



HEADTEACHER AWARDS – March 2023

Cedar	<p>Alex - For the kindness that you show whenever you notice someone is sad. You are a super role model to your friends in Cedar Class.</p> <p>Saoirse - For your thoughtfulness and mature approach to the needs of others. You really are a kind, caring Christian.</p>
Cherry	<p>Sebastian - For working hard in all his subjects and for being kind and helpful to others.</p> <p>Julia - For working hard in all her subjects and for following our School Mission Statement by being a caring and thoughtful friend.</p>
Elm	<p>Jan - For a fantastic improvement in his attitude towards his learning and trying exceptionally hard to apply his phonics skills in all areas of the curriculum.</p> <p>Ruramai - For being a wonderful role model to her peers, listening carefully in class and always living out our school mission statement.</p>
Fir	<p>Olive - Olive has truly flourish this half term. Her confidence has developed in class and she regularly shares her thoughts and ideas in a way that draws others in and engages them. She is a very kind and caring learning partner.</p> <p>Eoghan - Eoghan consistently tries his hardest in all that he does. He is extremely resilient and does not turn down a challenge, especially in Maths. Keep up the hard work!</p>
Hazel	<p>George - for being a patient, mature and cheerful member of Hazel class.</p> <p>Fabian - for always being a hard-working, enthusiastic member of the class and a patient learning partner.</p>
Maple	<p>Alan - For applying himself fully to all learning activities and challenges and for being a courteous, caring member of Maple class when communicating with all members of our school community.</p> <p>Sophia - For her willingness to always put others before herself and for her unwavering enthusiasm towards always wanting to achieve her utmost best.</p>
Oak	<p>India - for always persevering even when tasks are difficult. With her growth mindset, she overcomes barriers and is an excellent example to other members of the class. She is always kind, considerate and helpful to all members of our school community.</p> <p>Nicholas- for always doing his best in all areas of the curriculum. He is a kind and respectful member of the class and can always be relied upon to make the right choices. He is an excellent role model to our school community and lives out our mission statement every day, to live, love and learn in a caring community.</p>
Pine	<p>Maya - for her enthusiasm and love for learning in all subjects and for being a kind and considerate friend to all.</p> <p>Marcus - for living out the mission statement in all that he does and in particular for being an excellent role model in good sportsmanship in PE lessons</p>

Poplar	<p>Angela - For settling in so well to our school this year and for becoming a lovely friend to other in the class. Also, for being a good learning partner and for always looking for ways to improve her written work.</p> <p>Philip - For being a kind, generous and friendly member of the class who always shows concern for others and lets them join in his games on the playground.</p>
Rowan	<p>Marcus - For being an excellent friend and role model to all in our school community. You set a great example with your effort in class and the way you treat others.</p> <p>Julia - For being polite and caring to everyone you come across, treating them with kindness, love and respect.</p>
Sycamore	<p>Anthony - for exhibiting the Gospel values of compassion, kindness, peace and courage at all times. You have settled into life at St Joseph's so well and we all love having you as part of Sycamore class!</p> <p>Lauren - for working so hard in the lead up to SATs. Because of your consistent application, it is no surprise that you are making accelerated progress in all areas of the curriculum.</p>
Willow	<p>Patrick - for making considerably progress this term. His attitude to learning is excellent and he is always striving to achieve as highly as he can. It has been fantastic to see him grow, both academically and in confidence, over the term.</p> <p>Jessica - for such a wonderful attitude to learning and wanting to ensure that every piece of work is of the highest possible quality. She takes every opportunity given to improve her work and we are so proud of the progress she is making.</p>

Parent Feedback Questionnaire

At St Joseph's we value a home school partnership that continues to develop the full potential of every child. As part of this partnership, we would like to hear your views of the school. We will then endeavour to use the information collected to make further improvements to the school in the next three-year cycle of our School Development Plan.

A large proportion of you completed the OFSTED parent survey, which we were thankful for, so we have not included those questions again. As we move forward, feedback from parents in the past may not be representative of our current parents- times and children certainly have changed! There has been feedback from individual parents about a range of things that we do so it would be good to go out to the current family of St Josephs to see if these views are indicative of the majority.

We kindly ask if you could please read the attached information where you will find the link for the online questionnaire.

