

SJF NEWS



www.st-johnfisher.org | www.ourladyoflourdesheffield.org.uk | Friday 15th December 2023

★ Citizen of the Week (01-12-23)

★ The Citizen of the Week award for Friday 1st December 2023 was presented to **Max** in **Y5** who understands how to look after himself in line with our Statement of Belief that week. Max understands that this statement covers both how he feels physically, and how he feels inside too. He can be a deep-thinker, understanding what he needs in order to feel happy, safe and loved, and speaking up, honestly, when he is asked. This is wonderful, and is a great example to others. Congratulations, Max, we are all very proud of you.

★ Citizen of the Week (08-12-23)

★ Last week's Citizen of the Week award (for Friday 8th December 2023) was presented to **Edwin** in **Y3** who understands the importance of thinking carefully before making decisions that might affect his health. Edwin also understands that this statement covers how he feels both on the inside and the outside and has really impressed everyone by his willingness to share his thoughts and feelings when he has needed to. This is key, and a great example to others. It is so important that everyone knows that they can (and should) speak up if they have a worry ball. Thank you, Edwin, what a great example you have shared! We are very proud of you!


★ Citizen of the Week (15-12-23)

★ This week's Citizen of the Week award was presented to **Jomi** in **Y6** who knows how to work, rest and pray in line with our current Statement of Belief. Jomi understands that in the busyness of the day it is important to find time for working; for relaxing and doing the things she enjoys; and – very importantly – for God. Sometimes this might be praying with classmates or on her own, and sometimes it might mean that she is quiet and open to the gentle word of God in her heart. Jomi is an enthusiastic writer and likes to express her thoughts and feelings in the poetry and prayers she writes and shares in school and in her own time too. Congratulations!

Countdown to Christmas - Reminders

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|--|---|
| • Tuesday 19 th December 2023 | FS2 Nativity Play (9.30am) & Y1/Y2 Nativity Play (2.30pm) |
| • Wednesday 20 th December 2023 | Times Tables Rock Stars Grand Final |
| • Thursday 21 st December 2023 | Key Stage 2 Carol Concert (2.00pm, Our Lady of Lourdes) |
| • Friday 22 nd December 2023 | the last day of Term 2 (a non-uniform, dress down/up day) |
| • Monday 8 th January 2024 | School reopens for the start of Term 3 |

Term 2 Smiley Scores

St Andrew's House	St David's House	St Patrick's House	St George's House
			
651	635	664	654
1288	1233	1251	1197



What's On Guide for Parents & Carers

The Sheffield Parent Hub has provided a very useful guide to support parents/carers. Please click [here](#) to access the newsletter.

If we can provide need any help, support and advice, please do not hesitate to ask, and we will do all we can to help you. Thank you.



ST CLARE
Catholic Multi Academy Trust



Weekly Attendance

1 st	FS2	99.2%	Bobby Bear will visit next week
2 nd	Y4	97.6%	Brenda Bear will visit next week
3 rd	Y6	97.5%	Elvis Owl will visit next week
4 th	Y2	97.0%	Billy Bear will visit next week
5 th	Y5	96.9%	
6 th	Y1	94.3%	
7 th	Y3	91.3%	

Target = 98.0% Average Attendance = 96.1%



Get Set, GO!

1 st	FS2	87%
2 nd	Y1	87%
3 rd	Y6	83%
4 th	Y5	78%
5 th	Y4	73%
6 th	Y2	67%
7 th	Y3	65%

Average = 72%

Lyceum Panto Visit 2023

This week the whole school community travelled to watch this year's pantomime, Jack and the Beanstalk, at the Lyceum Theatre, Sheffield. It was such a special day!

Events like these take lots of planning and I would like to thank my colleagues for their support, including our wonderful lunchtime supervisors, catering team and everyone who gave up their own time to be with us and help make this very special trip possible.



