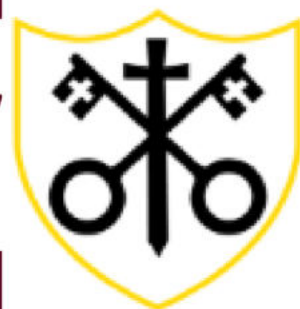




SS Peter & Paul Newsletter

FRIDAY 8TH DECEMBER 2023 VOLUME 13



Dear Parents and Friends,

In our second week of Advent, it has been a time of busyness at school in preparation for Christmas and I'm sure too the same can be said at home. With nativity plays, carols services, lights and decorations, plans to visit friends and family...it can sometimes be easy amongst all of the fun and excitement to forget what Advent is really about - a time to pause, reflect, and get ready to welcome Jesus into our hearts especially as our thoughts are drawn today to mark the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

"Look, I am going to send my messenger before you..."
Mark 1: 2

In this week's Gospel, John prepares the way for Jesus and announces that Jesus is more powerful. Advent is a time for getting ready for us to prepare the way for Jesus. Will we be ready to announce His arrival, like the angels on Christmas Day? In the coming weeks pupils in KS2 will have the opportunity to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation during this Advent season.

Father,
this second week of Advent, keep us in perfect peace as our mind
stays on the truth of your powerful love. Thank you for your
mighty, sovereign hand. Help us to trust fully in you and rest in
the peace that you offer.
In the precious name of Jesus we pray.
Amen.

Back in September we made our welcome video which is a tour of our school for our website. After weeks of editing, this is now complete and can be found on our school website home page as well as on Youtube - <https://youtu.be/22qdtMc3Yws>.
I hope you enjoy

Have a wonderful weekend,

Mrs Atkinson-Aransiola
Headteacher



Important dates:

14th-Reception & Nursery
Nativity to parents 10-
10.30am

Parents are welcome to attend EYFS nativity which will take place in the school hall. There is only one viewing for this so please arrive prompt to ensure you have a seat.

ATTENDANCE MATTERS
School Target- 96%
Total this week: 96.3%

GOLD AWARD
Y4- St Maximillian 98.1%

SILVER AWARD
Y2- St Clare - 97.9%

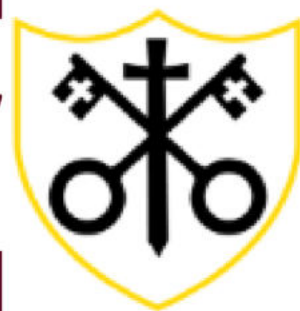
BRONZE AWARD
Y6- St Joan 97%

Class Attendance:
Y1- St Brigid - 96.6%
Y3- St Marie Milleret
96.5%
Y5-St Josephine 95.6%
Y4- St Francis - 95.4%
REC- St Joseph- 95.6%
St Daniel Comboni 95%
NUR- St Mary 92.6%



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Catholic Life of the school

Isaiah 9:6

"For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace."

Advent Week 2

Peace



The Second Sunday of Advent

The Second Sunday of Advent will be on 10th December. The theme is the peace that Christ brought to mankind with his birth and incarnation. The peace candle reminds us that the angels declared "peace on earth" at the birth of Jesus. Jesus offers us inner peace and peace with others. We can know and experience peace today only through the life of Jesus Christ.

What does Peace really mean?

Peace is one of those words that people often use, but they don't always explain it very well. Depending on which religion or philosophy that people follow, their definitions of peace may be highly different.

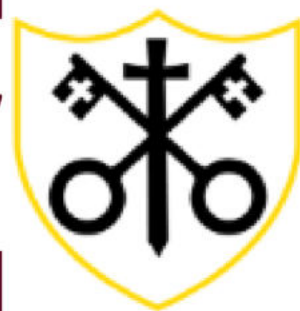
In Hebrew, the word for peace is shalom. Throughout the Bible, shalom is used in several ways. When people are feeling physically well, others say that they "are shalom" ([Genesis 29:6](#)). People who have shalom with God have his protection and blessing ([Numbers 25:12](#)).

There are hints in the Old Testament that shalom with God is to be an inner state that comes from trusting in him ([Isaiah 26:3](#)).



