



St Joseph's Catholic Middle School

The family of St. Joseph's loves, learns and grows together as followers of Jesus

Monthly Newsletter – Friday 8th November 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

The first half term in school was very positive with most pupils behaving extremely well and working hard in lessons. This is the approach we expect so that we can all enjoy our time in school and students can make fantastic progress academically and in their wider personal development. I am confident that this will continue this half term.

There has been a number of House competitions this half term and many more planned for the remainder of this academic year. It has been a real pleasure to see the enthusiasm, creativity and sporting acumen that the students have displayed in representing their House. Some photos of these activities can be found later in the newsletter.

Finally thank you for all your support last half term and I look forward to seeing you at the many events that we have planned in the run up to Christmas.

Mr. N. A. Wood
Headteacher

Please see the following Catholic Life News:

Class Masses:

Thank you to our parents and carers who joined us in school to celebrate our Year 6 class masses earlier this term. The following classes will be holding their mass after the Christmas holidays:

8C1- Monday 20th January

8C2- Monday 3rd February

8O- Monday 17th February

Fr Paul's Visit:

Y6 welcomed Fr Paul into school on Tuesday of this week. The pupils have been learning about Ordination in RE lessons and Fr Paul joined us to share his own experience. The pupils certainly had a lot of questions about what it is like to be a priest!



Children in Need

Our Year 5 pupils have planned an exciting fundraiser to raise funds for a very worthy cause, Children in Need. This charity exists to change the lives of disadvantaged children and young people across the UK.

On Friday 15th November, we will be having a pyjama day in school. All pupils are invited to come to school in their pyjamas or home clothes and bring a donation of £1.

Raffle tickets will also be on sale next week for the opportunity to win a Pudsey Bear soft toy. Tickets are £2 and will be on sale at breaktime and lunchtime next week from Mrs Riches. The winner will be announced on Friday 15th November.

Art:

Thank you to all the pupils who took the time to make a piece of Poppy inspired Art to mark Remembrance Day. These will be used to decorate the hall during our service on Monday.

Here are the results ...

Year 5

1st Place – Nils B



Year 6

1st Place - Bodhi M

2nd Place - Mahathi M

3rd Place - Sophia T

Year 7

1st Place - Aoife R

2nd Place - Briannon R

3rd Place - Olivia R



Year 8

1st Place - Megan S

2nd Place - Martha S

3rd Place - Ava F



A special shout out to Ava who used the artist Rene Magritte's Son of Man as inspiration – Well done for rising to that challenge!

Sport:

Our first house competition of the year took place on the last day before the half term holiday. Congratulations to everyone who took part. Below are pictures of our winners.



Our Y7 and Y8 pupils will be competing in the Area Cross Country at Ovingham Middle School on Monday 11th November. Good luck to all our runners.

Our sports clubs are extremely well attended and it has been great to see our Y8 sports leaders helping out at our lunchtime clubs. Please encourage your child to consider joining a club to gain the social and physical benefits of being active.

Please click on the link below to see the extra-curricular activities on offer this term. Pupils do not need to book; they can just turn up to the club.

[Extra-Curricular Clubs](#)

Textiles Club:

In textiles club, we have been making sock monsters, here are the finished results. We will be starting needle cases and Christmas gifts soon.



ARBOR:

We asked all parents check to see if their child/children's information was correct on Arbor. If you have not yet done this, please do so as soon as possible, as it is essential that we have the correct information for every child in school. If you have any problems using Arbor, please contact the school office on 01434 605124 or email parentcontact@sjms.bwcet.com

Flu Immunisations:

You should have received a form via Arbor, to give consent for your child to receive their nasal flu vaccination. If you have not yet completed the form, please click on the link below.

The school code is NB122369

[Immunisation Portal](#)

PTA:

We will be holding our PTA Christmas Fair on Friday 6th December from 1.30pm in the school hall. To make this a success, we would love donations of the following items

- **Cuddly toys**
- **Gift bags**
- **Cakes and biscuits (on the day)**
- **Tombola items**
- **Toys and games**
- **Bric a Brac**
- **Books**

Any donations can be brought into school week beginning 25th November.

Class Coloured Hampers

We will be raffling coloured hampers on the day of the fair and we ask for donations of coloured items to fill the hampers up.

Your child's class hamper colour is as follows:

5O - Green

6C - Purple

6O - Red

7C - Black and Silver

7O - Orange and Gold

8C1 - Yellow

8C2 - Pink

8O - White

Donations can be brought in to school at any time and put into the coloured boxes in your child's pastoral rooms.

Raffle tickets will be available to buy at break and lunchtimes in the hall for the coloured hampers from Monday 18th November - £1.00 per strip from Mrs Stoves.

Information on class stalls to follow.

AGM:

Thank you to those who came to our PTA AGM on Wednesday 6th November, if you were unable to make the meeting but would like to join our friendly PTA team, please contact Eleanor Stoves, Tel: 01434 605124. Details from the meeting will be shared at a later date.

Upcoming Events at a Glance:

Date	Activity
Monday 18 th November	Nasal Flu Vaccinations Y6 Heights and Weights
Tuesday 19 th November	Y6 Parents' Evening – details to follow
Friday 29 th November	Teacher Training Day – School closed to pupils
Friday 6 th December 2024	Christmas Fair 1.30 – 3.00pm
Wednesday 11 th December	Christmas Lunch Day
Thursday 12 th December	Trip to Theatre Royal, Newcastle
Friday 13 th December	Christmas Jumper Day PTA Christmas Disco – 7-8.30pm

Our Prayer

God our loving Father,

During November, the month of the Holy Souls,

Help us to honour those who have died.

Hear us as we pray for loved ones who have moved on from this world to join you in heaven.

Through our prayers for the Holy Souls may we know that your love

unites all your children, in heaven and on earth, now and forever.

Amen.

God bless,



Mr N Wood

