Jesus: in our hearts, in our minds, in our living, in our learning.

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25th September 2026

Year 2 have enjoyed learning about Noah's Ark and created beautiful pictures of the story.



Message from Mrs Taylor

This week has seen the beginning of Fairtrade Fortnight**,** while our pupils have also enjoyed a range of additional opportunities. **Year 2** took part in the first of four Road Safety Workshops, **Years 3–6** continued with the Cardiff City Stars Programme and will round off the week with their Cricket Chance to Shine sessions. A big thank you to everyone who supported our **Friends & Family AGM** on Thursday. We are incredibly grateful to our F&F and to all those who give their time and support to help enrich school life for our children.

Our first RE Branch of the year is **'Creation and Covenant'**, and there has been some lovely learning taking place across the school:

- **Nursery** have explored different ways in which they can look after God's creation.
- **Reception and Year 1** have recognised and talked about ways they can care for God's wonderful world.
- **Year 2** have used role play to explore what happens during the Sacrament of Baptism.
- **Year 3** have demonstrated their understanding of the Catholic Social Teaching principle of **Solidarity**.
- **Year 4** have explored and demonstrated their understanding of the story of **Abraham and Isaac**.
- **Year 5** have made links between the **Ten Commandments** and how we live our lives today.
- **Year 6** have explored the meaning and symbolism found within the **Sacrament of Baptism**.

It is wonderful to see pupils not only developing their religious knowledge but also thinking about how our faith calls us to care for one another, our communities and God's creation.

Looking Ahead

We warmly invite families to join us for a number of special events over the coming weeks:

- **Welcome Mass with Mgr. Boardman** – *Monday 28th September at 2.45pm*
- **Year 2 Class Celebration of the Word** – *Thursday 1st October at 3.20pm*
- **Home Clothes Day and Harvest Vale Foodbank Donations** – *Friday 2nd October*
- **Fairtrade Assembly, Good News Awards and Family Coffee Event** – *Friday 2nd October at 2.30pm*
- **'Together We Stand' Global Neighbours Festival – Exhibition and Celebration of Learning** – *Monday 5th October from 2.30pm*

We hope that as many families as possible will be able to join us for these celebrations. Thank you, as always, for your continued support and for being such an important part of our school community.

Take care and God bless, Mrs Taylor

Prayer of the Week



Prayer is how we learn to love God and to love like God. Each morning at school, we offer all that we have to God — everything we do, think, and say — so that all we do is done in love. Every kind word, every loving action is a gift to God.

May everything, we do today be offered to Him.

Say this morning offering together:

Father, Abba,
I offer myself to you this day,
with all my mind and heart,
with all my body and soul
and with my whole strength,
In all that I say and all that I do.
Amen

Pupil Profile Virtues – Faith-filled and Hopeful



This half term we will be focusing on the virtues of 'faith-filled and hopeful' as part of our ongoing work to develop the St Joseph's Pupil Profile.

Pupils in St Joseph's RC Primary School are growing to be . . .
.....faith-filled in their beliefs and hopeful for the future.

To be FAITH-FILLED is to have FAITH in myself, in others and in God.
To have faith that God has chosen me. He has given me talents and skills to do something great for Him.
To have faith that my friends, my family and the community I live in, will support me, help me and encourage me.
To have faith that God's way is my way. God's way is the way I should go. When I do His will, I will be happy and the person God wants me to be.

This leads me to be HOPEFUL and courageous for the future. God has promised to be with us always. He gave us His Son Jesus, to teach us and to show us the way. God wants us to be happy and to have life to the full.

Attendance

This week's attendance figures for each class are:
Well done to Year 4 who achieved the highest attendance this week and to all families who arrived at school on time.



Class	Attendance	Late
Reception	96.84%	0.00%
Year 1	92.38%	0.48%
Year 2	89.02%	0.00%
Year 3	88.46%	0.00%
Year 4	99.33%	0.00%
Year 5	97.67%	0.33%
Year 6	95.4%	0.31%

Catholic Social Teaching – Solidarity and Peace



This half term we are learning about the Catholic Social Teaching principles, **'Solidarity and Peace'.**

Solidarity means we believe in showing we care. In the Bible, St Paul writes a letter to the Galatians and says- 'All of you are one in Christ.' The Scripture tells us that God created us as one global family. It is important we show our brothers and sisters in need around the world that that we care.