I would also like to pay tribute to our fantastic PTFA Committee who again funded the coaches that transported us to and from the theatre. This kept the cost to parents/carers down. They also provided the children with delicious interval snacks, which were very much appreciated by the children and I would like to thank them for this and for also volunteering to join us on the day to support the children.

If you would like to get more involved with our PTFA, all ideas and offers of help are appreciated. Please email Catherine Cooper and Jess Pattison, this year's Co-Chairs (ptfa@st-johnfisher.org). The day, which had been planned thoroughly, ran smoothly, thanks to the collective efforts of everyone involved. For more photos please link to the 'News' on the section of our website .



Parking Issues

We are grateful to all the parents/carers who responded so positively to the email sent out to everyone asking parents/carers to park away from school to keep the roads clear for the returning coaches so they could park by school. Unfortunately several drivers did not see or take notice of the email, and this led to issues as coaches ended up being blocked and were unable to get through to school because of the way their cars had been parked and left. Unfortunately a number of complaints were also triggered from neighbours concerned about the parking, the use of their drives, the blocked road and the damage caused to the grass verges that they maintain. In future years we hope that our polite request, to park away from school, will be heeded by everyone, so that we can get the children back safely and more quickly from the pantomime.





Pupil Voice

SJF School Council Update



This week the Y6 SJF School Councilors met to discuss various matters on our agenda. Here is a word from **Amelie**, a **Y6** Councilor and vice-Chair...

This week at School Council we started to create the agenda for next term. We have also written Mr Barratt a letter explaining some our plans for the next two terms, which we're very excited about.



SJF Healthy Minds Champions – Update
Here is a word from Mr Murphy

This week the Healthy Minds champions have been very busy helping children in the playground and in the classroom during wet break - which we know is something that some children may need support to do.

The Champions have also been helping Mr Murphy with the 3 W's boxes that are available around school for children to post their **Whys**, **Worries** and **Wishes** and Mr Murphy and his Healthy Minds team work throughout the week to help support children who have posted in the boxes.

We are excited to announce that there will soon be a 'Healthy Minds' podcast coming soon that will be available to download off the school website each half term. Healthy Minds Champions will be taking it in turns in groups to host the podcast.



SJF Eco Team Update
Here is a word from Mrs Steenson

In our meeting this week, the children of the SJF Eco Team have been thinking about our targets for the new year. Here is a word from Dom and Marcus, our **Y5** members:

"We have talked about what we will be doing next year as an Eco Team. We are thinking about some potential fundraising ideas, to help develop our wonderful outdoor spaces. We are also looking forward to introducing others to our amazing wildlife area in the Spring."

The Eco Team will have their final meeting of 2023 next week as a celebration of everything they have achieved in the winter term.

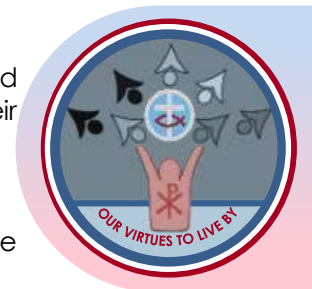


Our Catholic Life
Weekly Liturgy of the Word

Our next liturgy will be on **Thursday 16th November 2023** and will be led by the young people of **Y2** and we invite their family and friends to join us in the school hall at 9.00am.

Our Virtues to Live By

In our Tuesday assemblies, we continue to focus on the important and special virtues, **hope** and **patience**.




Collective Worship

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Citizenship Statement of Belief Assembly (Headteacher) & Chaplains' Liturgies (Years 5 and 6)	'Virtues to Live By' Class Assembly (Teachers & Chaplains)	Themed Assembly (Teacher-Led)	Weekly Liturgy of the Word (Class-Led)	Celebration Assembly (Headteacher & Deputy Headteacher) Chaplains' Liturgies (Years 1, 2, 3 and 4) Story Liturgy (FS2)



Gathering Song



O Come, O Come,
EMMANUEL

When is he coming,
When, oh when is he coming...
The Redeemer?
When will we see him,
When, oh when will we see him,
The Redeemer?


