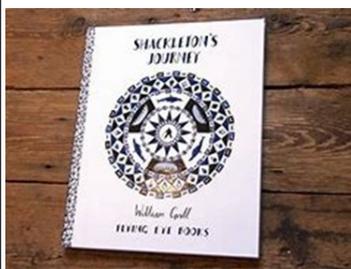


\*\*\*\*\*  
 \* On behalf of our school family ....  
 \* Dear Mrs Vernon,  
 \* As you begin your countdown to retirement, we are very disappointed that we cannot say goodbye in the  
 \* time honoured St Joseph's tradition with a school mass, assembly and celebration. When you came to St  
 \* Joseph's six years ago, you embraced the challenge of special measures, took every child to your heart  
 \* and shared your vision for our school. We are truly blessed to have known you as our Headteacher and  
 \* are so grateful for your wisdom and guidance, particularly on the long journey to 'GOOD!'  
 \* Thank you for the gift of your friendship, for being the foundation of our future, for going that extra mile on  
 \* so many occasions. The school family of governors, staff, parents and pupils are empowered by your  
 \* vision and belief that together we can all be what Jesus calls us to be, inspiring each other to achieve  
 \* excellence and we wish you a long and happy retirement filled with many new adventures.  
 \* xxx with love from St Joseph's School Family xxx  
 \*\*\*\*\*

## Shackleton's Journey' by William Grill



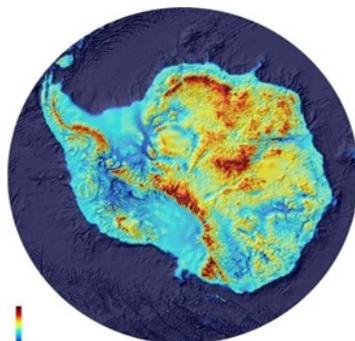
Unfortunately, Year 6 are coming to the end of their unit of work on a wonderful book- 'Shackleton's Journey'.

This wonderful book details the planning, organisation and subsequent journey

from Shackleton's starting point in Plymouth to the final rescue of the rest of his crew from Elephant Island at the end of his failed expedition to Antarctica. This book has been thoroughly enjoyed by us all in Year 6 because of its detail, humour, drama and intriguing illustrations.

The writing opportunities have been many. We have looked at how to write biographies, diary entries, character portraits, letters and our very own Endurance narrative. Antarctica has also been our topic in our new Curriculum of Hope lessons. We have studied the composition and location of Antarctica, the different life forms there, the concept of global warming and why scientists work in Antarctica. It has thrown up many questions such as:

- 'Why are the ice caps melting?'
- 'What is the impact of tourism on Antarctica?'
- 'What are the different life forms there?'
- 'What is a biome?'
- 'How do we solve global warming?'



In mathematics, we have been working hard too!

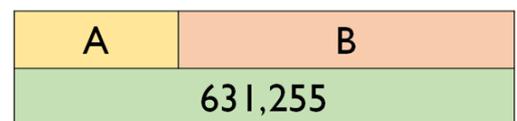
We have completed our scheme of learning on Place Value and are currently working on the four operations.

Our focus at the moment is Addition and Subtraction. We are working hard to 'master' our mental and written methods to help us solve word and practical problems. We have been practising our estimation skills by rounding, using our knowledge of number facts and the inverse operation to check answers to calculations. This has helped us to tackle more challenging questions in our reasoning and Problem Solving sessions.

### Can you have a go at this?

I would like to say how proud I am of Year 6.

Here is a bar model.



A is an odd number which rounds to 100,000 to the nearest ten thousand. It has a digit total of 30

B is an even number which rounds to 500,000 to the nearest hundred thousand.

It has a digit total of 10

A and B are multiples of 5

What are possible values of A and B?

They have returned to the classroom happy and confident young people who have brought with them resilience, tenacity and humour. They never fail to amaze me. Thank you Year 6, I am proud to be your teacher!

# Year 2

## Wirral Globe

### WOEFUL WALLASEY



What a fantastic start to Year 2 we have had. Even though there has been some of changes to our school Year 2 have adjusted really well and are a credit to St Joseph's.

This half term we have been learning all about Wallasey in our new Curriculum of Hope.

An unkind newspaper article was published about Wallasey. It caused outrage in Year 2. Lots of us were very upset and wanted to show the newspaper reporter how wonderful Wallasey really was.



To do this we decided to list all the amazing things we can see and do in Wallasey. Using this list, we then designed our very own version of the Razzle Dazzle Ferry. A beautiful

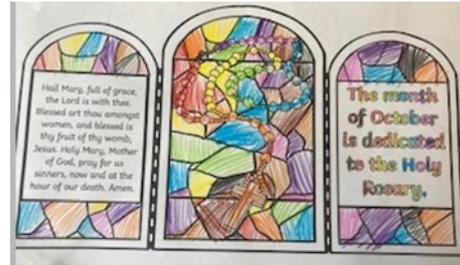
line drawing of Wallasey Town Hall with all its steps and windows. And we also sketched the reflection of our view over the River Mersey of the Liverpool skyline.

