

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



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Following a successful harvest last term, the Eco Government Group have been working hard to clear the polytunnel ready for planting. Donations of compost will be gratefully received!

10th January 2025

Message from Mrs Taylor

Wishing you all a Happy New Year – Blwyddyn Newydd Dda!

It's been wonderful to welcome back all our learners after the Christmas break. The pupils have settled beautifully into the Spring Term. In Maths, Nursery created repeated patterns; Reception found and subitised number 0 – 5; Year 1 added and subtracted by counting on and back; and Year 2 pupils multiplied and divided by 2, 5 and 10. In Year 3, pupils multiplied by 8; Year 4 explored multiplication and division problems; Year 5 found improper and mixed fractions; and Year 6 pupils multiplied fractions.

This term, instead of a class liturgy in the hall, we are inviting parents and family members to 'Come and Pray'. The 'Come and Pray' liturgy will take place in your child's classroom and, like a class liturgy, will be led by the children. The dates of this term's Come and Pray liturgies are below. We hope you will be able to join us.

| | |
|---------------------------|---------------|
| 30 th January | Reception |
| 6 th February | Years 1 and 2 |
| 13 th February | Years 3 and 4 |
| 20 th February | Years 5 and 6 |

You may have noticed that we are currently having the pond renovated, including a new fence which is being put in this week. We have been fortunate to receive a Vale Nature Partnership Grant for this work and are looking forward to exploring the pond, going pond dipping and identifying the plants and creatures that live there.

Please check the dates for the diary. I have added the main celebrations and events such as St David's Day, World Book Day and Sports Day. I will continue to send you the 'Dates for the Week' on a Monday through our SchoolApp. If you have not downloaded SchoolApp please contact the school office. This is the main channel of communication with parents.

Take care and God Bless – Mrs Taylor

Prayer of the Week



The Epiphany of the Lord was celebrated on 6th January, when the wise men followed a star and came to visit Jesus. The star showed the wise men where to go. It was a sign from God for them to follow.

We do not always have a star to follow, to show us that we are following what God wants us to do. But God has given us Jesus, to show us how we should try to live our lives. And when we pray, God guides us to do what is right, if we listen.

Let us think about how we follow God in our lives and say this prayer together:

God of light,
your star led the wise men
to your Son Jesus.
Guide us as we try
to follow Jesus in our lives
and help us to be kind and share our gifts.
Amen

Prayer of the Week – Pupil Profile Virtues



This half term we will be focusing on the virtues of 'Attentive and Discerning' 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:
attentive to their experience and to their vocation;
and **discerning** about the choices they make and the effects of those choices.

To be **ATTENTIVE** means that we take the time to NOTICE the big and small things in our lives, each day. We NOTICE how others respond to what we do and say. We PAY ATTENTION and LISTEN to God and others when they are speaking to us.

To be **DISCERNING** means that we are able to choose better what is good for us and for others. It helps us to choose God's will for us. It helps us to become the person God has called us to be.

Attendance

This week's attendance figures for each class are:

| Class | Attendance | Late |
|-----------|------------|-------|
| Reception | 90.4% | 3.21% |
| Year 1 | 91.8% | 0.98% |
| Year 2 | 91.8% | 0.64% |
| Year 3 | 96.6% | 0.00% |
| Year 4 | 94.8% | 1.08% |
| Year 5 | 90.2% | 0.54% |
| Year 6 | 91.8% | 0.57% |

Well done to Year 3 who achieved the highest attendance this week and to all families who arrived at school on time.



Current Religious Education Topics

Our RE topics help pupils to explore the importance of significant experiences within their lives and the mystery of human life as revealed in the person, life and gospel of Jesus Christ. Pupils learn about Scripture, the teaching of the Church, prayers and the lives of outstanding Christians. They take part in celebrations and think about how they can apply their learning to their lives.

| | | | |
|-----|--|----|--|
| N R | The visit of the wise men, Jesus blesses the little children, Jesus came to show God's love to everyone, the Glory Be. | Y3 | The Parable of the Sower; the Kingdom of God; the Our Father; the lives of the Saints |
| | | Y4 | Jesus, the Messiah; the Creed; the Sacrament of Reconciliation |
| Y1 | The Early Life of Jesus; The Call of the Disciples; Zacchaeus | Y5 | The Beatitudes, The Great Commandment, the Transfiguration, faith, hope and charity |
| Y2 | Baptism of Jesus; Parables - The Calming of the Storm; The Lost Sheep | Y6 | The miraculous signs in St John's Gospel, the purpose of each of the 7 Sacraments and how they are celebrated. |

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.