World Book Day

There was a buzz around school this month as we celebrated World Book Day. All of the classes spent the day celebrating and sharing the love of reading we have at St. Joseph's. Amid a range of reading-based activities, pupils worked in class teams to transform their classroom door into the cover of a book they have enjoyed recently – even the office staff got involved! There were gasps and wide-eyed amazement as pupils walked the corridors seeing what the other classes had put together.

Congratulations to Fir Class who won the competition on the day. Well done to everyone for taking part with such enthusiasm and for helping make it such an enjoyable and memorable day!

Mr Dove, English Subject Leader.

Singing Club

On Tuesday 28th March, the Singing Club held a wonderful concert in the school hall. The 30 singers performed a variety of their favourite songs along with songs from the show 'Chitty Chitty Bang Bang!' The concert was very well attended and it included

some audience participation too. Well done to the Singing Club for their dedication and wonderful performance. We look forward to your next concert!

Parent café

St Joseph's held its first Parent café for the parents of our pupils with SEND. It was a great turnout with 10 parents in attendance. Parents listened to a short talk from myself about SEND and how this looks in the school, whilst enjoying some delicious refreshments! Parents also had the opportunity to network with each other and share experiences. I would like to thank all of you for attending a fantastic morning; it was brilliant to see you all there. Thanks also to Suzie Carpenter, our SEND Governor, for running the session with me plus the amazing brownies she made. A special mention also to Miss King who baked some wonderful cakes.

We will be running the next café for the parents of our pupils with SEND on Friday 19th May, 2023 at 2.15pm
Mrs Rogers (SEND CO)

Football

Congratulations to the gold and silver teams who reached the final and semi-final, respectively, of the Kitteridge All Sports Football League. Both teams played fantastically well all season and improved on their league standings from last year. On course to the final, the gold team won eight and drew one of their nine league matches while the silver team won five, drew one and lost one of their seven league matches.

The gold team lost a very tight game in the final to Manor Fields while the silver team showed great resilience against Northgate to fight back and loose narrowly.

Year 5 let's go one better next year!



K'nex Challenge.

In Year Six, we were lucky enough to compete in the STEMPOINT '2023 Go Construct – K'nex Challenge.'

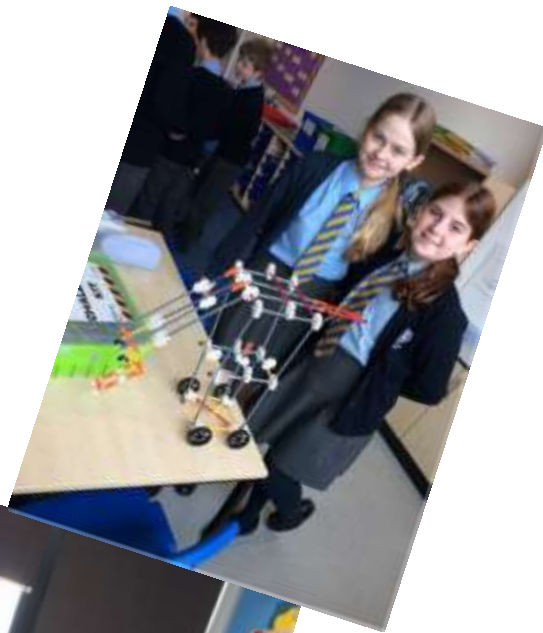
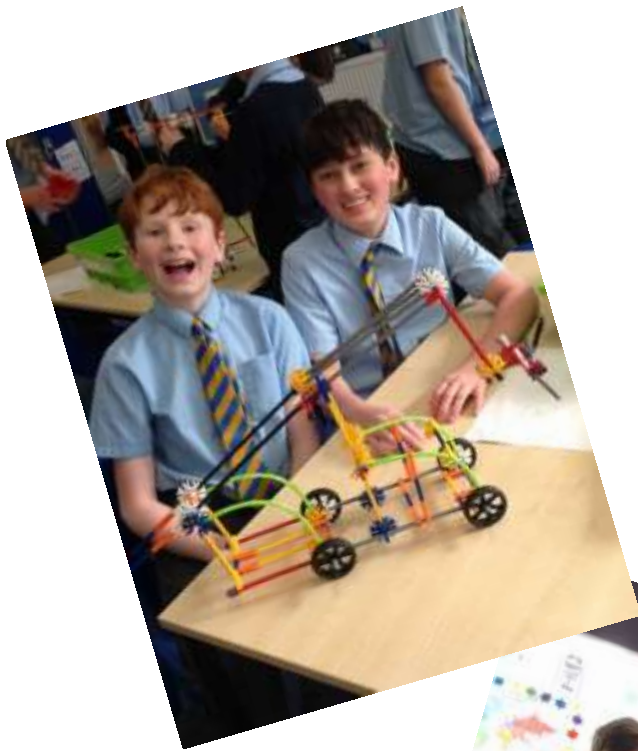
The challenge required the children to work in pairs and was designed to test their teamwork, communication and problem-solving skills as well as develop their imagination, creativity and ingenuity.