Come, oh come,
From your kingdom up there,
From your kingdom up there above!
Come, oh come, to your people on earth,
To your people on earth bring love!

Emmanuel! Emmanuel!

Advent 2023

Advent Class Reflections

Thank you to everyone who has been able to join us for an Advent class reflection this year. A reminder that the last one was this afternoon. The next round of daily class reflections will be during the season of Lent, in the Spring.



O God, Forgive Us

The Act of Contrition
During Advent we prepare for Christmas by saying sorry for our mistakes and by trying hard to make those key changes in our lives that we need to make. Our prayer is called the Act of Contrition.

*O my God
Because You are so good –
I am very sorry,
That I have sinned against You,
And by the help of Your grace,
I will not sin again.*

Reading for Pleasure: Our Latest Feature Books of the Week



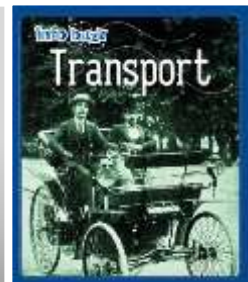
READING FOR PLEASURE

"The more you read the more things you know.
The more that you learn the more places you'll go."
-Dr. Seuss

Please click [here](#) to view our full 2023-24 SJF Book List. These are our latest feature books:

- **Bramble Fox**
○ Kathrin Tordasi
- **Info Buzz**
○ Susan Hood

Please click [here](#) to link to the Waterstones reviews



Christmas Dinner

SJF Christmas Dinner 2023

Thank you to everyone who worked hard to make the children's Christmas dinner experience such a happy one. The hall and trees were decorated and the Christmas lights were sparkling.

Staff served the food to the children sat happily in their places chatting with their friends. They then went outside to enjoy an extended play time with their buddies. I would like to thank my colleagues and our fantastic kitchen team for all their hard work! What a fantastic day!

Golden Children! (01-12-23)

- FS2** **Georgie** for creating an amazing junk model rocket this week. She organised herself and worked independently in order to make a fantastic rocket for her mouse. Well done, Georgie!
- Y1** **Harlow** for giving 100% all the time, even when she finds something a little tricky, she tries hard and never gives up!
- Y2** **Nadia** for bringing her joyful personality and huge smile into school every day!
- Y3** **Othneil** for making a great start to his Geography topic and for supporting his peers, in class, so well! Keep it up!
- Y4** **Peter** for showing how caring and kind he can be, this week. In demonstrating great care for his classmates he has showed them, and everyone, that he can be a really great friend! Well done!
- Y5** **Keyla** for always giving everything a 100% effort! Amazing!
- Y6** **Eliana** - for the calm, hardworking and positive attitude she displays towards her work and those around!

Writing Champions! (01-12-23)

- FS2** **Robyn** for doing some really lovely mark-making activities in class and with her letter formation. Well done!
- Y1** **Vilma** for writing simple sentences about animals all by herself, well done!
- Y2** **Marianna** for working so hard to read through her own work, correcting and mistakes before finishing!
- Y3** **Ava L** for producing a wonderful piece of writing from the shepherd's perspective around the events of the nativity
- Y4** **Kiaus** for thinking of some amazing adjectives to use in his planning work, this week, meaning that his lovely vocabulary really shone through in his work. Well done!
- Y5** **Rebecca** for the fantastic determination she demonstrated to improve her writing, both in terms of its presentation and content. Well done!
- Y6** **Isaac** for the brilliant effort that he has put into improving his handwriting and general presentation of work, recently. Keep it up!

Maths Champions! (01-12-23)

- FS2** **Tinashe** for always trying hard with our morning maths activities and especially at our days of the week song!
- Y1** **Tommy** for doing some fantastic maths work, demonstrating as he does, a real 'can do' attitude! He is making all his teachers very proud, and he is also very proud of himself too!
- Y2** **Abigail** for trying her best to work both independently and with a focused attitude. Well done. Keep it up!
- Y3** **Gabi** for doing some great 'rounding' and estimating in our maths lessons this week. Well done!
- Y4** **Julia** has amazed us all with her hard work on division this week. She is using and building upon her times-tables knowledge to help her - and it shows. Good job, Julia!
- Y5** **Aureilia** for her confident approach to learning and her work - and for always working hard! Well done!
- Y6** **Alana** for the excellent progress that she has made in both arithmetic and reasoning since the beginning of the year! Amazing!



