

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER



NEWSLETTER DATED FRIDAY 24TH JANUARY 2025

Dear Families,

I want to start with a huge 'Thank you' for your support and encouragement with our new approach to allowing children to have access to high quality daily play. I will revisit my vision for our school to be the guardians of childhood. All the staff team are fully committed to ensure child have access to a safe environment and choices as to how and where they play every day.

The OPAL (Outdoor Play And Learning) scheme has now been delivered for a full week and there has been much laughter, joy, learning mixed with rain and mud! Each Friday morning the school family join to celebrate our week and listen to the health and safety messages that are essential to making our play offer successful. The children have been reminded to live out our Catholic Social Teaching themes of 'Stewardship' and 'Rights and Responsibilities' whilst playing. Knowing that we are the stewards of our common home and that we must be responsible for our choices. We will continue to support the children in an age appropriate way and are so impressed with how they are embracing our new approach to the school day.

We have had the most wonderful couple of weeks of learning. I hope you enjoy reading about the high quality experiences the children have had the opportunity to engage with. The team at St John's are working incredibly hard to ensure the curriculum and wider school offer is challenging, fun and engaging.

Today schools in the Clifton Diocese have launched the 'Jubilee Year of Hope' and we are very excited to learn more about how we can live out our faith during this special jubilee year. We look forward to welcoming you into the classrooms so that the children can share their work marking the launch of the Jubilee Year.

Finally, a reminder we will be celebrating Children's Mass together on Sunday 26th January at 10.30am at St John the Baptist Catholic Church, everyone is very welcome.

Wishing you a peaceful weekend,

Mrs O'Rourke

Save The Dates For Term 3—2025

Sunday 26th January—Children's Mass in Church at 10.30am

Tuesday 28th January—Class 3's Liturgy in Class at 9.05am

Wednesday 29th January—Class 4's Liturgy in Class at 2.30pm

Tuesday 4th February—Class 5's Liturgy in Class at 9.05am



Week 1 was
a lot of
fun!



Follow us
on Facebook OPAL at St
John's



Dorothy House Reindeer Run.

Tracey from Dorothy House visited our school on Friday 17th January. She was overwhelmed with the amount we had raised from the Reindeer Run last term.

The grand total was £1073.42

A big thank you to all our pupils, staff, governors and families who managed to fundraise this amazing amount and take part in this event that is very close to all hearts.

Mr Smith would be very proud!

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

Joanna D C	Thea R
Lena S	George B
Nancy E	Steve S
Dawid S	Sofia D
Precious M	Scarlet A
William F	Cloe M F



Wednesday Word

Please find below the link to last week's copy of the **Wednesday Word** which can be copied and pasted into your browser. This week's word is JOY.

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<https://www.paperturn-view.com/wednesday-word/good-news?pid=MTA101634&v=163.4>

We hope you enjoy sharing the Bible Scripture together with your child.

Help Needed Please - Old Roman Costumes For LKS2

Calling all Year 5 and 6 families... If you have any costumes which your child wore during their LKS2 Roman day and no longer need them, please donate them to LKS2.

We are having our next Roman Day on **Thursday 13th February** and are trying to collect a bank of costumes we can loan out to children. This will help to support other families whilst living out our stewardship values through ensuring sustainability.

Please hand in any costumes directly to Mrs Noad via your child by **Monday 10th February**.
Thankyou

Parking

Please can we remind parents not to park in the surgery/care home carpark and park courteously in neighbouring streets. Unfortunately we have received some complaints from local residents and would appreciate your co-operation.

LKS2 Trip to The Roman Baths.

On Thursday 16th Jan the whole of LKS2 and a host of staff, governors and parent volunteers made the journey to Aquae Sulis - the Roman Baths to most of us. It was an enrichment visit to introduce and enhance the learning that the children have been doing in History this term. There were two different workshops that involved a carousel of activities including: mosaic making, dressing up, making an arch (with wooden blocks), handling objects and an archaeological dig! Then the rest of the time was spent in the Museum itself using the audio guides provided. Some children were curious enough to taste the water coming from the spring itself - it was safe to drink! We all left with smiles on our faces and a feeling of a great day out!



Leaders in Faith Award.

Congratulations to the following child who has earned this award:

Bronze Award: Jude B

The certificate was presented in Praise Assembly on Friday.



Company for Christmas lunch held in Trowbridge

The Company for Christmas lunch in Trowbridge was created to provide company and conversation at Christmas time - Kate Dewey and Ikraam Fourhali report.

For most of us, Christmas is a celebration, where we can spend time with our loved ones. However, we know this isn't the case for everyone, and what might be our most cherished time can be the most difficult for others.

Company for Christmas aims to bring all people from all walks of life together in a safe space, where food, company and conversation can be enjoyed at no cost.

The Christmas Day lunch was started in 2011 by firefighters at Trowbridge fire station. Over the years, the event grew and hosted up to 165 guests (with the help of many amazing volunteers). In 2020, the event was restricted to food deliveries due to COVID-19, and from 2021- 2023 it did not go ahead.

This year, we decided to re-establish the lunch. We couldn't have done it without the support of others, and especially our amazing volunteers. We owe a HUGE thank you to:

- 🌟 St John's Catholic Primary School for agreeing to host our lunch.
- 🌟 St Augustine's Catholic College for allowing us to use their kitchen facilities to cook the lunch.
- 🌟 Appetito for donating the food.
- 🌟 Dunelm for donating gifts for the guests.
- 🌟 DWFRS staff members for donating raffle prizes.
- 🌟 Community members for donating gifts, raffle prizes and food.
- 🌟 Trowbridge fire station and community members for letting us use their premises to serve food.

🌟 Our amazing Information Governance team for volunteering their time to provide us with support and guidance on how to handle guest and volunteer data.

🌟 DWFRS for supporting us throughout it all. If we did not have support from our line managers and the organisation as a whole, the event would not have been able to go ahead.

On the day, lunch and dessert was served to 25 guests and delivered to three others. For entertainment, we had a quiz and a free raffle - we were fortunate to receive lots of raffle donations and the guests really enjoyed this part of the day. In addition, all guests received a gift bag containing multiple items.

It really was a magical day where people just came together to enjoy themselves. One guest said: "Thank you for the best Christmas I have had in years, thank you for a great time."

It was not just for the guests, but it also provided an opportunity for volunteers to meet new people and enjoy their Christmas Day. Thank you to everyone who spread the word, volunteered, donated or wished us luck, we could not have done it without your support!



Lessons, Activities and Events Taken Place During These Last Two Weeks

