

Ursuline's March Newsletter

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

Reception



Reception enjoyed getting out and about as we posted our Mother's Day cards and looked for signs of spring along the way! The children really took their time, observing spring flowers and chose to either paint or draw them for the front of their special cards.

The natural world was also a focus for World Book Day this year, using the fabulous Yuval Zommer text, 'The Wild'. The children carefully considered how 'The Wild' felt at different times and wrote speech bubbles to reflect the feelings of 'The Wild'. Our Live Simply pledge is to look after our Reception garden so we chose to pick up litter and brush up leaves as well as make placards to spread the message that we need to look after our wonderful world. 'Save The Wild!'

Year 1

Year 1 have loved exploring bread and sandwich fillings in design and technology this half term. To begin we enjoyed tasting ingredients before trying out our skills and then designing and making our own finished sandwiches. It was certainly tasty fun trying them out!

Our history topic has helped us understand all the different types of transport around us and how they have changed over time. We even used our learning to predict how transport might change in the future

Both our English texts have given us plenty of storytelling opportunities. First, we explored how "Nibbles the Book Monster" changed familiar stories in different ways. We then read 'Jim and the beanstalk' to explore another familiar story with a twist. This then led



us to plan and write our own episode from the story, creating different problems for Jim to solve.

Next term we are looking forward to our new art topic, exploring textiles and gaining inspiration from German textile artist Gunta Stolzl.

Year 2

Year 2 had a fabulous time making dips and dippers in DT. We tried lots of yummy dips then we practised our cutting skills to make our own dippers. We cut up cucumber, peppers, celery and tomatoes. We even made our own class dip!

We have also been enjoying learning all about the Great Fire of London this term! The children turned into architects for the day to help design building for London after the fire. We talked about how to make them safe so that the great fire doesn't happen again.

During World books day, the children enjoyed reading, 'The Wild.' We learnt very important lessons about how to take care of our environment. We learnt that every little action makes a big difference. We all worked together to tidy our yard. It now looks much better and is a nice place to be.



Year 3

Year 3 have had the best time this term learning to master the Djembe drums. The children have worked hard on developing their skills and techniques in preparation for a final showcase to their parents. Mr Asbridge has taught them many rhythms and styles ensuring that confidence was built on each week. We are really proud of all the children and how much they have embraced this new instrument.



We have also been developing our sewing techniques this half term, creating wonderful money pouches. All the children had a chance to practise their threading and stitching techniques before finalising the details on their own bespoke pouch. The final products looked great as well as being practical too.

Year 4

Year 4 have had a great time this half term! We have enjoyed our weekly swimming lessons and have grown in confidence. We have also thoroughly enjoyed immersing ourselves into our learning during our English and History units focusing on the Titanic. It was fascinating to learn about how this disaster impacted the lives of so many and how many links Titanic had with Liverpool. In our Design and Technology lessons, we have worked to create our own mechanical toys. We used a range of equipment including saws, glue guns and hole punchers to create our own mini-masterpieces.



Year 5

What a wonderful half term we have had!

A highlight was definitely visiting the Western Approaches in Liverpool and deepening our learning on the battle of the Atlantic.

What an experience and privilege to be able to see somewhere that contributed to winning WWII. It is true to say that we have been completely absorbed in this topic.



We have also thoroughly enjoyed honing our cricket skills especially as the weather has been improving!

To add to our already limitless talents, we have been learning to compose vocally and using colour. We focussed on dynamics and pitch before performing as groups and then putting it all together as a class!



We have so much more to look forward to in the Summer Term, including venturing into space and sculpture inspired by Lutz Wagner aka Moto Waganari!

Year 6

We have had such a fantastic half-term! As well as having so much fun working together in Military School, we have been learning all about the slave trade and how Liverpool was involved as a major port city - we were fascinated to learn about various street names in our city having links with slavery and we have been very mature in learning about this aspect of history.

In Music, we have continued to explore the use of Pop Art in our rhythm and we have produced some incredible variations of musical notation!

We had so much fun playing Quidditch with staff from Enrich and we can't wait to play this a lot more in school! We are so excited for our residential at the beginning of the next term.



Year 6 have been up bright and early this term as they munch on a hearty breakfast whilst working from 'dawn till dusk.' What stars!



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](#)



CAPITAL Diversity Concert

A massive well done to the group of 33 children from Year 5 and 6 who performed at the CAPITAL concert at Mountford Hall. What amazing representatives of our school community. To say they took the roof off with their performance is an understatement.

One quote from the audience "They are better than the West End show!" Miss Jones and Miss Gotham are bursting with pride!



