

Friday 27<sup>th</sup> January 2023**Dear Parents and Carers,**

What a busy week we have had at St Joseph's. I have continued to drop into lessons and I have seen some fantastic whole class reading going on with children sharing their learning with me. Children have also been working on the presentation in their books and showing pride in their work!

**Titanic Learning**

Year two wowed us this week with their courage, focus and enthusiasm performing their Titanic Assembly. Thank you to all parents who came to celebrate their learning and the amazing feedback which we received:

*'Could you please pass on a huge thank you to Mrs English, Mrs Monks and the Year 2 team for the amazing Titanic assembly this afternoon. They had clearly put a lot of time into making the learning so much fun for the year 2 children. It was extra special to have a class assembly after so long.'* (Parent)

A special thanks to Emma Ward who played the violin for the performance.



**Rowan class** have been looking closely at how the giant oak tree changes with the seasons. Here they are in Winter with all its leaves fallen. The children are all looking forward to observing how the tree changes in Spring

**Online Learning**

**IXL Maths and English Practice** <https://uk.ixl.com>

**Oak National Academy** is a new collection of high-quality lessons and online resources. Backed by the Government, it has been created in response to the coronavirus lockdown. The online classroom offers free access to great teachers, delivering video lessons, quizzes and worksheets.

<https://www.thenational.academy/online-classroom>

**Beech Class**

The children walked down to Holy Trinity Church on Wednesday to visit the Bible Comes to Life exhibition. They learnt about where the Bible comes from and explored some Jewish traditions. They saw a model of the Temple in Jerusalem as it would have been in Jesus' time, had a try at blowing a shofar and participated in acting out bible stories. They were shown artefacts - some over 500 years old - to bring their learning about the Bible to life. The children were excellently behaved and asked some really thoughtful questions. The team running the event commented on how well the children represented St Joseph's gospel values! Well done Beech Class!

**Chinese New Year**

Gung hey fat Choi - Happy Chinese New Year. In Foundation the children have been celebrating Chinese New Year. They have learnt some facts, tasted Chinese food, sent cards and made dragon masks and drums.

**This week's Gospel Value was Peace**

We have been exploring 'Peace' through the four themes of: Inner Peace, Peace in the world, Peace from God and Peace between each other. We have been reflecting on where we see peace and how we can bring peace to the people and communities around us. Mother Teresa said, 'Peace begins with a smile.'

**Next week's Gospel Value will be Kindness**

Jesus showed kindness many times in the Bible but an example we will explore is when Jesus offered kindness to Zacchaeus who was a tax cheat. Everyone was shocked that Jesus could show this man kindness when he had done many wrong things. The power of this kindness encouraged Zacchaeus to change his ways. Kindness can be very powerful. We will be spotting acts of kindness in school this week.

**Parent Consultations**

Just a gentle reminder that parent teacher meetings will take place next week. You should have been sent a link on parent pay that will enable you to book your appointment using the online booking system.

Thank you for your continued support - have a lovely weekend.

Mrs Stephens

**Diary dates:**

W/B 30th January – Parent Consultations

Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> February – Cultural Awareness Day

Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> February – PTA School Disco

Friday 10<sup>th</sup> February – Last day of Spring (1)

Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> February – School returns for Spring (2)

**Headteacher Awards:** Beech Class – Finlay, Rowan Class - Arnie

**Silver Awards:** Sycamore Class - Catriona, Emilia, Maple Class - Hollie

**Bronze Awards:** Sycamore Class - Cobie-Lily, Cherry Class – Harry, Maple Class - Demi

**Stars of the week:** Oak Class – Halle, Rowan Class – Jacob, Sycamore Class – Poppy B, Cherry Class – Roman, Maple Class – Harry, Beech Class – Teddy