

## Back to school with Year 3



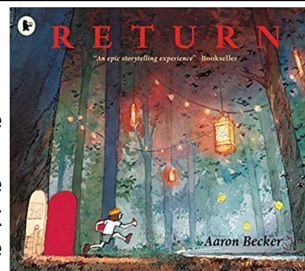
Our new Year 3 have had a great start to the new school year. They all arrived to their new classroom and playground a little nervous, but have soon settled in very quickly. We love seeing their smiley faces every morning. They are getting to know their new teacher, Mr Panchal, and are enjoying their new start in KS2.

The children did some team building activities with Mr McGovern on their first day back in school. They worked really hard together, trying to find a way to get a whole team across a shark-infested swamp using only two planks of wood! There were some wonderful examples of teamwork, good discussion and definitely a case of trial and error.

We have started to read a text called 'Return' by Aaron Becker. The book is about a little girl, who fails to get the attention of her busy father, so she returns back to a fantastic world for friendship and adventure. It's her third journey into the enticing

realm of kings and emperors, castles and canals, exotic creatures and enchanting landscapes. The children are really enjoying inferring what might be happening and what thoughts and feelings the characters are having.

They will be writing a setting description and a travel report. We can not wait to see their results!



Handwriting is going to have a big focus in Year 3 and we expect the children to be using cursive handwriting in all their work. Please support us by practising this at home with your children also.

Aa Bb Cc Dd Ee Ff Gg

Hh Ii Jj Kk Ll Mm Nn

Oo Pp Qq Rr Ss Tt Uu

Vv Ww Xx Yy Zz

## 2-Year-Old Provision



We are very proud and pleased to be welcoming our two year olds back into school. They have settled beautifully and we have been super busy!

The children have enjoyed playing and exploring in their new environment both indoors and outdoors.



They have particularly enjoyed caring for the dolls in the home corner and playing in the sand and water play. The children have enjoyed taking the dolls for a walk in the pram and feeding



them snack. At the sand and water tray, the children have shown great interest in filling and emptying.

### Physical Development

All that digging, scooping, sifting, pouring, building and cleaning up sure takes a lot of energy. Sand and water play is a fun way to develop

children's larger muscles and gross motor skills.

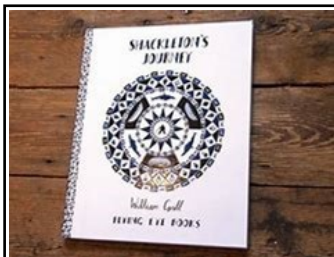
Adding play accessories such as spoons, rakes or toy boats will also promote children's hand-eye coordination and allow them to practise their fine motor skills.



## Funded places for 2 year olds ....

We currently have places available for our 2-year-old provision, for April 2022 and September 2022. Please see Mrs Higgins if you have any queries or need information. Check on Wirral.gov to check eligibility for 2 year old funding.

## Year 6



### 'Shackleton's Journey' by William Grill.

Year 6 are beginning their unit of work on a wonderful book-'Shackleton's Journey'.

This 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. I am sure that this book will be thoroughly enjoyed by us all in Year 6 because of its detail, humour, drama and intriguing illustrations.

The writing opportunities are many and we will look at how to write biographies, diary entries, character portraits, letters and our very own Endurance narrative. Antarctica is also our topic in our new Curriculum of Hope lessons. We will study the composition and location of Antarctica, the different life forms there, the concept of global warming and why scientists work in Antarctica.

We will discuss questions such as:

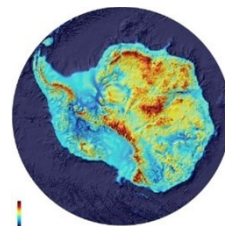
'Why are the ice caps melting?'

'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 extremely hard.

Currently, our scheme of learning is Place Value and we are working hard to 'master' our mental and written methods to help us solve word and practical problems. Our objectives for this topic are:

COUNTING	use negative numbers in context, and calculate intervals across zero Count on/back in steps of 25, 0.2, 0.25, 0.5... Count on/back in steps of 0.1, 0.2, 0.25, 0.5. and then back.
COMPARING NUMBERS	read, write, order and compare numbers up to 10 000 000 and determine the value of each digit (appears also in Reading and Writing Numbers) Order positive and negative whole numbers; Find the difference between a positive and a negative integer, or two negative integers, in the context such as temperature or a number line. Order a set of negative integers. Investigate products of odd / even numbers.
IDENTIFYING, REPRESENTING & ESTIMATING NUMBERS	Use vocabulary of estimation and approximation.
READING & WRITING NUMBERS	read, write, order and compare numbers up to 10 000 000 and determine the value of each digit (appears also in Understanding Place Value)
UNDERSTANDING PLACE VALUE	read, write, order and compare numbers up to 10 000 000 and determine the value of each digit (appears also in Reading and Writing Numbers)  identify the value of each digit to three decimal places and multiply and divide numbers by 10, 100 and 1000 where the answers are up to three decimal places (copied from Fractions)
ROUNDING	round any whole number to a required degree of accuracy Round whole numbers to the nearest 10, 100, 1000. solve problems which require answers to be rounded to specified degrees of accuracy (copied from Fractions)
PROBLEM SOLVING	solve number and practical problems that involve all of the above Develop calculator skills; use a calculator effectively. Solve mathematical problems or puzzles. Recognise patterns, generalise. Make general statements about them and give examples. Solve number puzzles and explain methods and reasoning.

