

## Ursuline's January Newsletter

*Following in Jesus' footsteps we love, learn and grow together.*

### Reception



Reception have enjoyed the wintery start to 2024. We have loved wrapping up warm and exploring the frost and ice in our outdoor learning. Making transient art snowflakes, as we haven't had many real ones...yet!



We delighted in exploring our key text 'There is no dragon in this story' and revisiting all of our favourite traditional tales. This has lined up beautifully with the launch of the school wide fairytale project. We look forward to seeing what the children come up with and bring in to share for National tell a fairytale day in February.

## Year 1

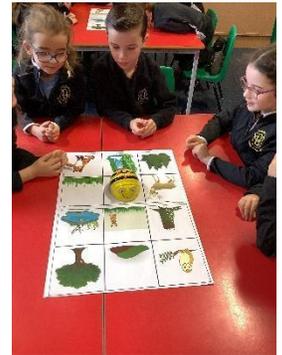
It's been a really busy start to 2024 in year 1! We have loved exploring our new text "Here We Are" by Oliver Jeffers and are getting ready to video record and then write our guides to living on planet earth. Our outdoor inspired art topic has been really hands on with plenty of colour mixing. We have loved getting our fingers stuck in with the paints! In geography we have been learning the names of the four countries of the United Kingdom. Why not challenge us and see if we can name them? Our computing topic is making using of "Bee Bots". We have explored using the controls to move them around and have been learning how to enter commands so that they can complete simple journeys. We have found this really exciting!



## Year 2

Year 2 have made a fantastic start to 2024. We are all enjoying our new texts 'Revoltin' rhymes' and 'The Wolf's story'. We loved working together to perform 'Little Red Riding Hood'. In art we have been getting creative and we have been painting pictures in the style of Claude Monet.

For Geography the children recently visited Liverpool. The children loved looking at the waterfront and we discussed the difference between an urban and rural landscape. We have had a great time using algorithms to get our 'Bee Bots' to move across the map. We have learnt the importance of giving instructions in the correct order.



## Year 3

Year 3 have had a wonderful start to 2024. We have particularly enjoyed this half terms Geography topic exploring 'Spain' and how it is similar and different to the UK. The children have loved getting the atlases out and using their mapping skills to locate the countries. We have looked into the longitude and latitude exploring our coordinate skills and knowledge. We look forward to continuing our geography journey and seeing what else we discover about Spain.



## Year 4

Year 4 have had a busy start to 2024 and have thrown ourselves into our learning. In science, we are exploring sound. The children have enjoyed experimenting with various instruments to help them understand how sound is made, how to alter pitch and how sound travels. We have been putting in lots of extra effort to secure our times table facts. We've been playing games both online and using practical equipment in order to speed up our recall. If you spot us around, feel free to ask us a multiplication question.

As part of our RE work on The Church Community, Father Martin visited us in school to tell us all about his role in the parish and about the many other people who contribute to our local parishes. Thank you Father Martin for helping to deepen our understanding.



## Year 5

What a wonderful start to the New Year we have had in Year 5. The children have blown us away with their understanding and enjoyment of 'The Highwayman' by Alfred Noyes and embraced the grammatical features of the poem.

In art we have been exploring the designs of William Morris before designing our own, making our own printing blocks and considering repeating patterns.

Our indoor PE this half term has seen us create motifs related to WWII and include movement into our sequences.

We also welcomed Nick and Lucas, local PCSO's who asked us to help raise awareness of speed limits on our roads.

A busy half term! Well done Year 5.



## Year 6

Y6 have had an amazing start to 2024! The children will be taking part in the 'Faith in Action' project. During the rest of this school year the children will collect merits and will be able to continue this journey into Secondary School. They will reflect and practice sharing our gospel values of respect, kindness, love and care.

Y6 this term have been enjoying working with Military School. The sessions help children with their resilience, confidence and teamwork. It also works on them developing their leadership and personal skills and will inspire and motivate the children for the future.

In Science, the children have been enjoying making different electrical circuits and finding out what happens to the brightness of the bulbs when we add more voltage or bulbs to the circuit.

In Geography, we have been looking at trade and differences between importing and exporting goods. The children have learnt the different parts of the supply chain and have researched the top ten exports of the UK.

Keep working hard Y6!

