

St Monica's Catholic Primary School Newsletter

Lent Term
March 2023

News from the school

Hello and welcome to our newsletter for Lent Term 2.

I hope you will enjoy reading about what the children have been up to this term.

One area I would ask for your support on is publicising our Nursery Open Day and applying very soon if you want your child to start in our Nursery either in September this year or January next year.

Children can start in Nursery in the term after their third birthday. We have fewer applicants than usual for this time of year and know there are a number of children out there due to start for whom we have not had applications yet.

The Nursery Open Day is on Wednesday, 3rd May, at 9.15am. I would be particularly grateful if you can promote it at your Churches which worked well last year. We have sent out an e-copy of the flyer to all via Parentmail and we will be handing out hard copies this week and after the holidays.

The St Augustine's Parish Easter Monday picnic is due to take place at our school on the field on Monday, 10th April. I will pass on more details once received from the Parish office.

We are also looking for staff at the moment, including for Rainbow Club morning shifts, mid-day supervision and teaching roles. Please phone 01908 606966 or email stmonicas@st-monicas.co.uk for more details.

Kind regards,

Mr O'Malley
Headteacher



Religious Education News

We were happy to welcome Fr. Emmanuel to school on Ash Wednesday. All children attended a service and ashes were shared.

Thank you to Fr. Emmanuel for making this special visit to us on this Holy day.



The children across the school have been thinking about their Lenten promises. They thought about the changes they would like to make during this Lent and write about them. The children's promises have been shared around the school.



This term the children in Years 5 and 6 have enjoyed sharing their Stay and Pray sessions with their families. We would like to thank our families for their continued support of these events.



On St. Patrick's Day the children in Year 6 shared an assembly with the school. Mr O'Malley shared his wonderful talent and played the accordion. The children were very excited by this and even had an opportunity to dance! Mr O'Malley played Irish tunes on the accordion and Erin (Year 4) showed us her amazing Irish dancing skills!





All of the children in school have worked hard to create class stations of the cross. The children have enjoyed looking at them and sharing in collective worship together. We are sure that our families have also enjoyed looking at them and are very impressed by the talents of our children!



The children in Year 4 have worked incredibly hard on their Easter play this half term. They shared their talents with the rest of the children in school and their families. Their singing and acting was beautiful and told the story of Easter in a lovely way.

Well done Year 4!