Pope Francis teaches us through his own writing - "We are a single family living in a common home." In his letter, *Fratelli Tutti*, he asks us to reach out to our sisters and brothers in need, whoever they are, wherever they may come from.

Human Dignity means made in the image of God, *Common Good* means working for the good of everyone and *Solidarity* means showing 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.

Pray together:

Heavenly Father, our hearts are brimming over with your love.
Help us to be generous and always ready to share this love with everyone we meet.
Amen



Dates for the Diary



January

6th – INSET DAY
 7th – First Day Back for Pupils
 14th – Rec – Year 3 XL Workshops (Funded by F&F)
 15th – Year 5 Vocal Singing Project (10 weeks)
 20th – Jubilee 2025: Pilgrims of Hope Launch Week
 21st – Years 4 - 6 XL Workshops (Funded by F&F)
 21st – Year 3 pBuzz workshop
 29th – Reception and Year 6 to Mass
 30th – Come and Pray – Reception class 3.20pm

February

5TH – Nursery – Year 2 Fluoride Varnish Application
 5th – Years 1 and 5 to Mass
 5th – Year 6 PC Alex Cyber Safety
 6th – Come and Pray – Years 1 and 2 3.20pm
 12th – Rec – Year 2 HSBC Financial Education workshops
 12th – Years 2, 3 and 4 to Mass
 13th – Y3 – 6 HSBC Financial Education workshops
 13th – Come and Pray Years 3 and 4 3.20pm
 14th – Martha’s Dancing Heart Charity Day
 18th – Year 6 to St Richard Gwyn to see ‘The Wizard of Oz’
 20th – Come and Pray – Years 5 and 6 3.20pm

24th – 28th – Half Term

March

5th – Ash Wednesday Liturgy 2.45pm
 7th – School Eisteddfod: Nursery – Year 2 10am; Years 3 – 6 2pm (Pupils can wear Welsh costume/ Welsh sports shirts/ Red to school)
 11th – Parent Teacher Consultations 4pm – 6pm
 12th – Parent Teacher Consultations 4pm – 6pm
14th – World Book Day
 19th – Feast of St Joseph Mass at 2.45pm
 25th – 28th – Year 6 cycling

Summer Term

5th May – Bank Holiday
 6th May – INSET day
 21st May – May Procession and Picnic
 10th June – Years 1 – 6 Sports Day
 17th June – Nursery and Reception Sports Day
 18th July – Final Day of school for pupils
 21st July – INSET day

Please check the Dates for the Diary every week.

Four Purposes of the Curriculum –Healthy and Confident Individuals!

| | | | |
|------------------|------------------------------|---------------|---------------------|
| Nursery | Jorgie Jarvis | Year 3 | Haydn Bullough |
| Reception | Maximus McAuley | Year 4 | Rafael Pugsley |
| Year 1 | Stream Rose Kingsley Cooling | Year 5 | Macsen Blyth-Harper |
| Year 2 | Dylan Todd | Year 6 | Brooke Lewis |



Weekly Good News Awards

Mrs Taylor’s Good News Awards are for pupils who shine brightly like the star of Bethlehem in the way that they are generous, compassionate, loving and hopeful.

Congratulations to this week’s winners!

| | | | |
|------------------|---|---------------|--|
| Nursery | Margot Drake Frankie Griffiths Livvy Stolzenberg Zain El Hammoud | Year 3 | Flossie Abbott Scarlett Chan Daisy Davey Aika Ferrer |
| Reception | Alana Valvo Evana Jainson Sonny Surringer Osian Whittaker | Year 4 | Leo Ledsam Steve Robin Abraham Nia Holt Alphonsa Manayani |
| Year 1 | Stanley Hawkins Isla-Mae Hilliard Mia Watts Theo Davies | Year 5 | Alys Cirino Kayleigh Jay Solomon Archie Jones Layla Knapper |
| Year 2 | David Robin Abraham John Murray Cora Spear Molly Dix | Year 6 | Ajay Chapman Joseph Donovan Zeta Chan Jasmin Green |

Free Workshop for Parents

MONDAY 20TH JANUARY, 2025
4:30PM

St David's CIW Primary School
Clowinston, CF71 7NL

Understanding and supporting the behaviour of children and young people is a tricky business. Lots of our intuitive responses to challenging behaviour can be damaging to our children's mental well being and can have a negative impact on our own mental health, too.

Charlotte will share highly practical and incredibly effective strategies that will help you hold firm boundaries and nurture positive behaviours without arguing with your children; without feeling exhausted and without compromising the quality of your relationship.

This workshop is free and open to families in The Vale. We look forward to seeing you there.

**WHEN
THE PARENTS
CHANGE
EVERYTHING
CHANGES**



VALE of GLAMORGAN

BRO MORGANNWG