

SJF NEWS



www.st-johnfisher.org | www.ourladyoflourdessheffield.org.uk | Friday 22nd December 2023

Citizen of the Week

This week's award was presented to **Bobby** in **Y1** who understands how (and why) it is the simple things that make us happy, in line with our Statement of Belief. In the final week the children learned that it is not an item that is the gift, but the thought and effort that goes in to finding, choosing, buying and wrapping it. We were reminded that God is love, and that love is his incredible gift to us. The children learned that the fruits of love are special gifts like joy, peace, friendship, hope, sharing, caring etc. and that none of these things exist in isolation. They all come from love. Everyone agrees that Bobby shares these gifts – always quietly - with others in both his learning and play, and it is very special indeed. The other children appreciate him and the gifts he shares, and all of us can learn from his fantastic example. Congratulations, Bobby, we are very proud of you!

Term 2 Smiley Scores



Term 2 Champions

Congratulations to the members of St Patrick's House, our Term 2 Champions. St Andrew's House remain the overall leaders for the academic year so far.

Attendance: Term 2 - Final Week

1 st	Y4	97.9%	Bobby Bear will visit in Term 2
2 nd	Y5	94.7%	Brenda Bear will visit in Term 2
3 rd	Y1	94.3%	Elvis Owl will visit in Term 2
4 th	Y6	90.6%	Billy Bear will visit in Term 2
5 th	Y3	89.4%	
6 th	Y2	89.0%	
7 th	FS2	87.1%	

Target = 98.0% Average Attendance = 92.0%



Get Set, GO!

1 st	Y5	76%
2 nd	FS2	75%
2 nd	Y3	75%
4 th	Y1	73%
5 th	Y2	69%
6 th	Y6	64%
7 th	Y4	60%

Average = 81%

Attendance: Term 2 - Overall

1 st	Y4	96.8%	
2 nd	Y6	96.6%	
3 rd	Y5	96.2%	
4 th	Y1	95.7%	
5 th	Y3	95.4%	
6 th	FS2	93.8%	
7 th	Y2	92.9%	

Target = 98.0% Average Attendance = 95.4%

Attendance: Terms 1 & 2 - Overall

1 st	Y4	97.4%	
2 nd	Y5	97.1%	
3 rd	Y6	97.0%	
4 th	Y3	96.0%	
5 th	Y1	95.7%	
6 th	FS2	95.2%	
7 th	Y2	94.5%	

Target 98.0% Overall Average Attendance = 96.2%



ST CLARE
Catholic Multi Academy Trust



Pupil Voice

SJF School Council Update



This week the Y6 SJF School Councilors met to reflect on progress and consider future plans. Here is a word from **Dominique**, a **Y6** Councilor and our Co-Treasurer...

We've really enjoyed our School Council meetings since the beginning of the year. It's been really fun getting to know the councilors from the other classes and coming up with new ideas together. I'm really excited for our plans in 2024!



SJF Eco Team Update
Here is a word from Mrs Steenson

The SJF Eco Team has achieved an amazing amount in their first two terms. They were brilliant representatives of our school during a virtual interview with the Permanent Secretary and representatives of the Natural History Museum, that was observed many civil servants across the Department for Education. The team even answered the questions posed by the Permanent Secretary and civil servants, as well as from the team at the museum, with such openness and confidence that everyone was very impressed.

Our SJF Eco Team continues to complete their pioneering work linked to the 'Nature Park' app launched earlier this year, by the government.

The SJF Eco Team continue to work with our PTFA, developing ideas and plans for our new wildlife area. They also proudly took responsibility for creating a school Advent Wreath – which looks absolutely beautiful!

The children will meet again in the new year, and are looking forward to working in the outdoors more as the weather improves. I would like to thank the children for their hard work. Here are a few words from Renae, one of our Y4 team members:

"During our time at Eco Team so far we have been doing lots of interesting things. My favourite so far was our interview with the Natural History Museum. We are now working really hard on the ideas we've already had, and are so excited to work on the Nature Park app next year to improve what we do for our school."



SJF Healthy Minds Champions – Update

This year's team wanted to experiment sharing information and updates via a podcast instead of a newsletter and worked with Mr Murphy, our HM Champions coordinator, to write and present the first edition, which features Jomi and Willow and guest appearance from Mrs Barrett. We thank them, and Mr Murphy, too.