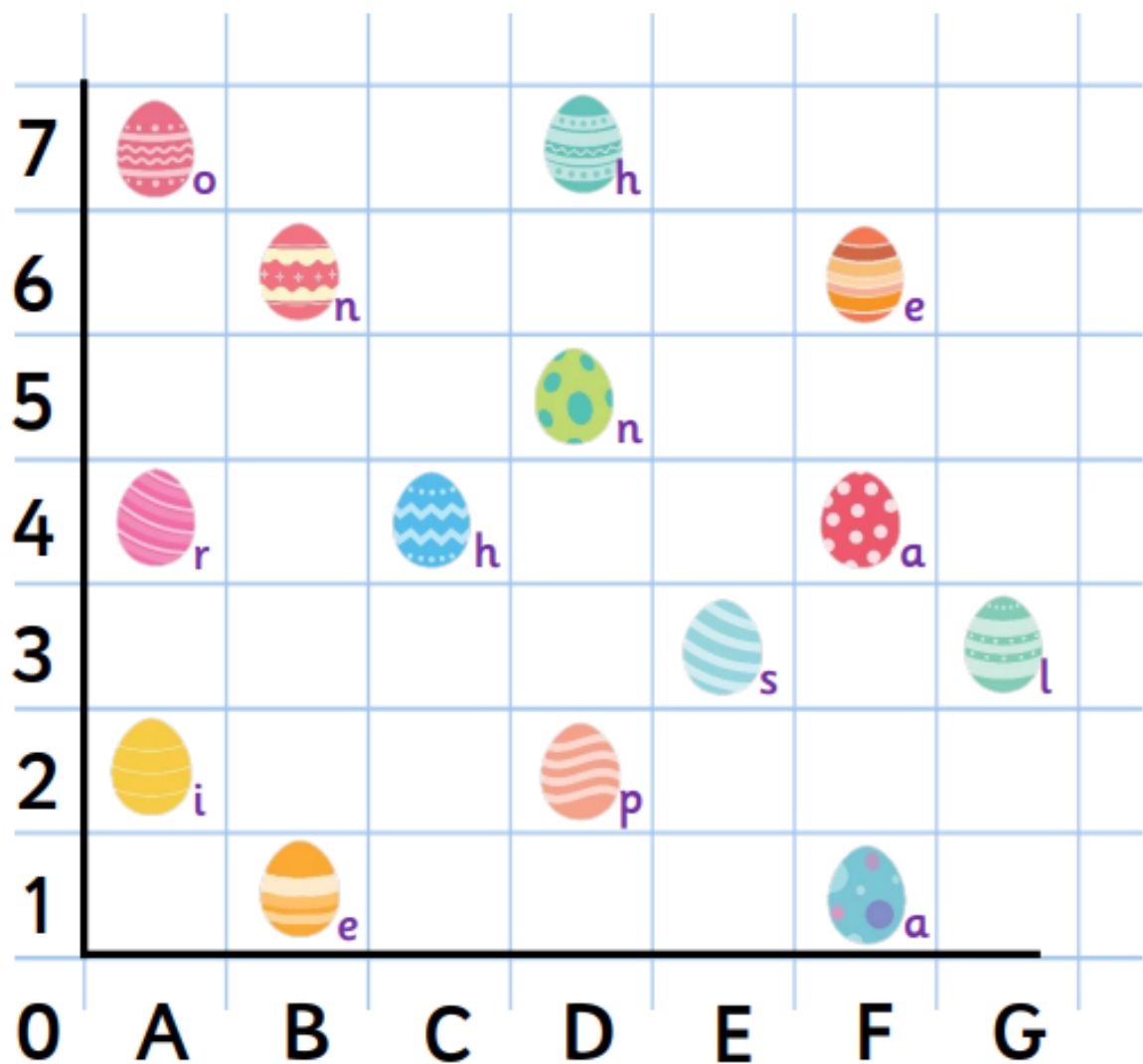
The children in the Chaplaincy team worked hard this half term to create a fun Easter Egg Bible Story Hunt for the children to enjoy in the last week of term. They came up with the idea themselves and worked hard to make it fun for everyone to enjoy.



See if you can crack this newsletter's maths challenge. The answer is at the end of the newsletter.

Coordinates Easter Egg Hunt

Find all the eggs and use the letters to solve the riddle.



How does the Easter Bunny travel?

(A,7)

(B,6)

(D,7)

(A,2)

(E,3)

(C,4)

(F,4)

(A,4)

(B,1)

(D,2)

(G,3)

(F,1)

(D,5)

(F,6)

!

Reading

This half term has been a busy one for reading at St. Monica's. It started with World Book Day on the 2nd March. This was a great day for the children where they got to snuggle with a book and enjoy creating some art based on different books. The real highlight of the day was having our visiting authors Knife and Packer into school. They did workshops with all the children showing them how to create and draw their own characters. The children really enjoyed it - Michaela and Ruru from St Peter's class said "They really helped unlock our imaginations and were funny at the same time!"

In Book week, we also had our Termly Reading Breakfast. Thank you to all our families who came and supported this event.

In Accelerated Reader, this half term the children have worked hard in their tests with lots of them meeting their target. St. Augustine (5KB) have dominated the AR Trophy so far this half term with a fantastic 88.9% of their questions correct. Well done to this class!

Thank you for supporting your children at home in Phonics and Reading. If you have any questions about how you can further support your child, please speak to your class teacher.



News from Nursery

This half term the learning in Nursery has been focussed around Our Wonderful World. We have based our learning around Pirates, Dinosaurs, Space, People Who help Us and Easter. As part of our learning, we have ordered a Robot to bring us treats and used the Beebots to find treasure. We experimented to create an erupting volcano and painted our own planets and used yellow and green to create pictures of daffodils.