Sporting News

We have had an extremely busy period of sporting events in school. The year 5 and 6 football team beat Merchant Taylors 6-2 last week to progress to the next round of the cup. We have also had a year 5 team compete against Valewood fantastically well and just come up short this time.

Most excitingly however, staff and children have had their first taste of Quidditch at school. We had 2 extremely successful whole school Quidditch days delivered by Enrich education. It was a fantastic experience for everyone and I know the staff loved it as much as the children! We have bought all the equipment for school so keep your eyes peeled for Quidditch updates after the holidays. We look forward to another busy term after Easter with our netball team due to start their league and plenty more football fixtures to come. Hope everyone has a wonderful Easter Holidays!

We love reading!

A group of our Reading Ambassadors are working together to set up new outdoor reading sheds funded by our PTFA. Reading is an adventure that never ends.



What a fantastic World Book Day!

Our whole school text 'The Wild,' focussed us on living simply through the powerful message of caring for our environment. Our Pre-loved book sale enabled us to donate to the CAFOD "Teach someone to read" World Gift. This will then be used to teach many children around the world how to read. Wear something green created a real talking point as we explored the green

message in 'The Wild.'

Many of us were able to walk, scoot, cycle, run to school or park away from school to highlight living sustainably and sharing in a really green day, travelling to school in different ways. Our pupils sold small packets of seeds after school, at the book fair, for children to plant at home to make an 'Ursuline Bee Highway.' This message will live on in your gardens or flower boxes.

The following day we 'Got growing' as family volunteers dug deep to prepare for our school allotment.

Snuggle up with a book: Our fabulous PTFA once again provided hot chocolate and biscuits for everyone to enjoy as we enjoyed some great story telling.

CAFOD Live Simply Award:

Each class completed an activity as part of our participation in the Live Simply award. These activities focussed upon our care for the planet such as litter picking on the beach and tidying our school grounds.

A group of pupils visited Craignair Nursing Home as we read in solidarity with our elders. It was a truly magical day!

Family Book Buzz

We all love a good Book Gossip and our families created a real buzz as you shared in the joy of reading with us in school at our latest Book Buzz.

Further Family Book Buzz dates;

Friday 10th May 2024 9.00-9.30

Friday 12th July 2024 9.00-9.30



Year Group Masses



Thank you to parishioners from St Joseph's for sharing in our worship each Friday during Lent. There is something really beautiful in our pupils leading a congregation in prayer.



Congratulations to Gigi in Year 2 who reached the final 50 of the BBC 500 words competition. Gigi was invited to a special celebration at Buckingham Palace. We are all so proud of her achievements. You can listen to Gigi's story being read by an actor from the BBC Radio Drama Company on the link below.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/500-words/eagle-and-the-crown/zshkmbk>



Show Racism the Red Card

This term we invited the LFC foundation into school to lead assemblies. The assemblies were aimed at giving children a better understanding of what racism is and how it impacts on individuals and society.

Mental Health Champions

This term all year groups have been taking part in the mental health champion training for children. The programme is designed to empower children from a young age to become mental health champions. The programme equips children with essential skills and knowledge to take care of their own wellbeing and positively support their peers. Congratulations to 3C who have completed the programme.



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.

All pupils are invited to bring a water bottle to school. We are struggling to find space to store large and/or wide water bottles. Please encourage your child to bring a small bottle that can easily be fitted into our class bottle crates. Thank you for your support in this matter.

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.



To celebrate Easter and Christ's resurrection from the dead, we will be holding a 'He is Risen' celebration day on the first day back to school, Monday 15th April. Please see letter attached to email.

We would like to wish everyone a very happy Easter and we look forward to seeing you all on Monday 15th April.

Some dates for your diary:

15.4.24	Summer Term Begins
15.4.24-17.4.24	Year 6 Residential
15.4.24	He is Risen Celebration Day
1.5.24	Book Look for Families 3:30pm-5:30pm
10.5.24	Family Book Buzz 9am-9:30am
13.5.24-16.5.24	Year 6 SATs Week
17.5.24	Year 5 Sports Day 9am- Venue to be confirmed
17.5.24	Year 6 Sports Day 1pm- Venue to be confirmed
20.5.24	Year 3 Sports Day 9am- Venue to be confirmed
20.5.24	Year 4 Sports Day 1pm- Venue to be confirmed
21.5.24	Year 1 & 2 Sports Day 9am- School Field
22.5.24	Reception Sports Day 2pm- School Field
24.5.24	INSET Day School closed for all pupils

All school newsletters can also be found on the school website under the parent tab.