



***HEADTEACHER AWARDS – February 2022***

<b>Cedar</b>	<p><b><u>DAISY</u></b> - For always offering your help to Mrs Duhig, and being a kind and caring friend to everyone in Cedar Class.</p> <p><b><u>POPPY</u></b> - For being a super learning partner, always listening patiently before offering your own thoughts.</p>
<b>Cherry</b>	<p><b><u>TEIRAN</u></b> - For the kindness and care he displays and shows to all members of our school. A wonderful role model to his peers.</p> <p><b><u>OLIVIA</u></b>-For always being a wonderful role model to her peers, consistently Following our School Mission Statement and demonstrating her kind and caring personality in Cherry class</p>
<b>Elm</b>	<p><b><u>JACK</u></b>- For showing care and concern for his fellow classmates and excellent contributions to class discussions.</p> <p><b><u>ELENI</u></b> - For persevering in all areas of school life. She is a kind and caring member of Elm Class!</p>
<b>Fir</b>	<p><b><u>EMMA</u></b>- For exhibiting our school values every day.</p> <p><b><u>JAKE</u></b>- For being a great role model, one that is kind and helpful to all.</p>
<b>Hazel</b>	<p><b><u>JACOB</u></b>- For living out the school mission statement through his caring and supportive nature and for being a helpful learning partner.</p> <p><b><u>CHARLOTTE</u></b> - For always being a hard working member of the class who demonstrates outstanding efforts and determination every day.</p>
<b>Maple</b>	<p><b><u>GABRIEL</u></b>- For applying himself fully to his learning activities across the curriculum and for his exceptional efforts and keen attitude towards extending his learning beyond the classroom</p> <p><b><u>CHELSEA</u></b>- For consistently guiding others towards making the right choices whilst demonstrating a caring and responsible attitude towards helping all members of our school community.</p>
<b>Oak</b>	<p><b><u>HOLLY</u></b>- For her lovely way of encouraging others and always living out the mission statement. She notices things that others miss and responds from the heart.</p> <p><b><u>PATRICK</u></b>- For living out the mission statement through his thoughtfulness and generosity towards adults and other children.</p>
<b>Pine</b>	<p><b><u>GREGORY</u></b>- For his gentle nature, for trying his best and for always having a smile on his face.</p> <p><b><u>OLIVIA</u></b>- For showing empathy and kindness towards her friends.</p>
<b>Poplar</b>	<p><b><u>JESSICA</u></b>- For the respect, care and love she shows all others within the St Joseph's community.</p> <p><b><u>WILLIAM</u></b>- For the fantastic effort and progress he has made across the curriculum in recent months.</p>
<b>Sycamore</b>	<p><b><u>BENJAMIN</u></b> - For always working hard and being kind.</p> <p><b><u>RILEY</u></b>- For working hard and always doing the right thing.</p>

**Willow**

**JADA** - You make the most of all opportunities available to you at school. Well done for applying yourself fully in lessons and for being a key part of our football and netball clubs.

**GRACE JACKSON**- Your effort and attitude in all lessons is exemplary. Thank you for sharing your artistic talents with the class and wowing us all with your sketches of facial expressions.

**Chaplaincy Team**

It has been another busy half term for the Chaplaincy Team. We have continued to share our Monday Missions with the rest of the school to help the children think about the focus from the weekly Gospel.

We also had the honour of leading the first ever Liturgy for all of the Chaplaincy Teams in the St Francis of Assisi Catholic Academy Trust. We chose the theme of 'Creation' as this was very important to our patron saint - Saint Francis. We shared a video which shows different parts of Creation, and then we asked the children to think about how they can look after the world that God has given to us to look after. If you would like to watch this video, please click on this link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b-kVMcvMWcg>

We hope that you all have a lovely and safe half term.

God Bless,

From the Chaplaincy Team

**Safeguarding**

At our school we work hard to ensure all our children are safe. On many occasions, this has involved working in partnership with the Local Authority and outside agencies. We are acutely aware of the additional pressures that families are under and the potential risks and challenges they face. Please keep the school informed if circumstances at home have changed so that we can look out for any changes in your child's behaviour or personality in school.

Sometimes we may need to share information and work in partnership with other agencies when there are concerns about a child's welfare. We will ensure that our concerns about our pupils are discussed with his/her parents/carers first, unless we have reason to believe that such a move would be contrary to the child's welfare.