Each pair was given a pack of 'K'nex' and asked to create a crane that could be used to remove rubbish on a large scale. The children had to design their crane on paper, then were given exactly one hour to

complete the challenge and then present their design to the class.

We were thoroughly impressed with the designs and it was wonderful to see the children's creativity in motion.

A big thank you to Maria Del Amo for leading the challenge for us and watch this space to see the engineers of the future!



House Points

1 st Place - Blue: 7085	St Anthony
2 nd Place - Yellow: 4086	St Pope John Paul II
3 rd Place - Red: 3814	St Oscar Romero
4 th Place - White: 3812	St Bernadette
5 th Place - Green: 3322	St Margaret Clitherow

Sponsored Fun Run

We picked a perfect day for the fun run...the children thoroughly enjoyed themselves! Many thanks to all those who have paid the sponsorship money. Donations can be made on the school gateway until Friday, 21st April.

Forensic Workshop:

To celebrate British Science Week KS1 and KS2 took part in a forensic workshop on the 14th and 15th of March.

Children had the opportunity to become forensic detectives for the day!

This workshop brought science to life and allowed children to practice scientific skills such as observing, exploring and asking questions.

They all had such a fantastic time identifying, interpreting and analysing evidence to find out who committed the crime!

Our great thanks to the School Association for kindly funding the workshops for the pupils.

Herts Catering Limited (HCL) price increase from 1st April 2023

I am writing to inform you that from 1st April 2023 the cost of a junior meal (Year 3-6) will increase to £3.25. Those children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 are entitled to universal free school meals and therefore there will be no changes for these year groups.

Unfortunately, HCL have cited several factors for this increase, which have affected us all over the past couple of years, and as a company, they are no longer able to absorb the costs. The Trust is currently looking at alternate food providers for our school meals but unfortunately, it is not looking likely that the costs will be reduced in the future.

Holy Week 2023 in our Parish

This Holy Week, we will have the following liturgies and services in our three churches:

- **Palm Sunday:** the Commemoration of our Lord's Entrance into Jerusalem at the usual Sunday Mass times in all three churches.
- **Maundy Thursday:** there will be Mass of the Lord's Supper at 7:30 pm in St Joseph and the English Martyrs Church, celebrated by Bishop Paul McAleenan.
- **Good Friday:** the Solemn Celebration of the Passion will be held at Most Holy Redeemer Church as well as St Joseph and the English Matyrs Church, both at 3:00 pm.
- **Easter Vigil:** will be celebrated at Most Holy Redeemer and St Joseph and the English Martyrs Churches at 8:00 pm.
- **Confessions:** There will be confessions every day of the Holy Week at St Joseph and the English Matrys Church at varying times.
- **Procession of Witness:** at Much Hadham (Good Friday at 12:00 nn) and Bishop's Stortford (Good Friday, 10:00 am)
- **Stations of the Cross:** at Holy Cross Church (Monday and Wednesday at 7:00 pm) and St Joseph and the English Martyrs (Good Friday, 12:00 noon).

<https://rcstortford.org.uk/2023/03/26/holy-week-2023-schedule/>

Prayer:

Lord God,

You sent your Son into the world,

And before his hour had come,

He washed his disciples' feet.

You had given all things into his hands.

He had come from you, and was going to you,

And what did he do?

He knelt down on the floor,

And washed his friends' feet.

He was their teacher and their Lord,

Yet he washed their feet.

Lord God, help us learn from his example;

Help us to do as he has done for us.

The world will know we are his disciples

If we love one another.

Strengthen our hands and our wills for love

And for service.

Keep before our eyes the image of your Son,

Who, being God, became a Servant for our sake.

All glory be to him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
One God, now and forever.

Amen.

I wish you a peaceful and reflective Holy Week and break

Mr Coldwell