Golden Children! (08-12-23)

- FS2** **Tinashe** for his hard work and for trying so hard with all his learning!
- Y1** **Tommy** for working so hard and in order to complete tasks really well! He demonstrates great determination to do get his jobs done!
- Y2** **Ashwin** for being a kind and caring member of the class. He looks after his friends brilliantly!
- Y3** **Nathan** for making a wonderful effort in RE sharing very thoughtful responses!
- Y4** **Niamh** for her diligence and hard work in the classroom. She always does the right thing in lessons, and it shows in her work. Well done!
- Y5** **Jacob W** for making the right decisions and for giving 100% effort in all his work!
- Y6** **William** for the calm and quiet determination that he displays in his learning every day.

Writing Champions! (08-12-23)

- FS2** **Aneurin** - really great mark making with his 2024 calendar activity.
- Y1** **Lexi** for a superb letter to Mr Barratt about how we can improve our school, she wrote it with such enthusiasm, we are sure Mr Barratt will look in to her suggestions!
- Y2** **Kali** for showing off her brilliant knowledge of graphs!
- Y3** **Lilah** for a writing a wonderful version of the story of the Shepherds in the nativity!
- Y4** **Hector** for the extra care and attention he has taken with his writing about the annunciation this week. It is such a beautiful piece of work! Well done!
- Y5** **Max** for putting lots of effort in to his written work! The presentation has improved massively, and he is trying hard to make his work as descriptive as possible.
- Y6** **Kacper** for the increased effort he has put into ensuring that his work is presented well. Keep it up!

Maths Champions! (08-12-23)

- FS2** **Arthur** for trying really hard with his number work!
- Y1** **Daisy** for working so hard with her numbers to 20! Well done, Daisy, we are proud of you!
- Y2** **Raquel** for trying hard to write independently! You are improving your writing skills quickly! Well done!
- Y3** **Chloe** for demonstrating superb column addition with regrouping, and presenting it all, brilliantly!
- Y4** **Caleb** for showing his maths skills by interpreting tally charts and pictograms this week! He has been *flying* through his work. Amazing!
- Y5** **Louis** for making lots of connections in his reasoning, drawing upon the numeracy skills that he has.
- Y6** **Luca** for increasingly applying his arithmetic knowledge to solve complex reasoning problems!



Golden Children! (15-12-23)

- FS2** **Llorente** for being a fantastic member of our FS2 class and for trying so hard in every rehearsal, for our Nativity. Good boy!
- Y1** **Zach** for always giving his best and for trying hard. He also has a super attitude to learning, well done Zach!
- Y2** **Maya** for being an understanding and considerate member of the class
- Y3** **Shelby** for having a wonderful term! She is demonstrating a great attitude to learning too. Well done!
- Y4** **Drew** for having a 'can-do' attitude! He has a great work ethic and is a great friend to others. Drew is a great member of Y4, and we are all really proud of everything he does!
- Y5** **Luke** for his maturing attitude to work; for doing his best; and for the determination he always tries demonstrate!
- Y6** **Preston** for the positivity and enthusiasm he brings to every lesson!

Writing Champions! (15-12-23)

- FS2** **Gigi** for her great mark-making and writing on her 2024 calendar!
- Y1** **Akira** for creating a super plan of facts about cats, ready for her final piece of non-fiction writing!
- Y2** **Ava** for working hard on the presentation of her work! Keep going!
- Y3** **Arya** for writing a beautiful poem about Christmas! It was fantastic!
- Y4** **Jack M** for writing some beautiful sentences in his interpretation of the annunciation, with such care taken with his presentation.
- Y5** **Jai** for his wonderful writing about the donkey's story. He made some great word choices to show cohesion in his writing.
- Y6** **Lochlan** for working so hard on his handwriting this week.