The plan is that other HM Champions and guests will feature in future editions. You can access the first podcast via this [LINK](#). Unfortunately technical issues delayed its publication before the holiday.

SJF Time Tables Rock Stars

Congratulations to all the children who took part in the TT Rock Stars Grand Final on Wednesday 20th December. Each had won through in year group finals first in order to earn their places. They all did brilliantly, and following a tough final the eventual overall champion was Luke in **Y5**. We congratulate Luke and all the finalists for their hard work and for showing such determination and courage. We also thank them for the great example they set others, by learning important multiplication and division facts. We are so proud of you all!





Our Catholic Life

Weekly Liturgy of the Word

Our next liturgy will be on **Thursday 18th January 2024** and will be led by the young people of **Y3** and we invite their family and friends to join us in the school hall at 9.00am.

Our Virtues to Live By

In our Tuesday assemblies, we continue to focus on the important and special virtues, **hope** and **patience**.



Collective Worship

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Citizenship Statement of Belief Assembly (Headteacher) & Chaplains' Liturgies (Years 5 and 6)	'Virtues to Live By' Class Assembly (Teachers & Chaplains)	Themed Assembly (Teacher-Led)	Weekly Liturgy of the Word (Class-Led)	Celebration Assembly (Headteacher & Deputy Headteacher) Chaplains' Liturgies (Years 1, 2, 3 and 4) Story Liturgy (FS2)



Advent Class Reflections

Thank you to everyone who joined us for our daily class-based Advent reflections this year. We thank our Chaplains for helping staff prepare them. The next round of daily class reflections will be during the season of Lent.

Our December Prayer

O God, Forgive Us

The Act of Contrition
During Advent we prepare for Christmas by saying sorry for our mistakes and by trying hard to make those key changes in our lives that we need to make. Our prayer is called the Act of Contrition.

O my God
Because You are so good – I am very sorry,
That I have sinned against You,
And by the help of Your grace,
I will not sin again.

Our January Prayer

A reminder that our January prayer is called the Agnus Dei or 'The Lamb of God'. The prayer is said during Mass, and recalls The Last Supper of Jesus and His apostles during which the bread and wine were transformed in to the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ for the first time. It is therefore a very special prayer.

Lamb of God, You take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, You take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, You take away the sins of the world, grant us peace.



January Gathering Song

Children of God, in one family
Loved by God, in one family –
And no matter what you do...
God loves me, and God loves you



2024

New Year Mass

We celebrate our first school Mass of the year on **Friday 12th January 2024**, at Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church. The Mass, starting at 10.00am, will be celebrated by Fr Bede and led by the young people of **Y6**. Please join us as we pray for God's mercy and blessings in 2024.



Reading for Pleasure: Our Latest Feature Books of the Week



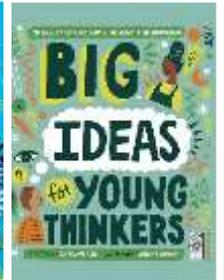
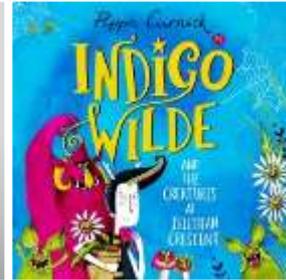
READING FOR PLEASURE

"The more you read the more things you know.
The more that you learn the more places you'll go."
-Dr. Seuss

Please click [here](#) to view our full 2023-24 SJF Book List. These are our latest feature books:

- **Indigo Wilde and the Creatures at Jellybean Crescent: Book 1**
o Pippa Curnick
- **Big Ideas for Young Thinkers: 20 Questions about Life and the Universe**
o Jamia Wildon

Please click [here](#) to link to the Waterstones reviews on our website.



Golden Children!

- FS2** **Robyn** for being so great in all our Christmas activities, always so full of enthusiasm, and also for sharing an amazing retelling of the nativity story in our RE lesson this week!
- Y1** **Margot** for being so kind and helpful to both adults and friends in class! We feel so lucky to have her in Y1!
- Y2** **Vaani** for being a kind and caring member of the class. Well done, Vaani!
- Y3** **Elieel** for being considerate of others! Thank you!
- Y4** **Kristian** for working hard, consistently, all term! His attitude to learning is remarkable, and we are all really proud of him! Well done!
- Y5** **Kayl** for always making good choices, and for doing so without a fuss or an expectation of reward. A great example to others, well done, Kayl!
- Y6** **Erin** for the excellent effort she made to secure a place in the TT Rock Stars Grand Final! We are also proud of her for the courage she showed to sing a solo in the KS2 Carol Concert. What a great week!