Our Designated Senior Lead for Child protection (DSL) is Mr Peter Coldwell (Headteacher). Our Deputy DSLs are Miss Ann Cassidy-Jones (Deputy Headteacher), Mrs Saunders (EYFS Leader), Miss Kenny (KS1 Leader) and Mr Dove (KS2 Leader).

If you have a safeguarding concern, please speak with your class teacher or to Mr Coldwell or Miss Cassidy-Jones directly.

You can also share your concerns with Hertfordshire Children's Services on 0300 1234043.

If you feel that a child is in immediate danger, call the police on 999. You can report concerns to the police on their non-emergency number, 101.

The NSPCC Helpline is always available on 0808 800 5000, if you have concerns for your own, or another child's safety.

**E-safety Parent Information from Herts for Learning**

Please find attached the Spring Term e-safety parent newsletter from Herts for Learning.

**Nursery Admissions for September 2022**

The application process for applying for a nursery place for September 2022 will open today, Friday, 11th February. This relates to children who reach their 3rd birthday between 1st September 2021 and 31st August 2022.

For Nursery, you only apply to the school using our application form. You do not apply to Hertfordshire County Council as well.

More information is available on our website.

## Covid-19

Throughout this half term, the school has had to implement our outbreak management plan in response to the levels of Covid amongst pupils and staff. Fortunately, the omicron variant has had less impact on the individual but following advice with Public Health, we will continue with our outbreak plan after half term.

As a result, we will still request that adults entering the site wear a facemask unless they are exempt. We will let you know when we can lift our outbreak management plan and parents will be given the choice to wear a facemask on the school site.

## Message from HCC regarding Covid

Ahead of February half-term, we'd like to say thank you once again for continuing to play your part and for helping to keep yourselves and others safe from COVID-19.

If you're travelling abroad this half-term be sure to check and follow COVID-19 guidance for your country of travel and on re-entering the UK, you can find the latest travel guidance at:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/travel-abroad-from-england-during-coronavirus-covid-19>

**Get vaccinated** - vaccination continues to offer the best protection for ourselves and others around us from becoming seriously ill from COVID-19.

There are lots of walk-in options available locally for first, second doses and boosters, you can find your nearest vaccination centre and also book an appointment at:

<https://covid.healthierfuture.org.uk/>

Young people aged 12-18 yet to receive their COVID-19 vaccination(s) do not need to wait for a visit to their school or setting. You can find out more, including walk-in options for clinics for young people, and book at:

<https://covid.healthierfuture.org.uk/vaccine-information-for-young-people>

- **Half term COVID-19 'Relax and Vax' sessions for nervous teenagers**  
Five of the larger vaccination centres across Hertfordshire and west Essex are running 'Relax and Vax' sessions during half-term week aimed supporting 12 to 18-year-olds who are nervous about having their COVID-19 vaccine.

Specially trained staff will be on hand to help overcome worries like a fear of needles and answer any other concerns using simple and clinically effective relaxation techniques to help reduce tension and support them through the process. Children aged 12-15 need to be accompanied by a consenting parent or carer and just mention they are nervous on arrival so that the staff can make adjustments and they are given plenty of time and support.

You can find a list of participating venues and times at:

<https://covid.healthierfuture.org.uk/>

People under 18 who have recently had COVID-19 must wait 12 weeks before having their vaccination.

- **Test regularly** – 1 in 3 people with COVID-19 don't display symptoms. Regular rapid testing at home can help to prevent transmission. Find out all the ways to get home test kits (LFD tests) at: [www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/rapidtest](http://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/rapidtest)
- **Stay at home** – if you have symptoms stay at home and book or order a PCR test online at: [www.nhs.uk/get-tested](http://www.nhs.uk/get-tested)

If you test positive you must self-isolate for the required period and not have people visit you at home. There is support available to help people who need it to self-isolate, call HertsHelp on 0300 123 4044, email [info@hertshelp.net](mailto:info@hertshelp.net) or visit [www.hertshelp.net](http://www.hertshelp.net)

Please do not send children and young people back to school following half-term if they have any symptoms or feel unwell. There continues to be a high number of outbreaks across Hertfordshire's childcare, nurseries, schools, special schools and colleges – they need your support to help protect our communities and have the least disruption to children's learning and development as possible.