News from Reception

This half term the children got into great spirits when becoming a pirate. On the first day back after the holidays the children learned how to walk the plank and follow a map that had been left with a message in a bottle! The children enjoyed the map reading activity which led them to finding treasure in our sand pit. As part of their Expressive Art and Design work the children also used clay and modelling tools to create their own special treasure. It was a fabulous start to the half term.



News from Year 1/2

Year 1 and Year 2 have been learning all about the Great Fire of London. As part of their homework, the children were asked to create a poster to invite people to help rebuild the houses, some children even had a go at remodelling some fantastic new homes. To finish off their learning on the Great Fire of London the children had a visit from a trunk show who retold the story of the Great Fire of London on Tuesday 28th March 2023. All the children have thoroughly enjoyed learning about this topic.



News from Year 3

As part of the whole School project to create the Stations of the Cross, the year 3 children enjoyed being creative in creating a piece of art to depict two of the stations.

Following this, during our collective worship in RE, we completed the sequence of the stations of the Cross and learnt about the events of Good Friday.



The children continue to enjoy their singing lessons and look forward to showing their talents at the sing-a-thon for our Lenten appeal during the last week of term.

During World Book Day, the children enjoyed snuggling with a book. They then took part in a workshop from author and illustrator 'Knife and Packer' where they became the illustrators for some new characters of a book.



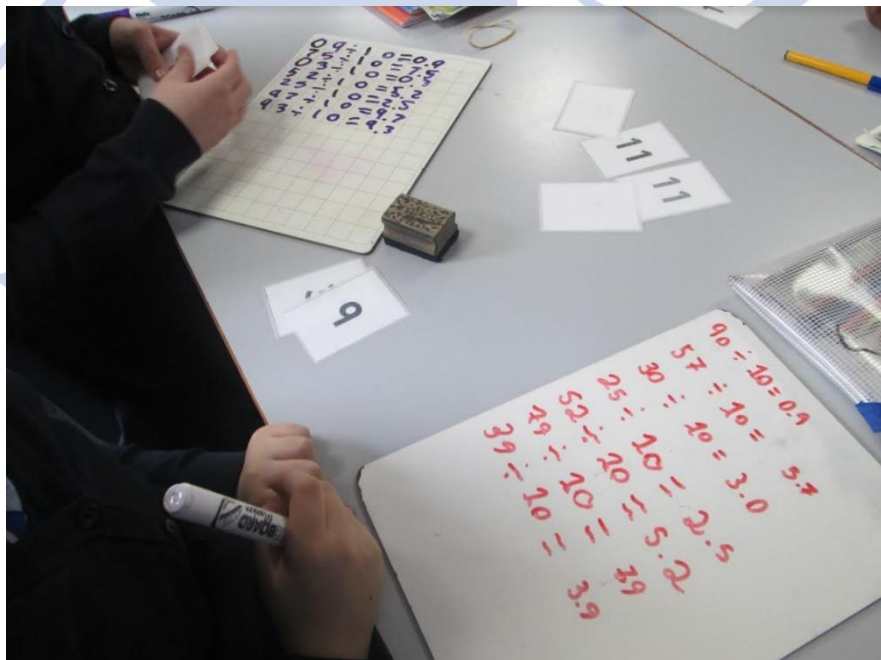
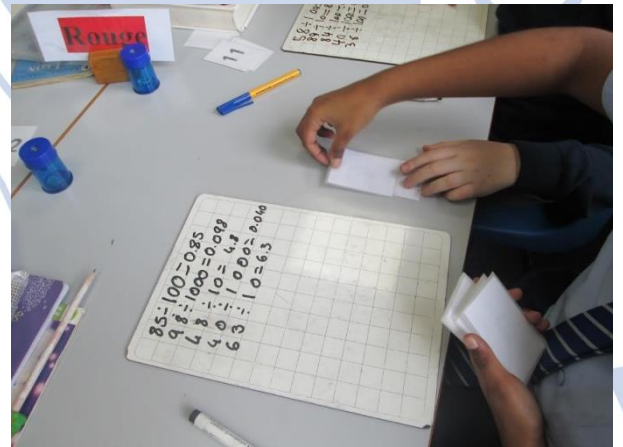
In art, the children created their own piece of artwork using pastels inspired by their favourite story.



