

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER



NEWSLETTER DATED FRIDAY 28TH FEBRUARY 2025

Dear Families,

I hope this newsletter finds you well. As we embark on a new term, we give thanks to God for the blessings of the past terms and ask for His guidance in all that lies ahead. At St John's Catholic School we remain committed to nurturing each child academically, spiritually, and socially, ensuring they grow into compassionate, confident individuals grounded in Christian values.

In our RE Teaching this term the children will be engaging with the unit 'Desert to Garden'. This includes age appropriate learning focussed on the Stations of the Cross as a form of prayer common in Lent. It then walks us through Jesus' last week, using the metaphor of gardening to imagine what happens. We continue to read Luke's Gospel as our base text. We look forward to our school Masses, prayer services, and opportunities for spiritual reflection. Next week will be particularly busy when we will be gathering to mark Shrove Tuesday and Ash Wednesday Service in school and our Feast Day Mass in the parish church on Friday 7th March at 9.15am. Our RE curriculum and daily worship will help deepen the faith of our children throughout the season of Lent and we encourage families to join us whenever possible.

All the teachers have been working diligently to prepare engaging lessons and meaningful learning experiences. On Thursday we celebrate World Book Day and will be enjoying exciting opportunities focussed on carefully selected high quality texts. We invite all children to come to school in a costume associated with a character from one of their favourite books - no football kits please. During the day we will be launching the new termly '*Reading Award*' which will celebrate the efforts of 7 children across the school family - one child from each year group. The children will be recognised for their determination with reading which will include a visit to Waterstones Book Shop in Trowbridge to purchase a book of their choice. We can't wait to celebrate the children's hard work leading to success.

We deeply value the role of parents and carers in the education of their children. Your partnership and support make a significant difference, and we invite you to stay involved through upcoming parent meetings, workshops, and school events. Mrs Kylie Waters is our new Parent Support Advisor and if you would like to make an appointment please contact her via email at psa@st-johns-trowbridge.wilts.sch.uk

We are delighted to share the wonderful news that on Wednesday 26th February Miss Fallows gave birth to a beautiful baby girl weighing 8lb 2oz. She has been named Clemmie and we can't wait to meet her! Mother and baby doing well and feel blessed with the families new arrival.

I look forward to another term of growth, discovery, and faith-filled learning. Thank you for your continued support and prayers for our school community. This weekend we especially keep the children from Year 4 in our thoughts and prayers as they participate in their first school residential; we look forward to hearing all about their adventures on their return!

With every blessing,

Mrs O'Rourke

Pope Francis

We keep Pope Francis in our thoughts and prayers during this difficult time.

Almighty and Eternal God,
you are the everlasting health of those who believe in you.
Hear our prayers for your sick servant Francis
for whom we implore the aid of your tender mercy, through
Christ our Lord. Amen.

Our Lady of Lourdes, Health of the Sick, pray for him.



Official Opening of Our Prayer Graden

On Friday 14th February we were delighted to welcome over 30 guests to celebrate the official opening of the school prayer garden which is located on the school field. Many thanks to Fr Richard for leading the service so beautifully and also to Mrs Sessions who joined us to officially cut the ribbon! The prayer garden was one of her unfinished projects and it was a delight to welcome her back to St John's Catholic Primary. The school choir led



us in song and the Chapel Champions contributed prayers and reflections. All children across the school will now be able to access this quite reflective space during the school day and as part of our lunch time provision.



Dates For Your Diary 2025

Wednesday 5th March—Ash Wednesday Service in School

Thursday 6th March—World Book Day

Friday 7th March—Whole School Feast Day Mass in church at 9.15am.

Tuesday 11th March—Parents Evening (1) 3.30-6pm

Wednesday 12th March—KS1 Trip to Trowbridge Library

Thursday 20th March—Parents Evening (2) - 3.30-6pm

Wednesday 4th June—Opal Afternoon For Parents 1.40 –3.15pm

Friday 13th June—Sports Day

Friday 4th July—Sports Day if 13th June is Cancelled

Class 7 Violin Concert

Parents and Carers of pupils in Class 7 are invited to the Violin Concert in the Hall at 2.40pm (arrive 2.35pm) on Tuesday 25th March. This is a concert to celebrate the learning that the children have been doing with Charlotte in their violin lessons during Terms 3 and 4. Thank you.

House Group Singing on the Playground on Monday 3rd March 2025

Your child will be singing in their house group after school on Monday.

The school gates will open at 2.50pm for you to join us on the playground.

The house groups are now called:

Blessed Carlo Acutis (Red)

St. Francis of Assisi (Green)

St. Mother Teresa (Blue)

Saint Don Bosco (Yellow)

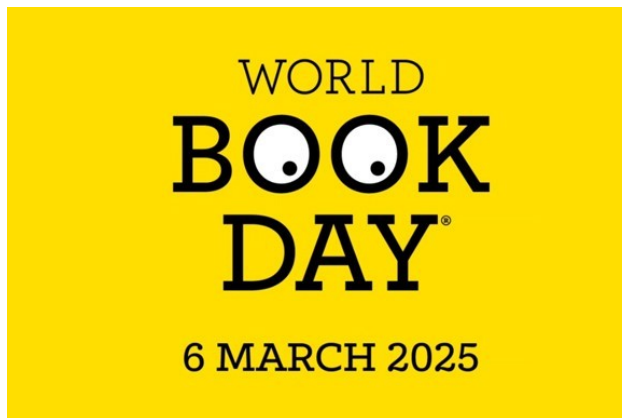
Everyone welcome!

Parents Evening Bookings

You are invited to make a Parents Evening appointment to see your child's teacher.

Please see the letter attached to this newsletter giving details on how to book an appointment.

Next Thursday 6th March we will be celebrating World Book Day.



We invite all children to dress as their favourite character from literature. Although it is lovely to dress up, the real purpose of World Book Day is **to inspire a love for reading by getting children reading and talking about books.**

World Book Day will 'kick off' with an assembly led by Mrs O'Rourke who will announce a new 'Reading Award'. Each term, one child from each year group will be chosen to visit Waterstone's with an adult to purchase a reading book. Children could be picked for a number of reasons. For example, their effort, resilience and progress in reading. The first 7 children will visit Waterstone's with Mrs O'Rourke *on* World Book Day.

Class teachers are busy planning the fun activities for World Book Day. There will be plenty of opportunity for children to read with different children, and to read with different teachers! We can't wait!

Foodbank Friday

Every Friday we encourage children and families to contribute a small item to Foodbank Friday which supports the Trowbridge foodbank. If you are able to please consider bringing in 1 or 2 items that can support those in need in our community. The suggested items include tins of soup, tinned pies, dried food such as pasta, plus toiletries.

Anything you are able to give them with long use by dates is very gratefully received. Thank you.

Birthdays This Week

During Celebration Assembly we celebrated all children who have had birthdays and presented them with a St. John's birthday pencil.

Pupils

Blanka C	Rutendo M	Florence H
Thomas M	George M	Trust V
Max F	Riona R	Teddy M-J
Lorenzo T-H	Alice H	Lucas T
Jami K	James S	Holly A
Oliver T	Charlotte H	Theo M



"Ancient Rome"

On Thursday 13th February, Lower Keystage 2 celebrated their History learning by participating in all things "Ancient Rome". There was the "catwalk" where children showed off their costumes and accessories, the Roman Army drill, a Roman Banquet, learning a Roman board game called Merels and how to recognise Roman Numerals. A busy and fun day to enhance our learning and finish off a great Term.

