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Friday 22nd May 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are about to embark on our half term week, normally at this time I would be wishing you all a happy holiday but for most of us things are very much the same as usual, except no home schooling !!!! You all deserve a Head Teachers award for everything you have been doing over the past few months-well done.

Today I sent out an important letter to all parents I hope you have had the time to read it and I reiterate that the decisions you make are your own personal decisions that are right for your family.

We are coming up to Pentecost; a time to celebrate the strength the Holy Spirit gave to the Disciples to spread the word of Jesus to the wider community. I pray to the Holy Spirit to give us all strength to make the right decisions for our family over the next few weeks.

PTFA News

Mrs Gayle has asked me to let you know that bags for school will be going ahead please e mail her and she will let you know where to drop off. Clothes, curtains and bedding (no toys) may be put in double bagged black bin bags and sealed at the top.

frances.gale@rocketmail.com

Thank you to all who have taken part in the St Joseph's web site challenge organized by Mrs Gayle, she has been very impressed by your endeavours and I believe there are some prizes winging their way to some lucky individuals-keep it up and thank you to Mrs Gayle.



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



Church news

Exceptionally, on Wednesday this week, Mass will be at 7pm, with rosary at 6.20pm.

Pentecost Sunday is on 31 May. On 30 May we will have a special Pentecost Vigil Mass at 8pm, while on Pentecost Sunday we will have a 'Praise Party' for our deanery at 8pm which will be an opportunity to pray and sing some uplifting hymns as we rejoice in the gift of Pentecost.

I am offering a **virtual retreat leading up to Pentecost**, which begins at 6pm on Monday. More details at josephfrancis.org/retreat

Bishop Declan has invited us to pray the rosary in a special way on Pentecost Sunday. As a Diocese we have had a request from Monsignor John Armitage, from the Shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham, to participate in a May Rosary Mission on Pentecost Sunday (31st May). Each Diocese in England, Wales and Scotland has been allotted an hour in which the Rosary will be prayed either individually or in family groups. The hour allotted to Clifton is 1pm. We will be livestreaming the rosary from the parish at 1pm on Pentecost Sunday, in addition to the usual 6pm rosary on Sundays.

"Raising Faith", produced by Care for the Family (2019) A series of 6 evening sessions aimed at parents/grandparents/carers of children aged 0-11. About nurturing faith in their children at home. A small group of young parents from the parish are planning to do this course together on Zoom on Thursday evenings once a fortnight starting on June 4th. They wonder if any other parents would like to join them? Contact alison.delaplace@gmail.com if interested in this.

Strength to Strength: we will shortly be offering this six session series designed to give practical help to those wishing to pray more in their daily lives. We will be running this course on Zoom and can offer technical support and help to get you started on Zoom should you need this. Find out more and sign up **by midnight on Sunday 24 May** at josephfrancis.org/courses if you'd like to participate.

The Parry family write: from the beginning of lockdown we have been having our prayer group via Zoom at 6:30pm on Sundays. A few people from the parish are there each week. Anyone wanting to join them would be most welcome. The link

is: <https://zoom.us/j/95395040310?pwd=bEhNSkZDZmJVMdDS0kwenBHbnJiQT09>

Mary's Meals have produced a special

message: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=h9e_zhu98HY&feature=youtu.be

A reminder that we are holding a virtual quiz for our parish charitable projects this **Saturday 23 May from 8-9pm**. For more details and to sign up visit josephfrancis.org/quiz

A reminder about our parish magazine: we would love any writing but suggestions would be: accounts of journeys or pilgrimages, articles about hobbies or experiences, reflections on a biblical passage, memories, poems, stories or any other ideas you might have. If you'd like to make a contribution, or have any queries, please email nicola.osman@hotmail.co.uk. Please send in any contributions by Monday 1st June.

There will be no assembly/prayer time for primary age children during half term week. These resume as normal on Monday 1 June at 9.40am. Children's Liturgy takes place as normal on Sunday 24 and 31 May at 10.30am.



As ever, feel very free to get in touch if there is anything we can help with.
Warmest wishes and prayers
Fr Tom

TT Rockstars

TTRockstar and Guinness World Record.

