

## Foundation 2 have been sooo busy!



This half term foundation 2 are reading *The Extraordinary Gardener*. They have been working hard making predictions, writing descriptions and creating invitations to a special garden party. They have also had fun retelling the story, focusing on the sequence of events and ordering. In the continuous provision areas, the children have been enjoying playing in the garden centre, making flower potions and drawing flowers.



In science, F2 have had a wonderful time following instructions to plant sunflower seeds. They continued their learning in guided write when they wrote their own set of instructions for planting seeds. They are enjoying watching them grow. F2 had a celery food colouring experiment to understand how plants absorb water. F2 were so excited when they noticed the leaves had changed colour!



Last Friday F2 celebrated having the best attendance for week commencing 19<sup>th</sup> April by having a Fancy-Dress Party. F2 celebrated with hot chocolates, popcorn, cakes and biscuits! They had a fantastic day!



This week is Mental Health Awareness Week and the theme is Nature. To celebrate, F2 have been busy using cheerios to make bird feeder as well as making nature portraits and writing their names using leaves, twigs and grass.

F2 have been busy in their continuous provision areas playing with playdough, printing using vegetables, making dens and playing in the sand.



# Bedtime Stories



## Five Reasons to Read a Bedtime Story Tonight

1. Reading together is a great way to nurture the bond between parent and child

Snuggling up with your child to read a bedtime story has physical and emotional benefits for your child and you. Cuddling releases oxytocin ('the happy hormone'), which helps your child feel content and safe in your arms. Physical touch also has been shown to reduce stress and anxiety in children.

2. Bedtime stories help expand your child's vocabulary

Reading different types and genres of books can expose your child to words and phrases they may not have heard before.

3. Bedtime can be a great opportunity to talk about issues

Around bedtime, children are usually more relaxed, and less distracted. It can be a great time to talk to your child, and you can use books to support a conversation about different issues – whether things going on in your child's world (e.g., safety, hygiene, being kind, sharing, starting school), or things happening in the world around them.

4. Bedtime stories are the perfect way for parents and carers to unwind and slow down after a busy day

Creating a protected time for a story is the perfect way to add a bit of calm into both of your days. It's an opportunity to really slow down, remove any distractions or technology, and to be present with your child.

5. Children are never "too young" or "too old" for a bedtime story

Toddlers may want the same story again and again – this familiarity helps with speech development. And even once a child is reading independently, reading aloud together at bedtime helps to develop their imagination and creativity.





# School Attendance

Attendance is below our target, well done to all who have achieved or are close to 100%

It is a key priority for us to ensure that attendance remains at 97% or above.

And to everyone who has made such an effort this week to be in school every day

Attendance overall including Foundation Stage: 92%

Attendance overall without Foundation Stage: 95%



CLASS	LAST WEEK	THIS WEEK
2 year olds: Mrs Higgins	82%	81%
Foundation 1 Miss Howard	80%	80%
Foundation 2 Miss Turner	89%	100%
Foundation 2 Mrs Walker	97%	97%
Year 1: Miss Last	95%	92%
Year 2: Miss Finnigan	92%	98%
Year 3 Miss Davies	97%	97%
Year 4 Mr Broughton	87%	91%
Year 5: Miss J Allen	91%	93%
Year 6: Miss Morgan	88%	96%



## Pupils should wash their hands:

- before leaving home
- on arrival at school
- after using the toilet
- after breaks and sporting activities
- before food preparation
- before eating any food,  
including snacks
- before leaving school.

Class	Drop Off	Pick Up	Class	Drop Off	Pick Up
Two Year Old Provision	8.55	11.45	Yr3	9.00	15.20
F1	8.55	11.45	Yr4	9.00	15.20
F2	8.45	15.00	Yr5	9.05	15.30
Yr1	8.50	15.10	Yr6	9.05	15.30
Yr2	8.50	15.10			



# St Joseph's Catholic Primary School



“Together in faith we nurture, encourage and inspire each other to achieve excellence and become all that Jesus calls us to be”

Headteacher Mrs M Hollis

School Office 0151 638 3919  
14th May 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

## COVID-19 Update Restrictions

Earlier this week, schools received updated Covid-19 guidance. Current restrictions in school remain unchanged. In order to keep our school family safe please continue to adhere to social distancing restrictions during pick up and drop off. We have noticed that many parents are choosing not to wear a face covering during these times. It is paramount that all parents/carers wear a face covering, unless medically exempt. Again, I would like to politely request that you drop off and pick up your child/ren at the allocated time. The pavement outside of school is not wide enough to safely house large numbers of people. All of the measures are in place to keep our school families safe.



## Testing

Anyone with Covid-19 symptoms should get a test. The three main symptoms of Covid-19 are:

- ◆ A high temperature
- ◆ A new, continuous cough
- ◆ A loss or change to your sense of smell or taste

If you have any of these symptoms you should self-isolate and get tested.

If someone is displaying symptoms it is important that they take a PCR symptomatic test, not a LFD asymptomatic test. The closest testing centre to St Joseph's is in the car park off Seaview Rd, near Liscard Community Facility Complex. Walk ins are available at this site, however, we recommend you book to guarantee a timeslot. The testing centre is open 7 days a week from 8am-1:30pm.

## Mental Health Awareness Week

This week is Mental Health Awareness Week. The theme is 'nature'.



Teachers have been working with the children on well-being and mindfulness and the impact that nature can have on their mental health. Please

contact the school office if you would like further support regarding your child's mental health. You can access supporting materials on our school website under the Health and Wellbeing tab. [http://www.stjosephs-wallasey.wirral.sch.uk/website/mental\\_health\\_and\\_wellbeing/534285](http://www.stjosephs-wallasey.wirral.sch.uk/website/mental_health_and_wellbeing/534285)

## Sacramental Preparation

Please keep our children in Yr3 and Yr4 in your prayers as they prepare for their Holy Communion. We feel blessed that we are able to move forward with the sacramental programme this year. Thank you to our members of staff as they continue to support our children in their faith journey.



## Ten:Ten

We have a new resource for our daily collective worship sessions. The provider is Ten:Ten. Please use this parent link to access the parent newsletter for the month of May.

[https://www.tentenresources.co.uk/parent-](https://www.tentenresources.co.uk/parent-newsletter/)

**Ten:Ten**  
Resources



## newsletter/

The link will give you an overview of what we have been covering with the children and which Gospel readings they have heard. This week the focus has been about friendship.

**In the Gospel for that week, Jesus says: “A man can have no greater love than to lay down his life for his friends...I call you friends.” (John 15: 9 – 17)**

I wish you and your family a peaceful weekend.

Best wishes,

Mrs Hollis