

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER



NEWSLETTER DATED FRIDAY 10TH JANUARY 2025

Dear Families,

Happy New Year to all our children, families, governors and friends! This year we enter the Jubilee Year of Hope - which we will be launching on Friday 24th January.

It is wonderful to welcome all the children back to school and they have looked incredibly smart in their school uniform - a big thank you to the parents for their continued support. Please ensure all winter uniform is labelled which reduces the chances of coats/scarves/hats/gloves being lost.

We ended Term 2 with the most incredible Carol Service in St John the Baptist Catholic Church. It was a truly inspirational way to celebrate the joy of Christmas and unite together as a school family. The singing was simply beautiful - in particular a huge well done to Alex in Year 3 who opened the service with a stunning solo. Our readers again were reverent and allowed us to reflect on the important message that the season of Christmas brings. Our closing carol of the twelve days of Christmas sang by each class brought joy and the festivities alive! Huge thank you to all the adults that made this possible including Fr Richard, the families who attended, Catherine and Richard O'Mahony by supporting the fantastic music and the Friends of St John's who provided much welcomed coffee and mince pies after the service. We look forward to repeating again in 2025!

We are officially now an OPAL school and I am confident your child/children will be talking to you about the opportunity for quality play everyday - please do read and action the letter we have sent out today.

On a safety note please can adults remember that when they are parked outside of the school building that they switch off their car engines. I appreciate the weather is cold during January but we have many cars omitting dangerous fumes outside of the school gates on a daily basis. Please also remember that parking inside of the care home car park is not supported by the school. We are all responsible for our actions and please consider the needs of our community - in particular the frail and elderly who need medical support with limited mobility.

Wishing you all a relaxing weekend and look forward to the children returning to school on Monday for another challenging and exciting week of learning.

Kind Regards

Mrs O'Rourke

A New Year's Prayer

We Pray...

For healing...prepare us for surprises.

For strength...prepare us for surprises.

For vision...prepare us for surprises.

For transformation...prepare us for surprises.

For messengers and messengers...prepare us for surprises.

For community...prepare us for surprises.

For acceptance - of ourselves and others...prepare us for surprises.

For making room at our tables...prepare us for surprises.

For Truth-seeking...prepare us for surprises.

For support...prepare us for surprises.

For Common Ground...prepare us for surprises.

Walk beside us, O Holy One,

as we question and welcome,

as we challenge and invite,

as we discover and understand,

as we see, touch, taste, smell, and listen for the Newness awaiting us in 2025.

May we, Your Holy People, walk forward together side by side.

Amen

Save The Dates For Term 3—2025

Tuesday 14th January—Whole School Mass in Church at 9.15am

Friday 24th January—Jubilee Launch

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 9.05am

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

OPAL



Please read the letter from Mrs O'Rourke which is attached to this newsletter regarding the OPAL Primary Programme.

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

Oskar H	Cassidy H
Sebastian O	Marlow G
Chloe C	Albert W
Elijah D	Jowin J
Luke S	Alex G



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 BAPTISM.

[https://www.paperturn-view.com/wednesday-word/baptism?
pid=MTA101634&v=159.3](https://www.paperturn-view.com/wednesday-word/baptism?pid=MTA101634&v=159.3)

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

Online Safety

This week's safeguarding update is about JusTalk Kids – it is billed as a child - friendly version of the JusTalk social networking platform. However, in practice, it's important to note that JusTalk Kids has its fair share of online safety concerns - please see the attached poster for more information.

Primary School Applications

Parents can apply for a primary school place using the online system which is available through www.wiltshire.gov.uk. All applications must be submitted to the School Admissions Team at County Hall by **Wednesday 15th January 2025**. Parents who fail to submit an application before this date are less likely to secure a place at their preferred school.

A copy of your child's Baptism Certificate should be provided to the school office.

Many thanks.

Photos of the School Grounds in the January Sunshine and
Some Sporting Activities This Week