Writing Champions!

- FS2** **Julia** for taking great care in all her handwriting activities – which was demonstrated really well when wrote her Christmas card! Well done!
- Y1** **Hugo** for having a good go at writing his version of the Christmas story - completely independently! We are all so proud of how much he managed to write and of how hard he tried! Well done, Hugo!
- Y2** **Henry** for concentrating really hard during our writing-based activities and for improving his writing stamina! A fantastic effort!
- Y3** **Max** for creating a truly lovely 'Christmas is Here!' poem! Well done!
- Y4** **Freya** for the beautiful and thoughtful insights she demonstrates in her writing, especially this week! Well done, Freya!
- Y5** **Rebecca** for trying so very hard to improve the presentation of her writing as she focuses on gaining an ink licence. Keep up the hard work and effort to be more consistent, it is really paying off!
- Y6** **Sofia** for producing a brilliant piece of descriptive writing based on the nativity story. Well done!



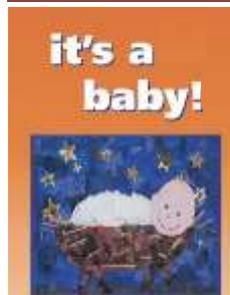
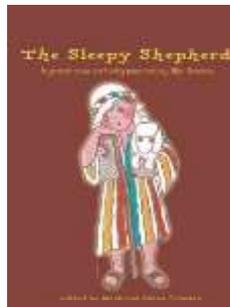
Maths Champions!

- FS2** **Lucy** for some really great work with missing numbers, sequencing and repeating patterns! Well done!
- Y1** **Marnell** for doing some super work *adding on* using a number line! Well done, Marnell!
- Y2** **Aadvik** for working hard to apply his growing mathematical knowledge more independently! Keep it up!
- Y3** **Clayton** for the wonderful effort shown with his number-bond work! Well done!
- Y4** **Kyrel** for working hard on his times tables this term! His efforts are really starting to pay off! His hard work is clear for everyone to see – an amazing job, keep it up!
- Y5** **Max** for showing consistent and determined improvements in his maths work, over the term. He is now much more resilient and willing to give things a go – applying his developing knowledge as he does!
- Y6** **Poppy** for the fantastic effort and dedication she has displayed in her maths work and learning since the beginning of the year!

Reminder: Nativity Plays 2023

Thank you to everyone who attended the performances of this year's nativity plays. Both were fantastic, and we were all extremely proud of the children for the confidence and trust they demonstrated.

We thank all the staff and volunteers involved, for their encouragement and support of the children and for their help behind the scenes too, including preparing the hall, the stage and fantastic new backdrop; making costumes; selling raffle tickets; and serving hot drinks before the FS2 play.



SJF Nativity Photographs & Video

- **FS2** (The Sleepy Shepherd) – [here](#)
- **Y1/Y2** (It's a Baby) – [here](#) and [here](#)

After being unable to secure the services of professionals to film the performances, we filmed them ourselves, and these will be uploaded to the website in due course. A reminder to **not** share photographs on social media, if the images of other children are also captured and are therefore visible. Thank you.

KS2 Annual Carol Service

I would like to thank everyone involved in organising and preparing the children for this year's Key Stage 2 Community Advent Service. The children shared their versions of the nativity story, in very thought-provoking ways from different perspectives. I would like to thank Fr Bede for allowing us to use the church as well as our other friends from the parish for enabling us to access the church in order to practise. I would like to thank the family and friends who were able to join us as well as the PTFA who laid on refreshments for everyone in the school hall afterwards. I would like to thank the older SJF Chaplains for supporting with the service and with the selling of raffle tickets afterwards. Finally, I would like to thank all the children who took part. They fulfilled their various roles brilliantly! It was a very special and moving occasion as a result, and we were so proud of them all. Please click this [link](#) to view a recording of the service when it is uploaded.





