veneration of the Cross where the people are invited to kiss the feet of Jesus on a crucifix or show some other sign of reverence. The readings again recount the passion of Jesus and there is a sombre mood. The service takes place at 3pm as it is understood that this is the time at which Jesus died.

Holy Saturday (03-04-21)

The Vigil Mass on Holy Saturday is the peak service of the Church calendar and has four parts:

1. **Service of Light:** the church is in darkness, the people gather around a large fire from which the new Paschal candle is lit. The light is then spread from person to person until all have a lit candle.
2. **Liturgy of the Word:** There are nine readings on this night though some services will use less. They begin with the Creation and retell the story of redemption.
3. **Liturgy of Baptism and Confirmation:** This is when new members to the Church are baptised/confirmed.
4. **Liturgy of the Eucharist:** The newly baptised members present the bread and wine and make their first communion.

Easter Sunday (04-04-19)

This Mass is all about the Resurrection of Jesus! It is because Jesus rose from the dead on a Sunday that Christians call Sunday, 'The Day of the Lord'. This differentiates Christian tradition from the Jewish Sabbath which is on a Saturday. The word 'Alleluia', which has not been said at all during Lent returns as a victory cry!



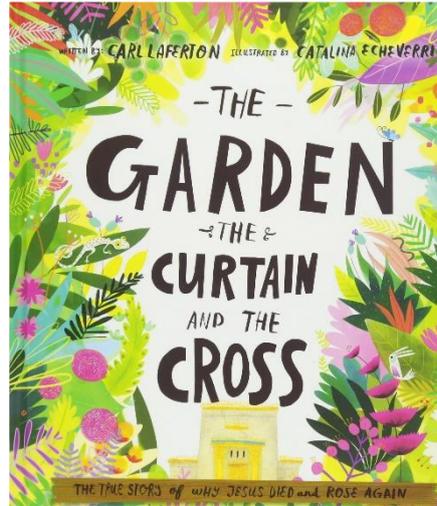
Our Book of the Week!

This week our book is called: '**The Garden, The Curtain and The Cross**' by **Carl Laferton**.

It is illustrated beautifully by **Catalina Echeverri** and Mrs Broadhead's recommendation.

Though written with younger children in mind, it is a book that children of all ages will relate to and is a fitting choice as we prepare to enter Holy Week.

You can click [here](#) to hear Carl Laferton introduce his Bible storybook that takes its readers on a journey from the Garden of Eden to God's perfect new creation.



Golden Children!

- FS2** **Euan** for being very patient and always polite! A fantastic example for others!
- Y1** **Freya** for being so well behaved and doing her very best even when she finds things difficult! She never gives up and never refuses to try. Freya is also thoughtful and shows kindness to everyone!
- Y2** **Jack F** for trying really hard to participate in lessons and for showing a great knowledge of the great fire of London, showing his active listening and great memory!
- Y3** **Aalia** for working especially hard during lockdown and since returning to school. She always tries her very best!
- Y4** **Paige** for having a *great* week! She has been working so hard and has produces lots of great work - and always with a fantastic smile on her face!
- Y5** **Ernie** for an incredibly productive week! Ernie has worked so hard in all of his lessons this week and he has produced some of his best work so far this year!
- Y6** **Ethan Y** for being really involved with our visit from Beth Shalom asking lots of interesting and inquisitive questions!

Writing Champions!

- FS2** **Sapphire** for trying really hard to improve her writing at home and at school!
- Y1** **James** for trying so hard in his Read Write Inc. phonics lessons, writing lots of words with new sounds! We were so proud because he worked hard and is developing a fantastic '*I can*' attitude!
- Y2** **Olivia O** for making a brilliant effort to improve her writing! She has improved her presentation and is producing some great pieces of writing! Great effort Olivia!
- Y3** **Hugo** for the fantastically precise description that he included in his newspaper work, that also weaved his Geography learning within his writing so beautifully. Well done Hugo!
- Y4** **Lily** for using direct speech, prepositional phrases and expanded noun phrases in her story based on a Viking Saga!
- Y5** **Polly** for always trying her best to use the grammar and punctuation she has learnt in lessons in her writing. Well done!
- Y6** **Daniel** for writing a detailed recount using lots of creative ideas in order to show empathy for the plight of the children who rode on the Kindertransport!