We can show we care in many ways ….

- spending time with someone who is lonely
- offering to help someone in need
- praying for the needs of others
- and through fundraising to help charities like CAFOD.

Harvest Vale Foodbank Appeal – Friday 2nd October

Next **Friday 2nd October**, is our Harvest Vale Foodbank Appeal and Fairtrade Coffee Event! **Pupils are invited to wear home-clothes and donate an item of dried or tinned food to the Vale Foodbank.**

This year St Joseph's are collecting:

- ***tinned cold meat e.g. corned beef, spam, lunch meat;***
- ***coffee***
- ***pasta sauce***

as Champions of these foods for the foodbank!

The Vale Foodbank have also asked for donations of ***'Bags for Life'*** *if possible.*

Please see the poster below about the foodbank and the article to the right about the Fairtrade Coffee Event!

If you could bring in one of these items on Friday 2nd October the Vale Foodbank would be really grateful!

Fairtrade Assembly & Family Coffee Event – Friday 2nd October

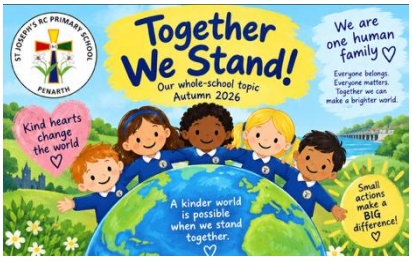
We warmly invite parents and families to join us on **Friday 2nd October at 2.30pm** for our special **'Together We Stand' Fairtrade and Solidarity Assembly**. During the assembly, pupils will explore how **Fairtrade connects with our Catholic Social Teaching principle of Solidarity**, reminding us that we are one global family and are called to stand alongside others, particularly those who may experience injustice or unfairness. We will also celebrate some of our pupils with the presentation of **Mrs Taylor's Good News Stickers**, recognising children who have demonstrated fairness, justice and solidarity during Fairtrade Fortnight.

Following the assembly, **parents, families and pupils are invited to stay and enjoy a cup of Fairtrade tea, coffee or hot chocolate, along with other refreshments**. We are very grateful to the **Dinas Powys Fairtrade Committee** for supporting this special event.

Please come along, enjoy some Fairtrade refreshments and help us celebrate how, through the choices we make, we can put our faith into action and show that

Together We Stand! 🌍 🤍

Together We Stand - Global Neighbours Festival – Monday 5th October 2026 from 2.30pm



We are very excited to invite all families to our **'Together We Stand' Global Neighbours Festival on Monday 5th October at 2.30pm** in the school hall.

Our whole-school topic this term has focused on the Catholic Social Teaching principle of **Solidarity**. Building on *'This is Me!'* and *'Save the Planet!'*, pupils are now exploring their responsibility towards others, particularly those who may be vulnerable, marginalised or experiencing injustice. The festival will be a wonderful opportunity for families to join us for a **celebration and exhibition of learning**, showcasing what pupils across the school have discovered and created.

We would also love our families to help make the afternoon a real celebration of our diverse school community. Families are invited to contribute a **traditional dish from their culture or heritage, or cakes or biscuits to share**. If you are able to contribute, please return the slip sent home or reply to the accompanying email by **Monday 28th September**.

We hope as many families as possible will join us to celebrate our children's learning and the message at the heart of our topic: **Together We Stand!**

Dates for the Diary



September

28th – Welcome Mass 2.45pm School Hall
29th – Year 2 Road Safety Workshop (2 of 4)
30th – Years 3 and 4 to Mass
30th – Prime Minster Speeches and Voting

October

1st – Year 2 Class Collective Worship 3.20pm
1st - Years 3 – 6 Cardiff City Stars Programme (PE kit to be worn)
1st – St Richard Gwyn High School Open Evening
2nd - Years 3 – 6 Cricket Chance to Shine (PE kit to be worn)
2nd – Home Clothes Day - Harvest Vale Foodbank Appeal and Fairtrade Assembly, Good News stickers and Coffee Event from 2.30pm