Maths Champions! (15-12-23)

- FS2** **Zuzanna** for producing some brilliant work on repeating patterns, including making her own number patterns!
- Y1** **Edwin** for using resources and the methods he has learned to work effectively with numbers 0-20. We were all so pleased with how this supports his learning in maths.
- Y2** **Kali** for working really hard in class in out Maths lessons!
- Y3** **Enzo** for demonstrating fabulous addition using the 'Dienes' resources accurately so that he was able to also explain the concept!
- Y4** **Gabriella** has been showing great maths skills in her interpretation of bar charts this week, well done!
- Y5** **Gabriel** for his investigatory work and for coming up with great questions that he then strives to answer.
- Y6** **Florence** for the incredible effort she has made to practise arithmetic methods over the last two weeks!



Reminder: Nativity Plays 2023

The **FS2** and **Y1 / Y2** nativities take place on **Tuesday 19th December 2023**. Raffle tickets will be sold before both performances, and we hope they will be well supported. Thank you.

FS2 Nativity Play

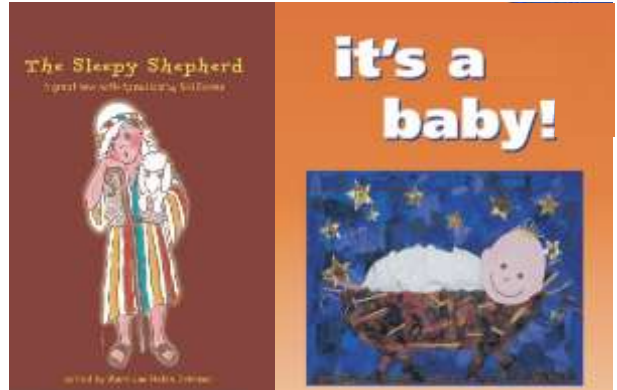
Our **FS2** children will perform 'The Sleepy Shepherd' from **9:30am**. That morning, after the children go to class, refreshments will be served to **FS2** parents and carers in the school hall, whilst they wait for the play to begin.

Y1/Y2 Nativity Play

The older children will perform the nativity, 'It's a Baby', at **2.15pm** with doors will opening at **2.00pm**.

Tickets

Tickets for both performances are available for purchase via ParentPay until midnight this evening. Any spare, unsold tickets will be available to buy from **10.30am** on Monday 18th December 2023. Thank you.



Beat Your Best: Our BYB Challenge

Here is a message from Miss Raynes:

It is the last BYB challenge of 2023 – how fast time has passed!

The Sports Majors have set a new challenge - as an extension of last week's squatting BYB challenge.

How many times do you think you can squat in a minute?

If that's too easy, test yourself by finishing each squat with a jump or even a star jump! Thank you for joining us on the playground this year. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Achievements outside of School

Please send us details of your children's achievements outside of school via our enquiries@st-johnfisher.org email address. Whether the achievements are big or small we will share and celebrate the good news! Here are this week's special mentions:

- **Alana** in **Y6** took part in four ice skating shows over two days, performing in front of over 6000 people, and was sensational. She has now been invited to join a synchronised ice skating team competing in Scotland and Nottingham! Congratulations!

Statement of Belief



Next week our 'statement of Belief' is 'Simple things make me happy'

Time to talk: At this time of year we have been thinking about what the true meaning of Christmas is, as we have continue our Advent journeys.

The children have been reflecting on those important things in their lives that money cannot buy. As we face so many challenges, it is, perhaps, an opportunity focus on the simple things that are important and forget that which is not.

List some of the important things in your lives.

Why not think about some of the simple ways you can make others happy.

What is it (or who is) that makes your lives happy and special? Family members? Friends? Who?

