St Joseph's

NEWSLETTER

Our Virtue To Live By is .....Respect and Courtesy

On May 1st we celebrate the feast of St. Joseph the Worker. St. Joseph reminds us of the importance of working hard, not for ourselves, but for others and to be proud of whatever work we are doing. St. Joseph also worked hard as a role model for Jesus himself as his father figure on earth. This week we would like to thank all those who work hard for our children, for all the families that work hard to support our school especially in these unusual times by hearing your child read or helping them with homework or sending in photographs of the wonderful things enjoyed and for all the generous donations that are made. We are truly grateful to you all.

We thank the staff of the school, may they keep enthused and encouraged and know that normal school life will one day resume and that the strong partnership we share with all our families may soon return to a more real presence.

We pray....

God made us a family

We need one another

We love one another

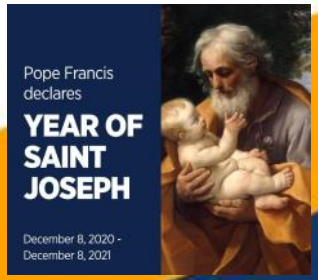
We forgive one another

We work together

We play together

We worship together

Amen



Summer 1 Week 3

NOTICEBOARD

Please visit our new website:

https://www.sjp.bkcat.co.uk/

The local authority school improvement advisor Mrs Wright will be on our school playground on Tuesday 5th May from 3pm to talk to parents about reading.

This year, the hay fever season coincides with COVID-19, and the Royal College of General Practitioners is warning people not to mix up the symptoms of coronavirus with hay fever.

Dr Gordon Sinclair, Clinical Chair of NHS Leeds Clinical Commissioning Group and a GP in Headingley, explains why it's important for people to understand the difference between the symptoms:

"We don't want people to get unduly anxious about their hay fever. However, we also want to make sure that they don't go out and about, assuming they have their usual allergies, when they may actually have coronavirus and should stay at home.

"The main symptoms of coronavirus are a high temperature, new continuous cough or loss of smell or taste. People may also feel quite unwell.

"While the symptoms of coronavirus and hay fever can overlap, people with hay fever don't experience a high temperature and most won't feel unwell.

"Hay fever and allergy symptoms tend to be milder, for example, itchy eyes, sneezing and coughing. Symptoms may vary over the course of the day or depending on the weather, as the pollen count changes. They can also usually be controlled through antihistamines or nasal sprays.

"If you have any new cough, fever, lose your sense of taste or smell, you must self-isolate as these could be signs of coronavirus. Most people can manage their symptoms at home with paracetamol and plenty of fluids. However, if you feel worse, you should use the NHS 111 checker – https://111.nhs.uk/covid-19/ or call NHS 111.

People with hay fever can still get medical advice and treatment during the pandemic. You can visit your local pharmacy for over the counter remedies. If your symptoms don't improve, you can also contact your GP practice.

There's more information at https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/

There's more information for hay fever, including advice on how to manage symptoms at NHS online https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/hay-fever/

NURSERY

ST. JOSEPH'S NURSERY PONTEFRACT

Applications, for a September start, are now being taken for children who will be aged three years by August 31st. In the current situation parents are asked to obtain an application form from our school website www.stjosephspontefract.co.uk. The form is named SIF 2021, please select Parents, then admissions which you can complete and email to us along with the relevant documentation to admin@sjp.bkcat.co.uk. The completed form and any relevant documentation should be received by school by 3.30pm Friday 11th June. Please note failure to provide any necessary additional documents by the closing date will delay the correct categorisation of the application.

It should be noted that an offer of a place in the nursery does not guarantee a place in school, for which a separate application must be made.

We also proveide 30 hour childcare in our Nursery, if you are interested in this option please contact us by emailing— admin@sjp.bkcat.co.uk.