Do you have the speed to get the world record? Guinness world records have created a new title - **"the highest score achieved on 'Times Tables Rock Stars in one minute!'"**

To make an **Official Attempt**, the children need to record a video of themselves achieving their highest score in the Studio and send the video to support@mathscircle.com by 23:59 UK time on 4th June 2020.

For more information see the attached leaflet.

Good luck. Mrs Matravers

Portishead Library

Even though Libraries remain closed during this time, there are ways you can still connect to the Library Service at home.

Library Services at Home offers great opportunities to do the following:

- 1. Enjoy a great selection of free children eBooks and audio that can be downloaded onto a phone, tablet or device.*
- 2. Explore a range of children magazines, free to download.*
- 3. Join in with the fun with our weekly virtual Rhyme Times. Find us on North Somerset Libraries Facebook @nslibraries and Twitter @NSomLibraries.*
- 4. Discover lots of fantastic facts and information with our free online access to 'Encyclopaedia Britannica Junior'.*

Parents/carers, please visit www.n-somerset.gov.uk/onlinelibrary to get started.

Not a member? Join North Somerset Libraries online for free by clicking on this link: www.librarieswest.org.uk/join . A membership number will be generated for immediate access to our online collections.

Summer Reading Challenge 2020 is almost here! This year's theme is 'Silly Squad', a celebration of funny books, happiness and laughter! More information about this year's virtual Summer Reading Challenge will follow soon.

Best Wishes from us all. We look forward to welcoming you back to our libraries when we re-open.

Portishead Library

Safeguarding

Please see the attached newsletter from N Somerset with all the latest safeguarding updates for parents.

Children's emotional and mental health

Rockpool Supporting Parents and Children Emotionally (SPACE)

Rockpool <https://rockpool.life/> have produced five factsheets for parents with the aim of providing information by using trauma awareness about children's and adult's emotional behaviour:

- Factsheet 1: Being Safe



<https://rockpool.life/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/SPACE-Factsheet-one-being-safe-cr.pdf>

- Factsheet 2: Keeping Connected

<https://rockpool.life/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/SPACE-Factsheet-two-keeping-connected-2.pdf>

- Factsheet 3: Understanding Resilience

<https://rockpool.life/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/SPACE-Factsheet-three-understanding-resilience-RP.pdf>

- Factsheet 4: A Nurturing Environment

<https://rockpool.life/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/SPACE-Factsheet-four-nurturing-environment-Rock-Pool-2.pdf>

- Factsheet 5: Understanding Emotions and Healthy Relationships

<https://rockpool.life/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/SPACE-Factsheet-five-healthy-relationships-RP-3.pdf>

The Rockpool website is here: <https://rockpool.life/>

Portishead in Bloom

It's the Portishead in Bloom painting competition - titled 'Climate Change and Me'. The children have to create a painting based on the theme by June 26th. They have to deliver their entries between 3pm and 4pm on Friday 26th June and drop them off in the entrance of Somerset Hall. More information is in the leaflet attached.

Mrs Hill

School web site

Please keep an eye on the school web site there will be regular Government updates that you will be sign posted to. There are also extra resources for home schooling and prayer, please go to parents/covid 19. The school reopening risk assessment can also be found here.

Please see the link below for the latest Government update about home school learning.

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/help-primary-school-children-continue-their-education-during-coronavirus-covid-19>

If you have any queries or you need help for any reason please e mail the office rather than phone as your message may not be picked up.

If you are having difficulties logging on or have forgot your password, you can e mail Mr Bath and he will help you out.

greg.bath@stjoes.org.uk

And finally some great news, congratulations to Charlotte in Year 5, Charlotte has been playing for Bristol City ladies under 10's in the 19-20 season she is one of only six girls to progress to the Under 12's squad for the 20-21 season.

God Bless

Mrs Jackson



COME
HOLY SPIRIT
FILL THE HEARTS
OF YOUR FAITHFUL
AND KINDLE IN THEM
THE FIRE OF YOUR LOVE.
SEND FORTH YOUR SPIRIT
AND THEY SHALL BE CREATED
AND YOU SHALL RENEW
THE FACE OF THE
EARTH.

O God, who by the light of the Holy Spirit, did instruct the hearts of the faithful, grant that by the same Holy Spirit we may be truly wise and ever enjoy His consolations. Through Christ Our Lord. **AMEN**

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