On Wednesday, we celebrated the birthday of Our Lady. In our RE lesson, Year 6 completed a biography about Mary and we discussed the many different titles she is given. We also looked at many different images of Our Lady depicted through art and discussed which were our favourite and why. As a class, we wrote a prayer to Our Lady:

**Dear Mary,**

**You chose to say yes to Gabriel when he invited you to be the mother of Jesus. Please guide each one of us to make the right decisions every day of our lives. You are our loving mother and we promise to listen to you.**

**Amen**

I would like to say how proud I am of Year 6. They have returned to the classroom happy and confident young people who are ready to work and learn. I am confident that this will be a successful year for us all.

**Thank you Year 6, I am proud to be your teacher!**



# 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
2 year olds : Mrs Higgins	94%	97%
Foundation 1: Mrs Walker	100%	80%
Foundation 2: Miss Howard	100%	95%
Year 1: Miss Turner	95%	87%
Year 2: Miss Finnigan	96%	97%
Year 3: Mr Broughton (Mr Panchal)	93%	92%
Year 4: Miss Davies	89%	93%
Year 5: Miss Last	89%	97%
Year 6: Mrs Lyon	94%	95%

## Parish Information

Arranging a Baptism ..... If you wish to have your child baptised please contact the parish office on 0151 638 1520 for further information

Also

St Joseph's Church is now open for mass on  
Monday at 9.30am Wednesday at 12noon  
Sunday 11am and 6.30pm



Class	Drop Off	Pick Up	Class	Drop Off	Pick Up
Two Year Old Provision	8.45	11.45	Yr3	8:45-9:00	15.30
F1	8.45	11.45	Yr4	8:45-9.00	15.30
F2	8.45	15.25	Yr5	8:45-9.00	15.30
Yr1	8.45-9:00	15.25	Yr6	8:45-9:00	15.30
Yr2	8.50-9:00	15.25			



# 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  
10th September 2021



Dear Parents/Carers

Welcome to the first newsletter of the school year. This school year, our newsletters will be sent out on the first Friday of each month. If the first Friday of the month lands in a school holiday week, it will be sent out the following Friday. Please keep an eye out on St Joseph's Twitter page for up to date weekly news.



Welcome to all of our new children and families that have started with us this year. We hope that you already feel welcomed and part of our school family. We

feel proud of how well the children have returned to school as they have slotted back into their school routines with ease. Their attitude to learning has been impeccable. Well done to them all!

## **Be Prepared!**

Please ensure that your child has all equipment, lunchboxes, glasses and PE kits etc with them when they arrive at school in the morning. We are trying to minimise the amount of visitors on site. It also takes a considerable amount of time to deliver items to children, if the forgotten items are dropped into the school office throughout the morning. Thank you for your understanding.



## **Water Bottles**



Please provide your child with a water bottle each day for school. These will be returned home each night to be cleaned and refilled by yourselves. All children have access to fresh water in school, should they need a refill.

## **Covid-19**

Our Covid-19 Risk Assessment and Contingency plan are now available to view on our school website. Please take the time to read through them, so that you are familiar with our new arrangements. If you do have any questions please contact the school office.



[schooloffice@stjosephs-wallasey.wirral.sch.uk](mailto:schooloffice@stjosephs-wallasey.wirral.sch.uk)

Many thanks for adhering to our new arrangements at drop off and collections times. Staff have commented on how nice it is to be able to have everyone back on the playground. Thank you for making it a success, as it has meant that we can continue with these arrangements.

**The main symptoms of COVID-19 are:**  
**new continuous cough and/or fever**  
**(temperature of 37.8°C or higher)**  
**loss of or change in, normal sense**  
**of taste or smell (anosmia)**

If your child develops any of these symptoms, you must arrange for them to have a PCR test as soon as possible. Your child should self-isolate immediately and they should not attend school. Please contact the school by phone to inform us your child has COVID-19 symptoms and you are awaiting a COVID-19 test.



Thank you for your ongoing cooperation and understanding.

Best wishes for the week ahead,

Mrs Hollis