⇒ Nursery prepares your child for school

⇒ Nursery encourages playtime

⇒ Nursery helps children develop social skills and make friends

There is financial support available

http://www.wakefield.gov.uk/schools-and-children/early-years-and-childcare/information-for-parents-and-carers/early-years-free-entitlement

A French Feature about Schools in France

Here are some interesting facts about how schools work in France! They are quite different to schools in this country!

10 things that you might not have known about French schools.

1. School lunches in France last 2 hours

…and feature multiple-course meals, including fresh bread, gourmet cheeses, meat, and seasonal fruits. Vending machines with junk food are banned, and the only available beverage is water. There is no "kids' food," and students are not allowed to bring lunch from home.

2. French students don't have school on Wednesday afternoons.

But they do on Saturday mornings.

3. France doesn't have a Pledge of Allegiance

In fact, almost no countries other than the USA (and probably North Korea) have national pledges in schools.

4. French school days last from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

5. French schools offer very few extra-curriculars.

6. Religious symbols of any kind are banned in French schools

Since 1905, the French government has been officially secular. The wearing of religious markers such as jewellery or headscarves are therefore illegal in schools.

7. Classrooms in France – like Old Mother Hubbard's Cupboard – are bare

Unlike UK classrooms, which are usually full of motivational posters, students' work, and study aids, classrooms in France are bare!

8. Everything in France is scored out of 20

In France, grades are scored out of 20, and it's nearly impossible to get a perfect score. 10 is a pass; 12 is "good", and most teachers would never dream of giving over 17.

9. And grades/scores are posted publicly

On bulletins in hallways, for the entire school to see.

10. French universities are affordable

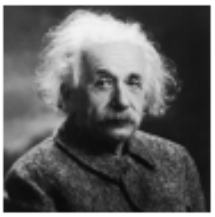
French universities typically cost several hundred euros per year. However, French students must pass the notoriously difficult BAC in order to be admitted. There are also no long graduation ceremonies.

I hope that you enjoyed this feature. Bon weekend!

Mme K

Year 6's Class Scientist for the Summer Term is...

Albert Einstein



Albert Einstein was a theoretical physicist. He is famous for his theories of relativity, which have changed the way we understand the universe.

Einstein's theory of special relativity revealed that no material object can travel faster than the speed of light.

Einstein's theory of general relativity explained that huge objects such as planets bend the space around them producing a gravitational pull.

Albert wrote his first scholarly paper, on the force of magnetism, at the age of only 16!

As a child, Albert enjoyed solving maths riddles and building skyscrapers out of playing cards. Some of his card creations are 14 mini-storeys tall!

Other achievements

Creating the famous formula $E=mc^2$

Nobel Prize in Physics (1921)

Music @ St Joseph's Pontefract

We aim to provide our children with practical, progressive musical experiences which are enjoyable, varied and stimulating.

Our Diocesan Singing Programme is led by Miss Kitson for our Y4 and Y5 children. The children have the opportunity to sing a range of liturgical and non-liturgical songs.

Diocese of Leeds Music

Schools Singing Programme

charanga®

Throughout school music is delivered using a programme of study called Charanga. Pupils have their own individual logins meaning they can access work set by their teacher at home.

Mr Wilkinson from Wider Opportunities works with our Y3 children to enhance their instrumental skills.

There are many occasions throughout the school year where our children are able to showcase their beautiful singing voices:

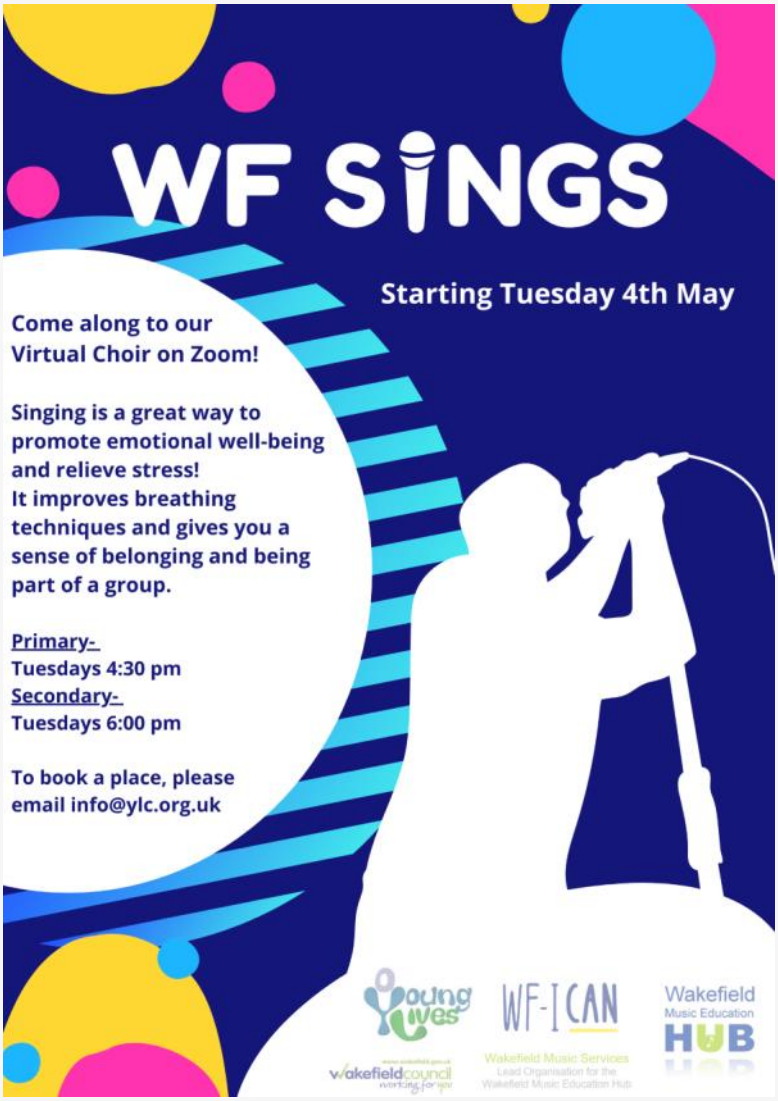
- FS & KS1 Nativities
- KS2 Advent Liturgy
- KS2 Easter Liturgy
- Y6 End of Year Performance
- Mass & Celebration Assembly

Useful Links

www.charanga.com/site/log-in/

www.schoolssingingprogramme.org.uk

Safeguarding
07707501042



NSPCC Website 'Share Aware' provides straight forward, no-nonsense advice that will untangle the web, and show parents how they can be just as great a parent online as offline. It includes a guide to social networking sites, a parents' guide and tips about how to talk to your child about staying safe online.

Tackling CSE is a priority for West Yorkshire Police and it is the responsibility of every-one to help spot the signs and say something.
For more information, visit www.southyorkshire.police.uk/uk/spotthesigns

How to Become An Expert in Your Child's Online World in 6 weeks.
Please follow the link: https://nspcc.o2.co.uk/

St Joseph's supports and advocates 'Operation Encompass' Operation Encompass is a unique Police and Education early intervention safeguarding partnership which supports children and young people exposed to domestic abuse. Operation Encompass is the reporting to schools before the start of the next school day, when a child or young person has been involved or exposed to a domestic abuse incident the previous evening. It enables children to arrive at school and have their needs met, by trained Child Protection staff, who have been informed of the child's 'experience.' National Domestic Violence 24hr free-phone hotline:

VLE Website www.wakefield.itslearning.com **Email:** admin@sjp.bkcat.co.uk **Tel: 01977 701493**
Website: www.sjp.bkcat.co.uk
Child Protection Officer– Mrs Velayudhan Tomlin- Head Teacher / Deputy Child Protection Officer: Mrs Jayne Clements –Learning Mentor (Should parents/carers have any child protection concerns they can ring 'Social Care Direct' on 01924 303 456)