5th – Global Neighbours Festival from 2.30pm
7th – Years 1 and 5 to Mass
8th – Year 3 Class Collective Worship 3.20pm
13th – Year 2 Author Visit – Ian Brown, Albert and the Long Night
14th – Shwmae Welsh Language Day
15th – Year 4 Class Collective Worship 3.20pm
16th – Show Racism the Red Card Day
21st – Reception to Year 6 Flu Vaccinations
21st – Reception, Year 2 and Year 6 to Mass

26th – 30th - Half term

November

4th – Years 1 and 5 to Mass
9th – Switch off Fortnight
9th – Reception to Year 6 Parent Teacher Consultations (Booking details to follow)
11th – Years 3 and 4 to Mass
11th – Year 6 Class Collective Worship 3.20pm – Change of Date
12th – Reception to Year 6 Parent Teacher Consultations (Booking details to follow)
16th – Anti Bullying Week
18th – Reception, Year 2 and Year 6 to Mass
19th – Year 5 Class Collective Worship 3.20pm
20th – Universal Children's Day

December

9th – Years 1 and 2 Christmas Production 2pm
10th – Years 1 and 2 Christmas Production 10am
11th – Nursery and Reception Christmas Celebration 10.00am
13th – Years 3 and 4 Advent Service, St Joseph's RC Church 2pm

Pupil Profile Virtues – Curious and Active!

Nursery	Henry Jenkins	**Year 3**	Mia Watts
Reception	Ryx Tan	**Year 4**	Alayna Jubin
Year 1	Roman Pugsley	**Year 5**	Isaac Morgans
Year 2	Roman Daly	**Year 6**	Esmai O'Grady



Weekly Good News Awards



Mrs Taylor's Good News stickers are for pupils who have shown a god understanding of numbers in Maths e.g. counting forwards and backwards, reading and writing numbers, understanding the place value of numbers and using numbers to compare, order, round and estimate.



Congratulations to this week's winners!

Nursery	Lyra Hales Esmae Flavin Zachary Eley-Gambling Elinor Williams	**Year 3**	Roman Kennedy Hallie Ayres Carter Bartlett Alfie Langley
Reception	Edie Dowott Jacob Murray Shen Kelly Frankie Griffiths	**Year 4**	Edward Best Mia Taylor Oliver Dziedzic Mila-Blu Lewis
Year 1	Oakley Jones Irene Nithin Jorgie Jarvis Demi Daly	**Year 5**	Jackson Ruckley Noah Davies Andrea Nithin Scarlett Chan
Year 2	Lottie Wilson Aneyah Stait Ellen Jones Milo Mulchinock	**Year 6**	Melvyn D'Silva Alphonsa Manayani Dylan Wareham Alice Deacon

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Vale
Foodbank
Together with Trussell

Harvest appeal



Help support your food bank this Harvest

In the three weeks leading up to Harvest, the Vale food bank will provide over 7300kg of food to local individuals and families facing hardship.

Donate food



Donate an item or two from our shopping list, ensuring we can provide food for people facing hardship in your community.

Shopping list

- Tinned hot meat (No meatballs please)
- Tinned veg
- Tinned Soup
- Micro Rice/Pasta
- UHT Milk
- UHT Juice
- Peanut Butter
- Cereal
- Pasta Sauce

vale.foodbank.org.uk

Registered Charity in England & Wales (1193005) and Scotland.
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Learn Welsh classes for parents

There's an opportunity to enrol on a **free Welsh at Home class** for parents / carers for 30 weeks starting in the next couple of weeks. These lessons will be tutor led for 1.5 hours a week. The options are below
9.30 – 11 – Monday – Zoom
6 – 7.30 – Monday – Zoom
9 – 10.30 – Tuesday – Ysgol High Street, Barry

The lessons will introduce vocabulary and phrases that you can use with your children. We'll also be exploring online resources and giving you the confidence to give it a go!
You may have a little bit of Welsh already but lack confidence in using it? The lessons will provide a safe environment for you to practice your Welsh again!

The links to register are in the attached poster. If you would like to know more about the Welsh at Home scheme before registering, please don't hesitate to contact me – Olwen Morus onolm25@aber.ac.uk.