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Catholic Life of the school

Year 4 Advent Liturgy

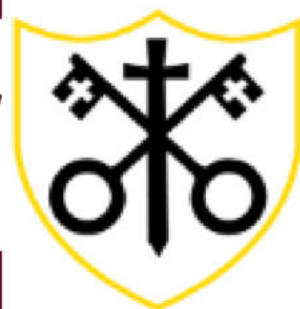
On Monday, Year 4 led us in a beautiful Advent Service to begin this wonderfully special time for all Christians. Reflecting on the true meaning of Christmas, the gift of Christ, the children explained to the school all their learning about the Advent wreath and its symbolism before reflecting on the nativity story. The children sang beautifully throughout and created a sincere and reverent atmosphere- the perfect way to begin our new liturgical year. Their final number, Light One Candle was truly memorable and a lovely way of focussing on the hope, love, joy and peace that Christ brings into the world.





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Curriculum News

Year 1 Trip to Merton Bus Garage

This week, St Brigid class visited Merton Bus garage, as part of their half terms History learning on transport and their English key text **'Last stop on market street'** by Matt de la Pena.

St Brigid class were treated to the full bus adventure, and were lucky enough to explore one of the new fully electric London transport buses which apparently cost £500,000. Children and staff were given a private bus tour around the streets of Merton. They even experienced going through the giant bus wash and were shown around the garage with an opportunity to see behind the scenes at all the mechanics servicing and mending the buses.

All children got a chance to sit in the drivers seat and some lucky individuals were allowed to toot the bus horn. To end a fantastic trip and topic finale, children were given a private bus journey back to school and everyone received a bus goodie bag.

What an amazing morning and a big thank you to the team at Merton Bus Garage.



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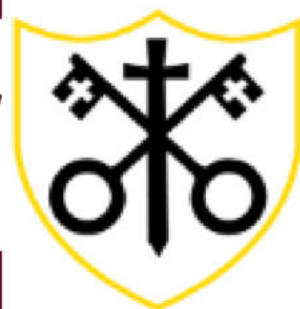


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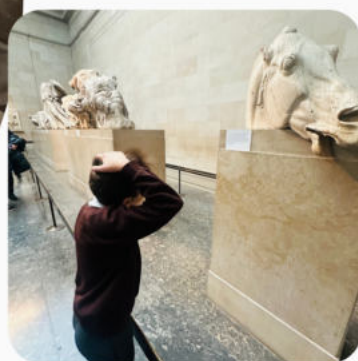
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Curriculum News

Year 5 Trip to the British Museum

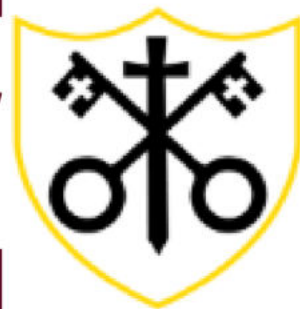
Today, Year 5 visited the British Museum to gain a deeper understanding of the Ancient Greeks as part of our history learning. The children were transported back in time, as they explored the captivating artefacts that told tales of gods, heroes and all things Ancient Greece. They were amazed by the Greek artwork and explored what life was like in the different city states of classical Greece. The children also attended a workshop that told stories of the Ancient Greek Myths.





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Reading For Pleasure

Literary Legend Benjamin Zephaniah, Gone Too Soon!

On Thursday, the sad news broke that the novelist, poet, musician and actor, Benjamin Zephaniah had passed away, aged 65.

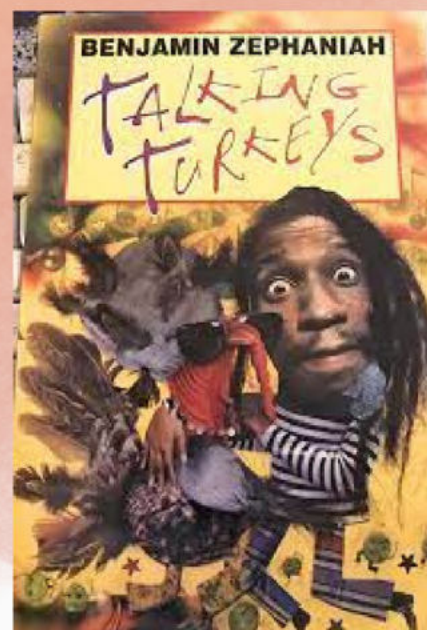
Benjamin Zephaniah was a truly inspirational person and was never afraid to speak the truth. Our very own Year 6 children will study his superb novel, **Windrush Child** later on this year and thousands of children have heard his poetry in schools up and down the country for years and years. He would often perform his poetry in a style called 'dub', and this brought musicality to his poems and made them feel more alive.