We hope you enjoy a healthy and safe half-term.  
Hertfordshire County Council

### **Tag Rugby**

Two of our Year 3 and 4 classes have been upskilling their tag rugby skills this half –term led by Austin Pope who plays for Bishop's Stortford Rugby Club. The sessions have been very well received and will continue next half term for the other two classes in Years 3 and 4.

### **Football Match Report**

#### **Gold League**

Our recent match against Howe Green saw us travelling to an away ground for the first time. After recent successes, we stuck with our tried and tested formation of 2-3-1. Harry enjoyed a dream debut with a goal and an assist. Ian bagged two goals, including a magnificent header, and Bartosz kept a clean sheet in his first match as goalkeeper. The final score was 3-0. Everyone showed excellent sportsmanship and represented the school brilliantly.

By William K and Bartosz P

#### **Silver League**

Did you happen to hear lots of shouts and cheers at about 4:30pm on Monday? If you did, chances are it was St. Joseph's Silver Team celebrating as each of our goals went in. Howe Green were worthy opponents but our effort and enthusiasm was rewarded as we emerged as 5-0 winners. Our impenetrable defence forced their attackers back while our midfielders swept the ball forward to our sensational strikers. We cannot wait to smash our next game!

By Olivia B-T and Chloe C

### **Parking**

We have received complaints from local residents about inconsiderate parking, including cars parked over private driveways, on street corners with double yellow lines and other illegal practices. Unfortunately, inconsiderate and illegal parking puts people at risk of injury. Please could you make sure when dropping off and picking up from school you park responsibly and considerately. Failure to do this could unfortunately result in police involvement by residents.

### **School Uniform**

Please note that our school uniform states that outdoor shoes should be black or navy and not trainers. During half term if you need to buy new school shoes, please ensure that they comply with our uniform requirements which can be found on the website:

<https://tinyurl.com/2pmsske8>

Some parents have asked whether pupils can come into school wearing their PE kit during their PE days. The Governors will consult on this matter during the upcoming term with pupils, staff and parents.

### **Dino Workshop**

The children in Nursery and Reception were very excited to find out more about dinosaurs when they took part in a workshop with the Travelling Natural History Museum.

Dinoman taught us all about herbivores and carnivores before introducing us to a baby dinosaur. The children pretended to be a long necked dinosaur, stomped like a dinosaur and did a fossil dig before a demonstration on how a meteorite hit the Earth and the dinosaurs were wiped out.

Did you know there was a dinosaur that was as long as the school hall!



### **House Points**

Congratulations to all the pupils who received house points during this half term. The half term totals are:

**St Anthony- 1125**

**St Bernadette- 1069**

**St Pope John Paul II- 1117**

**St Oscar Romero- 1350**

**St Margaret Clitherow- 1046**

### **Term Dates for the Academic Year 2022/2023**

Thank you to parents enquiring about our term dates for next year. These will be published at the end of the first week back after the half term.

### **Parent Consultations**

The Spring term consultations will be held on Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> March 16.00-19.00 and Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> March 16.00-19.00. At this moment they will be held remotely. Your child's report card will be issued prior to the meeting. We will inform you when the booking system opens closer to the date.

### **Dates:**

2<sup>nd</sup> March – Ash Wednesday

3<sup>rd</sup> March – World Book Day

10<sup>th</sup> March – Book Fair

18<sup>th</sup> March – Report Cards

31<sup>st</sup> March – End of Term – School closes at 1.30pm

20<sup>th</sup> April – Pupils return

### **Prayer**

Teach me to listen, O God, to myself.

Help me to be less afraid to trust the voice inside –  
in the deepest part of me.

Teach me to listen, Holy Spirit, for your voice –  
in busyness and in boredom,  
in certainty and doubt,  
in noise and in silence.

Teach me, Lord, to listen.

Teach me to listen, O God, to those nearest me,  
my family, my friends, my co-workers.

Help me to be aware that no matter what words I hear,  
the message is:

“Accept the person I am. Listen to me”.

Teach me to listen, my caring God, to those far from me –  
the whisper of the hopeless,  
the plea of the forgotten,  
the cry of the anguished.

Amen.

(Fr John Veltri SJ)