A Reminder

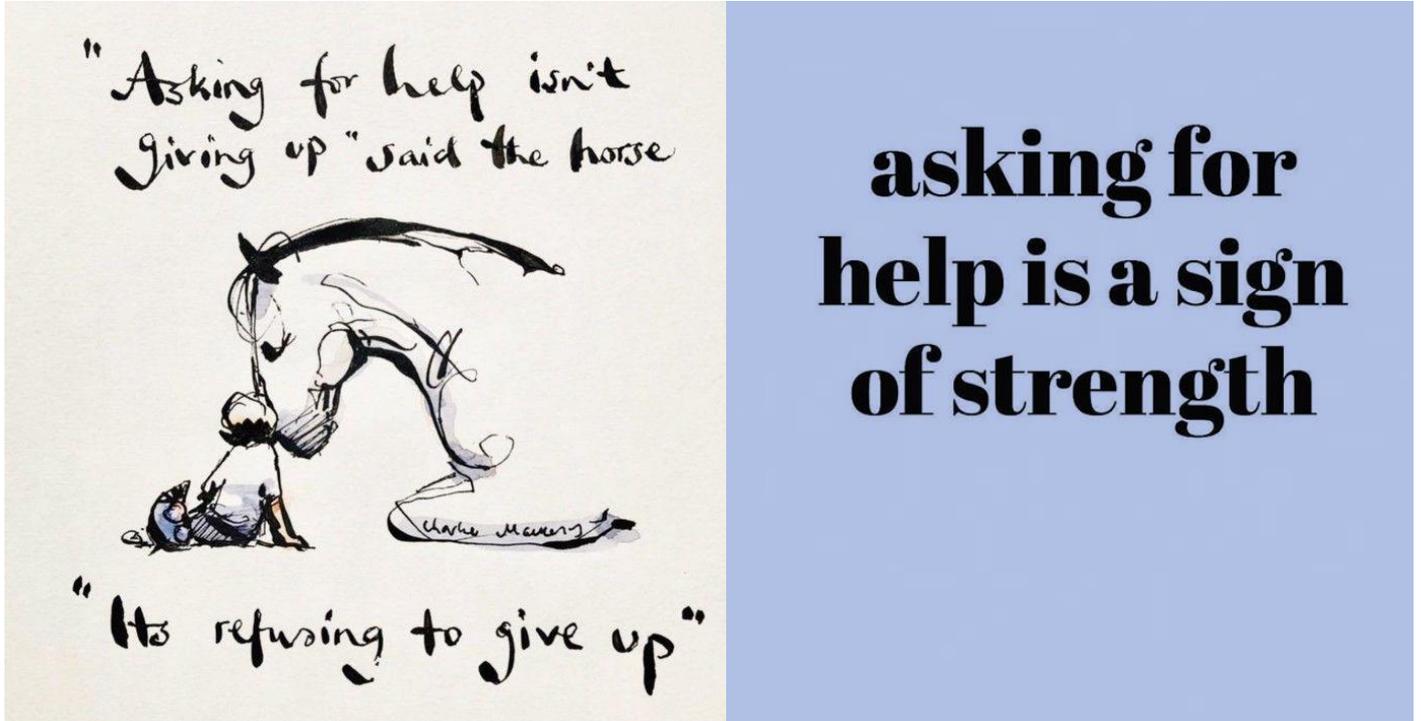
A reminder that school breaks up on Thursday 1st April 2021 for the Easter holiday and reopens on Monday 19th April 2021 for the start of Term 5.



Statement to Live By

Next week our 'statement to live by' is "I know when to ask for help and who to ask."

Time to talk: Each of us has the right to feel happy, safe and loved every day. If something or someone makes us feel uneasy then we must tell. Who would you tell? If we have tried our very best and need help in order to understand or complete it, then we must ask. Who would you ask? Who do you trust to listen and help?



Best wishes,
Mr Barratt