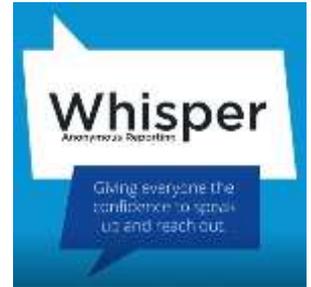
SJF Safeguarding Update: Whisper Button

At St John Fisher we take the safeguarding and wellbeing of our children extremely seriously and remind our children continually of their right to feel **happy, safe and loved** every day in and out of school. Children are encouraged to **'Tell! Tell! Tell!'** if they are worried about anything or anyone.

We already provide children with options (and opportunities) for raising issues and accessing support, including:

- ✓ **'Wishes, Whys and Worries'** boxes located in different locations around school
- ✓ **'The Hub'** (at lunchtimes)
- ✓ **Healthy Minds Champions** (peers who are trained by the Sheffield Healthy Minds Team)
- ✓ **a qualified Mental Health Worker** - school-based and provided by the Sheffield Healthy Minds Team
- ✓ **emotionally available staff** (including, Mr Murphy, our Inclusion & Learning Mentor) who are visible and who have received accredited *Trauma-Informed Schools UK* and *Positive Regard* training

We have decided to add a 'Whisper Button' to the homepage of our website as a further option, in partnership with the South West Grid for Learning (SWGfL). 'Whisper' is an anonymous reporting tool which has been designed by SWGfL. The tool aims to further empower school communities by providing them with an extra channel for reporting safeguarding issues and concerns, via a simple online form or text. The reports can be made anonymously though the inclusion of names will sometimes make it easier for concerns to be verified and followed up. Click [here](#) to link to our online 'Whisper' form.



Achievements outside of School

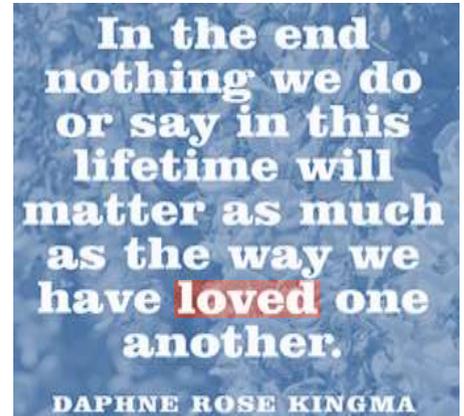
Please send us details of your children's achievements outside of school via our enquiries@st-johnfisher.org email address. Whether the achievements are big or small we will share and celebrate the good news! Here are this week's special mentions:

- **Freya** in **Y4** received the 'Silver Award' in brownies! Congratulations, we are all very proud of you.

Statement of Belief

Our 'statement to live by' is **'I try to love others as I love myself'**

Time to talk: Why do some people think that they are better than others? What happens when people put themselves above others? Are these people right to think they are better? How would our world be different if everyone one fair and loving to everyone else? Would our world feel safer? happier?



Finally...

I would like to thank my dedicated **colleagues** for all they do, in all their different and very important roles.

I would like to thank our **Local Academy Committee** members (known previously as Governors), for their tremendous support. I would like thank our wonderful **PTFA** for all the wonderful things they bring to our community, enhancing everyone's experience. I would like to thank **Fr Bede** and our friends from the parish for their prayers, support and friendship. I would like to thank our **Diocese** for their support of us, and especially now, as we prepare for a formal Catholic Life and RE inspection under section 48 of the Education Act. I would like to thank our **St Clare Catholic Multi Academy Trust** and **Learn Sheffield** for their support as we continue working hard to develop as a community that is equipped to meet the challenges in order to be the best we can. I would like to thank our families for their support of school life and for continuing to entrust their children in to our care.

Finally, I would like to thank all our amazing **children**, for all they bring; for their gifts and light. On behalf of everyone here at St John Fisher I would like to wish you all a very peaceful, safe and happy Christmas and I pray that 2024 is peaceful and happy! We look forward to welcoming you back on **Monday 8th January 2024**.





Whisper Report

Anonymous Reporting Form

St John Fisher Primary, A Catholic Voluntary Academy

PROBLEM? Whisper it!

If you have a problem or concern in school or at home, you can report it to a member of staff anonymously.



When To Report...

You or a friend are being bullied

You are concerned for a student's welfare

A student, member of staff, or parent has behaved inappropriately

You need to talk to someone about a problem

Suggestion for changes or improvements in school

Report via SMS or visit:

<https://swgfl.org.uk/whisper/sjf1/>



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