



# Newsletter

**Dear Parents,**

The children have returned to school so well this week. They are a credit to you and to us as a school. Teachers are working hard at getting the children back into school routines and the children have responded really well. I am sure they will be ready for the weekend!

Thank you for your support regarding the COVID measures we have put in place. Just a reminder that if you need to discuss anything with your child's class teacher, please phone school.

Staggered starts and finishes are working quite well, please arrive at school at your child's collection time rather than too early otherwise we get even bigger queues at the school gates.

## Let's Count

Children have enjoyed their first week back by taking part in census lessons throughout the week. The census has certainly sparked lots of discussion and interest across school. Class teachers were impressed with the data that has been collected by the children in their class and are currently in the process of creating displays to share their information. If your child has not returned their Let's Count sheet, please can these be returned on Monday.



## The Year of St Joseph

Pope Francis has declared the current year as 'The Year of St. Joseph'. This week, we have been praying a Novena to St. Joseph leading up to a day of celebration on of his feast day on 19th March. A novena is when you say a prayer for nine days in a row. We often start to pray a novena nine days before the feast day of the saint we are asking to pray for us. This year, Pope Francis has asked us to follow the example of St Joseph and ask for his help during the pandemic.



We have put the prayer on our Facebook and Twitter pages so that you can continue the Novena during the weekend.

## 3rd Sunday of Lent

In this week's reading, we hear about the transfiguration of Jesus from Mark's Gospel.

Jesus took with him Peter and James and John and led them up a high mountain where they could be alone by themselves. There in their presence he was transfigured: his clothes became dazzlingly white, whiter than any earthly bleacher could make them. Elijah appeared to them with Moses; and they were talking with Jesus. Then Peter spoke to Jesus: 'Rabbi,' he said 'it is wonderful for us to be here; so let us make three tents, one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.' He did not know what to say; they were so frightened. And a cloud came, covering them in shadow; and there came a voice from the cloud, 'This is my Son, the Beloved. Listen to him.' Then suddenly, when they looked round, they saw no one with them anymore but only Jesus.

There are some lovely ideas for children in this week's NPCAT family resource leaflet.

<https://npcat.org.uk/family-prayer/>

There is a short video that retells this story for children as well as some lovely activities.

<https://youtu.be/sT-S1F3gsVI>

## St Joseph's Day

We always have a celebration on St Joseph's Day and, though it will need to be a little different to usual, we will still try to have a lovely day in school.

We will start our celebrations by joining Bishop Terry who will be celebrating a special school Mass at 10am in the Cathedral which will be live streamed on Youtube.. I have attached the link so that you can join in at home if you would like to.

<https://middlesbrough-diocese.org.uk/streamed-masses-in-our-diocese/>

Children can wear their own clothes to school on Friday if they would like to (school uniform as usual otherwise). Donations of £1 a child are welcomed via Parent Pay and the money raised will be sent to this year's CAFOD Lent Appeal which is to support communities abroad in ensuring more have access to clean, safe water. During these challenging times, donation to CAFOD's Lent Appeal is needed more than ever.

As we are unable to have our fair this year, we will have Bingo in school on Friday afternoon. Please pay £1 via Parent Pay if you want your child to take part. Payments will need to be paid by Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> so that sufficient prizes can be bought.

## 4th Sunday of Lent

This week's Gospel comes from St John, there is a lovely retelling for children at

<https://youtu.be/dqCnHf5tKBQ>

## Wednesday Workout Live

Next Wednesday children will engage in 30 minutes of activity with children from all of the other schools in NPCAT. Just school uniform as usual unless it is already your child's PE day.

Some of Mr Scarlett's class will be modelling the new NPCAT sports kits that we have been sent!

## Mother's Day

We have missed having our lovely EYFS celebrations in school this year but I hope all mums, grandmas, aunties etc have a lovely day on Sunday and that you are treated to a day off at the very least!

## Homework

Your child should have a letter regarding homework routines. We try not to set too much homework but, after the disrupted school year, it is important that we let you know how you can support children's learning at home.

### Testing for household members / carers / bubble

You will have seen the announcement that from 1 March 2021, if you're a member of a household, childcare bubble or support bubble of staff or a pupil you can get a twice-weekly test.

There are 4 ways in which parents and carers therefore can get tests

- \* Through your employer if they offer testing to employees at a local testing site for those without symptoms and appointments must be booked.

[Find your nearest rapid lateral flow test site](#)

- \* By collecting a kit from the testing sites for those with symptoms. You can collect 2 packs of home test kits at a local collection point. Each pack contains 7 tests. Anyone 18 or over can collect. No bookings needed

[Find your nearest home test kit collection point](#)

- \* By ordering a home test kit online:

<https://test-for-coronavirus.service.gov.uk/order-lateral-flow-kits/>

### Coastguard

FS children will have a Zoom visit from the Coastguard on Monday. They will find out all about their work as part of their topic 'People who help us'.

### After School Clubs

Some after school clubs will resume next week. Clubs will run until 4.30pm and children should be collected from the school entrance. Please remember that clubs need to be paid for in advance via Parent Pay.

Tuesday	Teesside Lions	Y5 & Y6
	Basketball	
Wednesday	Mr Scarlett	Y3 & Y4
	Tennis & Cricket	
Thursday	Simon Carson	Y1 & Y2

### **Water Bottles**

Please make sure that children bring clear water bottles in school and that they only have water in them. They can be filled during the school day.



Well done to the following children, your teachers are very pleased with the time you have spent learning your times tables!

Y2 - Henry

Y3 - Benjamin

Y4 - Isabelle

Y5 - Violet

Y6 - Ellie

### Lexia

We have lots of children accessing Lexia, a web based reading programme. Mrs O'Hara has picked the following children for a special mention and certificate this week as they are making a real effort with their reading. Well done!

Y2- Oliver M    Y5- Jayden

Y3- Logan      Y6- Daisy

Y4- Ollie

### Stars of the Week

Teachers have awarded certificates this week to children who have worked hard with their handwriting or mark making and presenting work neatly. Well done to them all!

## STARS OF THE WEEK

FS1- Noah & Elsie

FS2- Lewis & Matilda

Y1- Jacob & Abigail

Y2- Emelie & Lucy

Y3- Fiann & Tilly

Y4- Konrad & Jack M

Y5- Riley & Brooke

Y6- Isaac H & Courtney