In Geography, the children have been learning all about the world's oceans, rivers and canals. They have enjoyed learning songs to remember the oceans and seas and have developed their map skills using atlases.

News from Year 4

After four arduous weeks on fractions, Y4 have been learning decimals in maths. The hard work seems to have paid off judging by the amazing work produced on white boards.

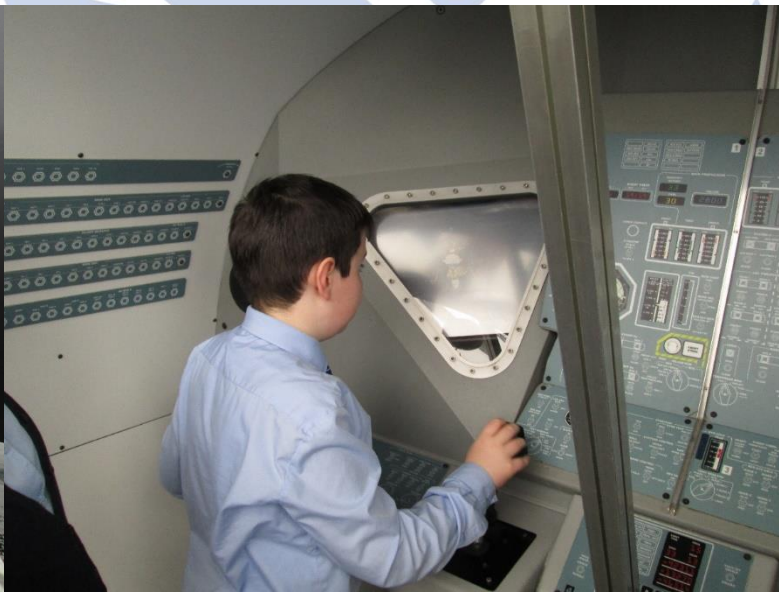


The Year 4 Easter production this term was 'Amazing Love'. It was a resounding success. The children sang and acted their hearts out.



To round off our topic on Space, Year 5 took a trip to the Space Centre in Leicester on Friday 3rd March. During the day we got to explore the whole exhibit. This included: a chance to watch a fascinating show in the planetarium which explained the space race between the USA and Russia, exhibits that included a focus on the Earth, different planets, how to be ready for space and how space missions have influenced technology around us as well as a chance to explore the shop and buy some exciting space items. Year 5 had an exciting day and their behaviour was excellent which impressed not only the teachers who took them but the adults working at the space centre. Great job!

Here are some photos of the day:



News from Year 6

Children have had great fun in our science topic of electricity. We have been using the equipment to make circuits and had a challenge to create a working alarm system. Well done to all groups who completed the challenge!



Year 6 had great fun listening to visiting author/ illustrators Knife and Packer. We carried out a range of book related activities including writing our own 6 word stories.

Can you guess which well-known characters these 6 word stories are about?

Hates Marcus, his BFF is Derek.

(Answer= Tom Gate)

By Michelle 6FC

Treated like a slave marries prince.

(Answer= Cinderella)

By Ysane 6FC



At the start of March, Year 6 were given the opportunity to apply and have training to become playground leaders. Well done to the following children for completing the training. You will see the Year 6 play leaders on the KS1 playground at lunch time leading activities for the children to enjoy.

We had science teachers from St Paul's come in and show us some exciting science demonstrations.

We had a demonstration of a Van de Graff generator to show us the effect of electric charges- static energy - which we could hear and see when people put their hands on the generator. We also got to see and touch a heart, lungs and liver. This has helped us to revise our learning about the circulatory system.



Year 6 Mock SATS

Well done to all of year 6 for their hard work this week! We are very proud of all of you and the effort you have put into these tests.

Pre-loved Uniform Shop

We had our first sale on Monday 20th March. It was great to see so many parents buying the uniform and we raised £57 which will go back into the school.

We are still accepting donations of used uniform. Please bring them into the school office.

Our date for our next sale will be announced shortly.

