

Newsletter

Dear parents, carers and parishioners,

We've made it to half term! This term has presented us all with many challenges: we have seen the closure of schools; we have used technology as a means to bring classrooms into homes; we have dealt with yet another lockdown; we have probably been on enough walks to last us all a lifetime, and to top it all off – we have also had the added bonus of snow! We know that all of us are ready for this break, and you all continue to be amazing!

We also want to say a huge thank you to staff who have continued to set lessons remotely, as well as in the classroom. We are really proud of the way we have continued to work as a school community. That said, we are longing for the day we can all be back in school together – let's all keep everything crossed for a safe on March 8th!

Before that however, please try to enjoy something different next week, however small that may be – we all need to take time to recharge our batteries, to be ready to tackle whatever next half term may bring. Please know that we are thinking of all our families, and are keeping you all in our prayers.

Good News! - Look at who's been shining brightly this week ... it's our Stars of the Week!

Nursery AM - Isaac Stevenson, for working hard on all of the Nursery activities.

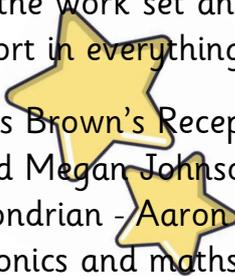
Nursery PM - Harry Wilson, for trying hard with all Nursery tasks.

Mrs Young and Mrs Kebell's Class - Joseph Johnson, for trying so hard with all of the work set and always giving 100% effort, also Sophia Young for fantastic effort in everything she does and for always having a smile on her face.

Mrs Brown's Reception Class - Blake Scrimger for working hard all half term and Megan Johnson for fantastic spelling and sentence writing.

Mondrian - Aaron Mence for working very hard and giving excellent answers in phonics and maths this week, well done!

Constable - Bane Scrimger for his industrious attitude to snowman building!



Rousseau - Orla Dickinson, for always being a fantastic role model!

Kandinsky - Matthew Shorttle, for trying hard with maths and answering some difficult problems.

Picasso - Thomas Young, for trying hard with maths, especially times tables.

Seurat - Holly Pringle and Elise Crabtree, for trying their best with every task and for wonderful creativity.

Himid - Francesca Gothard, for an excellent Dragons' Den pitch!

Dali - Bay Wake, for super effort with his handwriting.

Caravaggio - Zoe Bell, for a wonderfully creative approach to her work and detailed letter to a Chinese pen pal, also Benedict Bramley, for continuous effort and motivation towards his work.

Well done everyone!!

Fabulous Friday Facts:

** The crown jewels contain the two biggest cut diamonds on EARTH*

** You can hear a Blue Whales heartbeat from 2 miles away!*

** Around 700 grapes go into one bottle of wine (surely that'll cover your 5 a day!)*

** Australia is wider than the Moon - the moon measures in at 3400km in Diameter with Australia measuring in at 4000km*

Remember, 'we love to share,' so if you and your family have any good news, proud moments, or anything at all, that you would like to share with the school community, please get in touch with Mrs Ludford via Weduc or admin@olqoprprimary.org.uk.

Covid - Please may we remind those of you with children in school that should your child test positive over the weekend for COVID-19, you MUST inform the school so we can take the necessary action and instruct any close contacts to self-isolate. Please let us know via the school e-mail address which we will be checking regularly.

Mass - As we are approaching Lent, please remember that Mass is live-streamed at 10am every day on Church Services TV for the Parishes of St Joseph, Birtley and St John XXIII Washington & Penshaw and all are welcome.

Evening Prayer and Reflection - Remember during this period of lockdown, there is an opportunity for us to join together for prayer and reflection, which will be streamed on our Parish Facebook page. Please join us at 6pm using the following link:

<https://www.facebook.com/ParishStJohn23/>

Please click on the following link for this week's Wednesday Word and Sunday liturgy for families so you can share the Gospel this weekend.

<https://www.paperturn-view.com/uk/wednesday-word/holiday?pid=MTA101634&p=7&v=18.9>

<https://www.tentenresources.co.uk/sunday-liturgy-for-families>

Loving Lord,

We ask that You guide and keep us during this half term.

We thank You for all the wonderful resources and gifts

You have given us here in our school Community.

Help us to live intentionally and treat all that we have received with care and consideration.

May we treasure each other and respect all those whose lives we touch with our own.

We ask that we may live prophetically, as witnesses to Your love and mercy and be strengthened in our faith as we intend with your help to act justly, love tenderly and walk humbly with You, our God.

We ask these things in Your Name.

Amen.

Please take good care of yourselves, look after each other, stay safe and have a lovely break.

God bless
Mrs Maher