"I feel poetry should be alive. You should be able to dance it." Benjamin Zephaniah

Benjamin was born on April 15, 1958, near Birmingham, England. His parents were from Barbados and Jamaica. As a child, he enjoyed the reggae music and poetry of Jamaica which would influence his work later on. Benjamin was dyslexic and struggled at school but that didn't hold him back- he never gave up on his dreams and he started writing poetry when he was very young.

At first, he wrote poetry for adults, but later he realised that children also understood the issues he wrote about. His first book of children's poetry was called **Talking Turkeys** which featured themes around animal rights and vegetarianism, and was published in 1994. Since then he has written much more for children. In 1999, he also started writing novels for teenagers. His first novel, **Face**, was about racial discrimination.

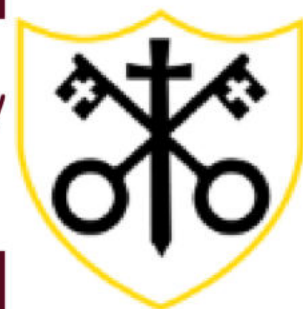
Always wanting to speak about real issues and fight for a world full of equality and love, he will be sadly missed.





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Achievement & Success

NED Champions

Congratulations to this week's NED Champions:

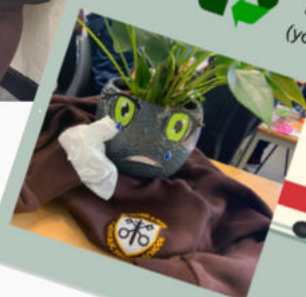
Sukedha (St Joseph); Antoni (St Brigid); Khloe (St Clare); Nikita (St Marie); Jarwish (St Maximilian); Arielle (St Francis); NO ST JOSEPHINE NED- due to being out on a school trip. Ragow (St Daniel); Anthony (St Joan).

Music NED Champions are: Jediah (KS1- St Clare) and Tia (KS2- St Marie).

PE NED Champions are: Ava (St Francis) and Alexander (St Clare)



ECO CLASS WINNER
(you will win a class plant to look after for the week!)



Well done
St Francis Class
Year 4



SSPP Attendance

Our school target for attendance is 96%. To achieve this all children need to be in school everyday.

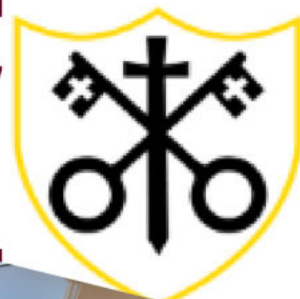
St Maximilian
98.1%

Class attendance winners this week goes to:



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Christmas Bazaar

Thank you to the many of you who turned out last Saturday to support our fund-raising event, the Christmas Bazaar. Congratulations to our many prize winners. Well done to our amazing choir and to Mrs Nassim for preparing them ready again for tonight's performance at Mitcham Fair Green. Please do come along and show your support if you can.

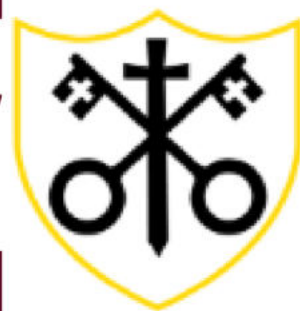
However a huge shout out and thank you goes to our wonderful parent volunteers who make up the PTA, they did a fantastic job and we await to hear news of how much we raised soon!





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READING **Coffee Morning** LEASURE

Thursday 21st December

Dear Parents,

We're excited to kick start our Christmas holidays with a mince pie and coffee morning for parents on last day of term.

No need to book, please join us and share in the festivities. We look forward to seeing many of you there.

Please join us in Year 5 classroom at