Thank you

The Rainbow Club

Come and join our lively and thriving Breakfast and After School Club!

We have a wide range of activities to meet the needs of every child in a fully inclusive environment.



We are open from 7.30am until 6.00pm and offer great value for money with every session providing a nutritious snack and/or meal.

Please check us out and sign up on our school website.

Alternatively email Rainbowclub@st-monicas.co.uk for further information. Our fully trained staff offer a friendly service and give you reassurance that your children will be well cared for.

Lost Property

Please can you make sure your child's full name is on each item of school uniform which they bring to school as we have had a lot of lost property already this year? If your child's property is named clearly, it is likely to get back to them very quickly - unnamed uniform is much more likely to remain unrecovered.

Looking for Name Labels?

Name labels are the latest initiative from (our PTA) FOSM.

St Monica's is registered with Stikins, a family owned business, which promotes a school fundraising scheme through which the school can receive 30% commission on every order placed quoting the school reference number (21229).

Why choose Stikins Name Labels?

1. Easy to use!

Stikins® name labels are made of an advanced material; all you have to do is stick them onto the wash-care label of clothes. They are a one-size, multipurpose label, which can also be used on school items such as shoes, plastic boxes, water bottles, pencil cases etc.

2. Help your school!

For each order placed ordering St Monica's unique code (21229), we earn 30% commission for the school. You can order online (<http://www.stikins.co.uk/>), over the phone (01270 668076) or by using the order form on the leaflet we've given you. If you use the link on the uniform page of our school's website, the school's code is automatically filled in for you.

<https://st-monicas.co.uk/information/uniform-and-dress-code/>



We print labels every working day
up to 3pm & send them out same day
by first class post.

Packs

120 STIKINS* Name Labels - N120
90 STIKINS* Name Labels - N90
60 STIKINS* Name Labels - N60
30 STIKINS* Name Labels - N30

2021 Prices

£14.20
£12.00
£9.50
£6.80

Prices include
VAT & UK delivery

Order online at www.stikins.co.uk – Pay by Credit/Debit Card, PayPal, or Apple Pay
Order by phone on **01270 668076** – Pay by Credit/Debit Card

Parking

We constantly have complaints from neighbours about disruption from parking, particularly at the end of the school day. Please can you park observing the rules of the road, including with regard to stopping in the middle of the road and parking on yellow lines? Please do not block parking spaces, junctions, driveways or park on corners of the paths.



Attendance figures



St Joan – 5DB



**St Augustine –
5KB**



St Peter– 6MS



**Attendance
Matters**

Every student. Every day.

Class	% Attend
St. Joan	96.2
St. Augustine	95.8
St. Peter	95.7
St. Lucy	95.2
St. Clare	95.1
St. Joseph	95
St. James	94.9
St. Mark	94.7
St. Catherine	93.8
St. Thomas	92.8
St. Therese	92.3
Average	94.6

Answer to the maths puzzle:

On his hareplane

St Monica's Calendar 2022-2023

Week no.	Week Commencing	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
31	3-Apr-2023					
32	10-Apr-2023					
33	17-Apr-2023		Y6 Mass at St Augustine's			
34	24-Apr-2023			FOSM Cake Sale	Year 3 Stay and Pray Year 5 /6 Girl's Football League FOSM - Rescheduled FILM NIGHT 3:30pm	
35	1-May-2023	Bank Holiday - School closed		NURSERY OPEN MORNING - 9.15-10.30 St Paul's Tournament - Y5/6 Tag Rugby	Year 5/6 Girls' Football League	Stay & Pray Y2 - 9.00am
36	8-May-2023	Bank Holiday - School closed	Y3 Mass at St Augustine's	St Paul's Tournament - Y3/4 Tag Rugby	Year 5/6 Girls' Football League	Reception Stay and Pray
37	15-May-2023			Visits by St Paul's Staff for Y6 going to St Paul's	Year 5/6 Girls' Football League	Nursery Stay and Pray Girls' Football Tournament at St Bernadette's
38	22-May-2023			5.30pm Y6 Parents' Evening re. Residential Trip		Last Day of Half Term
39	29-May-2023					