We have put them all up in the hall for everyone to see.



We have also found Wallasey on a map of

the UK and are currently drafting a letter of response to the newspaper article with reasons for why we think Wallasey is wonderful.



The month of October is also really special to us as it is the month of the Holy Rosary.

To celebrate this month, we have created a beautiful prayer table dedicated to Mary and have been practising the special prayer we say to Her. The Hail Mary. We have also created our own images of what we think Mary may have looked like. We remember that Mary is not only Jesus' mum but she is our mum too.



## DAILY MILE COMPETITION



Last week we took part in our first Sporting event since February. Things are now a little bit different at the moment so we took part in a virtual event which saw over 100 schools across Merseyside attempt to complete a mile by either walking, jogging or running.

Over 200 children from St Joseph's took part in the event and all had a fantastic time doing it despite the weather! We have always been immensely proud of our sporting achievements at St Joseph's and we will continue to strive to offer whatever opportunities we can to the children, despite the current restrictions we are under.



### PE kit

There has been a fantastic response to our new policy of wearing your kit to school on PE days, which has led to an increase in PE time for our children. Please remember that we can't take any responsibility for damage to the clothes your children are wearing, so we strongly advise against wearing expensive clothes (especially football kits!). After School clubs

We have had to change the way we currently offer after school sports clubs, so we are currently offering Year group bubble multi sport clubs for Year 3 and 5. This will change to Year 4 and 6 after half term with more information being posted on class dojo next week regarding this. We will aim to do Key Stage 1 and Foundation clubs later in the year.



# 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: 93%**

**Attendance overall without Foundation Stage: 94%**



CLASS	LAST WEEK	THIS WEEK
2Yr Olds Mrs Higgins	89%	83%
Foundation 1 Miss Howard	96%	95%
Foundation 2 Miss Turner	100%	93%
Foundation 2 Mrs Walker	93%	100%
Year 1: Miss Last	90%	99%
Year 2: Miss Finnigan	98%	97%
Year 3 Miss Davies	93%	91%
Year 4 Mr Broughton	90%	90%
Year 5: Miss J Allen	97%	95%
Year 6: Miss Morgan	94%	89%

## 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.



## Baptism Preparation

Although the monthly baptismal preparation programme is suspended we are now able to celebrate Baptism services in our churches.

If you would like more information about having your child baptised please ring the parish office on 638 1520 or email to [stalbanandstjoseph@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:stalbanandstjoseph@yahoo.co.uk) Please add a contact number and we will ring you to arrange a date for a preparation session with Fr Devan or Fr Ramesh.

We look forward to welcoming your children into our parish family.



# 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 K Vernon

School Office 18th October 2020



Dear Parents and Carers,

## Remote Learning

In these uncertain times we want to make sure all children can access learning at home should we have to send a class bubble home due to a confirmed case of COVID, or if your child has to self-isolate. With this in mind we have put together learning packs for each year group which will be given to your child if their bubble has to be sent home. We have also set up access on the school website to daily lessons from the Oak Learning Academy - [www.thenational.academy](http://www.thenational.academy).



In addition, if a class bubble is sent home your class teacher will arrange face to face catch ups in small groups daily (on Google Classroom) where the children will practise key skills and maintain communication with their teacher and class mates. These calls shall last for 30 minutes.

If you are unable to collect learning packs from school because you have to self-isolate a non-symptomatic friend or family member may collect it or we can arrange for it to be delivered to your home address.

## Secondary School Admissions

Please note the closing date for applications for secondary school places is 31<sup>st</sup> October 2020. Parents and carers can apply online at [www.wirral.gov.uk/schooladmissions](http://www.wirral.gov.uk/schooladmissions). If you are unable to apply online and require a



paper form you can contact the Council's Information and Advice line on 0151 6062020 or visit a One Stop Shop. Please let us know if you are having any difficulty with your application and we will be happy to help.

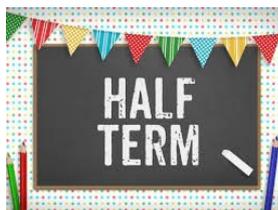
## St Mary's College

As you will be aware face to face open evenings cannot take place due to COVID. St Mary's College have posted further information including a prospectus and video on their school website to enable you to find out more about the school. They have also organised a live 'Question and Answer' session for parents and carers. This will take place on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> October at 6.00pm.



## Half term

It is hard to believe that we have only a week to go before school closes for half term – the time has passed by so quickly. We are so thankful for the support and cooperation of all families during this half term which has enabled everything to run so smoothly. We have all had to adapt to many changes but everyone has been really supportive of this and the children have been excellent in the way they have responded. Thank you.



As you know this will be my last newsletter to you all before I take up my retirement at the end of this

School closes for half term on Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> October at the earlier time of 1.30pm. The children will return to school on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> November.

month. I will be writing to you further next week but I just wanted to take this opportunity to thank you all so much for your kindness and support during my leadership of the school and for everything that you do for your children and the St Joseph's family. It means so much.



Every blessing

Mrs Vernon