### Wednesday Word

Don't forget to access this wonderful resource to support the sharing of the Gospel at home. Follow the link below to access our prayer resources page where you will find, amongst other resources, The Wednesday Word.

[Family Prayer Resource](#)



### Sporting News

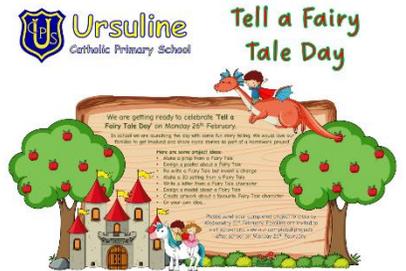
We have had a quiet start to the new term with no sporting events happening, however we have some football fixtures happening soon and other tournaments that we will be entering. More information will be sent out soon. Keep your eyes peeled for the results!

### Calling all Storytellers

We are getting ready to celebrate 'Tell a Fairy tale Day' on Monday 26th February.

We are launching the day with fun story telling. We would love you to get involved and share some stories as part of a homework project.

Ideas for the project are on the flyer sent home or your child may choose their own idea and let their imagination go wild. There is a flyer for Rec, Y1, Y2 and Y3 and a different looking flyer for Y4, Y5 and Y6. Both include the same information.



We ask that **completed projects be sent to school by Wednesday 21st February** so your child can share them in class.

Families are invited to view the projects in our **project gallery after school on Monday 26th February** until 5pm in our school hall.

## Blue Peter Book badge success

A number of our wonderful pupils have already received their Blue Peter Book Badge. To earn your badge, you just share your love of books by clicking the link below and completing the form [www.bbc.co.uk/cbbc/findoutmore/blue-peter-apply-for-a-book-badge](http://www.bbc.co.uk/cbbc/findoutmore/blue-peter-apply-for-a-book-badge)



Alternatively bring your form into school and we'll post it for you. All forms returned to school have been posted but remember it can take up to 12 weeks for your badge to arrive so please be patient!

So, what are you waiting for? Pick up a book, explore our school library, or become a member of your local library and you could be on your way to earning your very own Book badge! If you need help from school, please please ask a member of staff or your class Reading Ambassador. Many of our Reading Ambassadors have already submitted their ideas so are on hand to help you.

## Getting our hands on books

Booklovers from Year 2 and Reading Ambassadors formed part of a human chain to move 15,000 books across Bootle Strand for Kingsley & Co bookshop who are relocating as part of The Strand redevelopment. Our love of books was heard by listeners as we were interviewed by Radio Merseyside amidst the excitement of the day.



## Healthy Lunchboxes

We encourage all our parents/carers who provide a packed lunch for their child to provide a balanced meal. Government guidelines recommend that a packed lunch should include:

- One portion of fruit or vegetables each day.
- Meat, fish or another source of non-dairy protein each day (e.g. lentils, beans, pulses, falafel).
- A starchy food each day e.g. rice, potatoes, pasta, noodles, couscous, cereals.
- A dairy food each day e.g. milk, cheese, yoghurt, fromage frais.
- An oily fish at least once every three weeks.

Children are not allowed to bring in fizzy drinks or energy drinks as part of their packed lunch. For further information on healthy lunchboxes please follow the link below.

<https://www.nhs.uk/healthier-families/recipes/healthier-lunchboxes/>



## Healthy Snacks

All children in the infants are provided with fruit or vegetables at breaktime. Children in KS1 and KS2 can bring in a healthy snack to have at breaktime. Children should not bring in crisps, chocolate and biscuits to have as a snack.

## PE Kits

On PE days, please ensure your child is wearing their school PE kit:

- House team coloured T-shirt with school logo (red, yellow, green or blue)
- Navy Blue shorts/skorts
- Black jogging bottoms (If weather is cold)
- Black sweatshirt (If weather is cold)
- Velcro fastening or pull-on pumps or trainers

**Football kits or multicoloured hoodies/sweatshirts should not be worn. Please let school know if you have any difficulties purchasing the correct PE Kit.**

## Curriculum information

Don't forget that our website contains information about the curriculum for all subjects. Visit our class pages for up-to-date information about what is happening in each of our year groups.

## Holiday requests

School has recently received a number of term time holiday requests. As a reminder, we are unable to authorise term time holidays (apart from some exceptional circumstances). Holidays taken during school time may incur a fine.