

# St John's Catholic Primary School

## Newsletter

Please remember to visit our website which is constantly being updated - [www.stjohnskirkdale.co.uk](http://www.stjohnskirkdale.co.uk)

Issue: Autumn 1 2021

The Autumn Term has been very busy and a lot of activities and events have taken place. The children have been enjoying many wonderful, positive and fun activities as well as quality learning. As always, I would like to thank all of our parents and carers for your continued co operation and support. Please remember to check back regularly for news of events in our school twitter account and website which are constantly being updated.

Miss Maudsley

## First Holy Communion



Fr Erasmus celebrated four very special masses this month for some of our Year 5 children who received the Sacrament of First Holy Communion. The children were beautifully prepared and were a credit to all of our school community. We are all so very proud of you.

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# Children's University



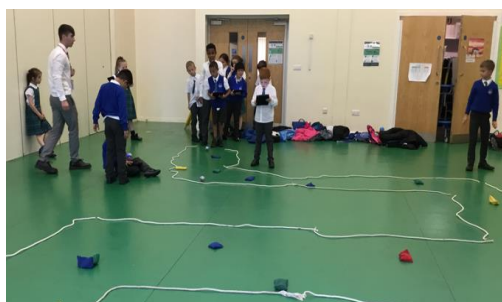
**A huge thank you to Louise from Children's University for our launch assembly. We are looking forward to building our credits and hopefully graduating in the summer term! Remember that you can buy a Children's University passport for £1 from school to collect your credits outside of school too.**

## Computing Club

Year 4 and 6 are enjoying their computing club with Mr McVeigh. They have chance to play a range of coding games and even design and create their own games!

We have also used Sphero Bolts; mini computers that are programmed to travel, change colour and spin all through our iPad.

Year 3 and 5 will be offered a place in this afterschool club next term.

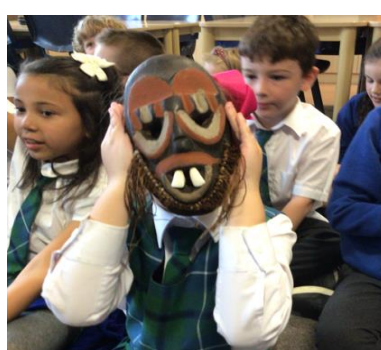




**Year 2** had an amazing time on their trip, exploring some of the waterfront landmarks of Liverpool, taking a fantastic trip on the Ferry Across the Mersey and even doing a wonderful workshop in the Museum of Liverpool. It was a jam-packed day, we learnt so much and had lots of fun!



## YEAR 3 - STONE AGE TOPIC



As part of our Stone Age topic in History, Dr John Hill visited year three, bringing with him stories, artefacts and information all about the Stone Age, Bronze Age and Iron Age. Children were able to hold bones from a woolly mammoth, hear the story of the Giant Elk and see a section of its antler and observe real Bronze Age jewellery worn by someone in 2000BC!





### Loving Collective Worship

We celebrated our topic of loving by bringing in some photographs of the people we **love unconditionally** and who **love us unconditionally**.



We each took it in turns to reflect on our topic and explain the person or people we had chosen and how they **love us unconditionally**.

We then wrote a prayer for those people and placed it around our collective worship table.

## Autumn

Year 1 are observing the effects of Autumn on our class tree. We noticed the leaves had changed colour and were falling off the trees.



## National Poetry Week



We celebrated national poetry week by having some special poets visit our school and complete workshops with all year groups. We recited and learnt a whole school poem and performed it in the assembly hall.





# The Storybarn



Our year three children enjoyed a visit to The Story Barn in Calderstones Park. Here they discovered more about their local history and were enthralled by story tellers and their tales!

## Making Blood



Year 6 made their own blood by adding yellow food colouring to water to represent the plasma.

Then, they added salt to represent the minerals in the plasma. Next, we added Cheerios to the mixture (red blood cells), which were mixed in a food bag with red food colouring. Lastly, we added white marshmallows to represent the white blood cells and purple pompoms to represent the platelets.



Some of our lucky children have been selected to attend a LFC Free Breakfast Club at Anfield during the half term. Red Neighbours, who organised this event, will take the children and the guardian on a stadium tour with a delicious breakfast to follow.



# *Western Approaches*

Year 6 had the opportunity to travel through hidden rooms and discover the stories locked in the WW2 bunker here in our very own city.

Amazingly, we had a glimpse of the documents and tools the Forces used to monitor enemy convoys and inform the British government of their findings, whilst keeping their intelligence secret from the enemy.

The Operations Room has remained exactly as it was left when the doors were closed on 15 August 1945 and therefore we had a real sense of what it would have been like to work there during WWII.



## **The Piermaster's House**

The children also visited the Piermaster's House.

The Piermaster was responsible for ensuring the safe passage of ships entering and leaving the dock at high tide.

# Harvest Festival

**Once again, a huge thank you to our school community who have donated with such generosity to our Harvest Festival. The children in year 5 have been practising extremely hard and will present a role play in Church on Friday the 22<sup>nd</sup> of October. This performance will be watched by all of our Y 2-6 children and will help to give them better understanding of the Harvest Festival and it's meaning.**





In Nursery we have been learning about ourselves, the children have talked about what they look like and made some wonderful self-portraits. We have talked about who is in our families and our favourite things. The children enjoyed bathing and looking after the dolls in the day care role play area.

The children had fun learning about the seasonal changes in Autumn, we collected lots of conkers and crunchy leaves. They were very excited to scoop the insides out of the class pumpkin!



# The Digestive System



In Science, Year 4 children have constructed their own digestive systems to help them to understand the different parts of their bodies and their functions.

# Upcoming Events

Our Early Years Parenting Courses begin after the half term on Monday's and Wednesday's. Parents are invited to attend Nurture Classes at Fountains Children's Centre on Wednesday's at 9-11am. There will also be a Read and Rhyme for our Early Years Children in St John's School each Monday afternoon at 2.30pm.

9 <sup>th</sup> November 21	9.30am	Year 5 Mass	Church
10 <sup>th</sup> November 21	All day	Year 4 Dewa Trip	Chester
11 <sup>th</sup> November 21	2pm	Year 2 Remembrance Assembly	School Hall
15 <sup>th</sup> – 21 <sup>st</sup> November 21	All Week	Road Safety Week	School
23 <sup>rd</sup> November 21	9.30am	Year 2 Mass	Church
25 <sup>th</sup> November 21	9.30am	Year 4 Advent Assembly	School Hall
2 <sup>nd</sup> December 21	AM & PM	Nursery Sing Along	School Hall
8 <sup>th</sup> December 21	9.30am	Year 1 Mass	Church
9 <sup>th</sup> December 21		Reception Nativity	School Hall
10 <sup>th</sup> December 21	All Day	Santa Dash	School
15 <sup>th</sup> December 21	AM&PM	KS1 Christmas Nativity	School Hall
17 <sup>th</sup> December 21	11am	Christmas Carol/ Nativity Tableau	School Hall
17 <sup>th</sup> December 21	11.30- 1.15pm	Christmas Dinner	School Canteen

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**School finishes for half term on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of October 2021. Children return to school on the 1<sup>st</sup> of November 2021 at 8.55am.**