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## **Friday 28<sup>th</sup> February 2020**

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back after the mid-term break. We are back into Term 4, as I always say I can't believe we are over half way through the year. On Wednesday we had our Ash Wednesday service to signify the start of Lent. In our assembly on Tuesday the children found out about the people of Brazil through our CAFOD assembly. It was linked to climate change as CAFOD is supporting Indigenous populations in the Amazon rainforest to try and prevent the burning down of the forest. This will be our focus for fund raising during Lent-culminating in a sponsored penalty shootout (organized by Mr D) on Thursday April the 2<sup>nd</sup>.

### **PTFA**

The PTFA family fun quiz night is tonight please come along and support, there are tickets still available on the door on this very rainy night!

The PTFA will be arranging 'a plate for Mother's day'. There will be boxes appearing in each of the classrooms for you to donate small items that would be suitable mother's day gifts that would fit on a party plate. Items such as scented candles, bath bombs, seed packets etc. Children will then bring in £1.00 on the 20<sup>th</sup> of March and take a 'present' plate home with them.

Bags2school raised £160 and big thank you to all.

**PLEASE SUPPORT THE PTFA THEY DO SO MUCH FOR THE CHILDREN IN OUR SCHOOL**

### **Google Notebooks**

Thank you again to the PTFA for paying £2,000 towards our Google notebooks. They are all now up and running in the ICT suite and the children (and teachers) are getting used to using them.

### **G-Suite and Google Classroom**

We have now begun to use G-Suite and Google Classroom in school. This is an exciting transition for our pupils and will enable a higher degree of collaborative work both within school and at home. As it is all



***"Together we love, together we hope, together we learn."***



cloud based, they can log in at home to access their work; some teachers will begin to set homework tasks here as the children become more confident and proficient with it.

You can log in at home on any device either using the web browser or by downloading the free Google Classroom app. The children have been provided with their log in details which they can use at any time, whether at home or at school. They will take the form of the first name, followed by the first letter of the surname, followed by @stjoes.org.uk (e.g. Joe Bloggs would have the username joeb@stjoes.org.uk).

### **Lent/ School Led Mass**

The school will think about our planet and how we can look after it during the school Lenten Pilgrimage which will take place next Wednesday the 4<sup>th</sup> of March. Year 5 and 6 will narrate the Stations of the Cross to Years 2, 3 and 4 on Wednesday the 1<sup>st</sup> of April. There will not be a Praise assembly on April the 3<sup>rd</sup> instead parents will be welcome to attend a Palm service. During Lent there will be CAFOD boxes in each classroom for the children to put their pennies into, every penny helps CAFOD to do their work. There will be no cake of the week during Lent instead we will offer a Lent raffle from next week with all proceeds going to CAFOD.

We are looking forward to our next school led mass on **Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> of March at 9.00am** please come along especially during this special time in Lent. The parishioners comment on how lovely it is to see the children from school.

### **World Book Day**

World Book Day will be on **Thursday the 5th of March**. A separate e mail was sent out yesterday with regards the arrangements. Children can come dressed as their favourite book character or in a onesie, pyjamas and/or dressing gown. The theme this year will be bed time stories and there will be lots of stories being read throughout the day, in the afternoon we will be having some hot chocolate and biscuits. If there are any parents who would like to help please let your class teacher know. We are asking the children to bring in £1.00 on the day to support the world book aid charity.

### **Covoid-19 Coronavirus**

Yesterday I sent an e mail to all parents re the above, I would like to reiterate that we are monitoring the situation and being vigilant. There are a number of very small specific areas in the world where you must self-isolate if you have visited in the last 2 weeks. The rest of the areas that are listed you should only self-isolate if you display symptoms. Please copy and paste the link below for more information.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-to-educational-settings-about-covid-19/guidance-to-educational-settings-about-covid-19>

### **Window Wonderland**

If you are walking along the High Street this weekend please look at the window display in Solelution Shoe Shop as some of our children have created pictures as part of the Window Wonderland display taking place this weekend.

From Mrs Hill's Art Club

### **Safeguarding and E- Safety**

#### **VPN - What's that then and why's it important !**

A virtual private network (VPN) gives you online privacy and anonymity by creating a private network from a public internet connection. For example, this means you can bank securely. VPNs are not difficult to install and use, and there are many apps that can offer this service. Like many things, VPNs can be used for a good...and for bad.

It has come to light that children can circumnavigate their parental controls via VPN's. There are VPN apps



that can be downloaded that allow children to have a virtual private network. This allows them to access adult sites and due to the fact that the VPN can make it look like you are in another time zone they can be accessed at any time of the day. Children have accessed instructions on how to do this via You tube.

Latest Digital Parenting Magazine (Vodafone)

<https://www.vodafone.co.uk/mobile/digital-parenting/resources-category>

Digital Parenting Magazine

<https://cdn.flipsnack.com/widget/v2/widget.html?hash=fh90zaf97>

Safeguarding is central to making sure that all our children are safe and happy at school. As senior safeguarding lead in the school I make sure that all staff training is up to date and every member of staff feels secure in their understanding, knowledge and signs pertaining to any kind of child abuse. All staff know who to contact if they feel they cannot speak to myself or Mr Bath (deputy Safeguarding lead). I will always have my door open to listen should you have any concerns, again if you need extra advise or support you can contact North Somerset's child protection team on **01275 888 808** for an initial no names consultation.

### **Charities**

Thank you to the girls in Year 5 for organizing a tattoo, nail bar and cake sale on Tuesday. It was so successful it ran into Wednesday for KS1. The girls are hoping to run it for KS2 next Tuesday and Wednesday so please bring in your money again next week. Watch this space for how much they raised for St Peter's Hospice-well done girls.

After the successful fund raising for Shelter and the Year 3 and 4 caring at Christmas production, Mrs Mougeot will work with Year 3 on Monday 23rd March afternoon for operation 8 loaves of sandwiches and happy face rich tea biscuit icing mission.(Any more helpers please let Mrs M or Mr D know).

The organisation are always looking for contributions to support their work. They are looking for: Toothpaste, Toothbrushes, Shampoo (ideally the mini ones received free in hotels), Deodorant, Tea, Coffee, Sugar and Sleeping bags. Please bring your donations to the office.

Here's their website for reference: <https://www.bristolsoupruntrust.org.uk/pages/2-it-s-not-rocket-science>

God bless

Mrs Jackson



**Please see the website for the full calendar of events**

**Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> March-St David's day –Yellow Team Mufti**



**Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> March-St Patricks day-Green team Mufti**