Shining in the Light of Christ to be the Best that we can be

St. Joseph's Weekly Newsletter

Friday 13th November 2026

Congratulations to our wonderful Pupil Chaplaincy Team who were commissioned in a special service led by Father Terry on Tuesday and received their Chaplaincy badges and certificates signed by Bishop Declan. Thank you to Mrs Dale for organising the Service.





On Wednesday, the school came together to reflect on the importance of Remembrance Day. It was very special to see their reverence and respect. Our Year Sixes represented St Joseph's at the Devizes School's Remembrance Service.





In the rising of the sun and in its going down, **we remember them.**
In the blowing of the wind and in the chill of winter, **we remember them.**
In the opening of buds and in the rebirth of spring, **we remember them.**
In the blueness of the sky and in the warmth of summer, **we remember them.**
In the rustling of leaves and in the beauty of autumn, **we remember them.**
In the beginning of the year and when it ends, **we remember them**.
When we are weary and in need of strength, **we remember them.**
When we are sad and sick at heart, **we remember them.**
When we have joys we long to share, **we remember them.**
So long as we live, we will pray for their souls, **as we remember them**



We are really lucky to be able to work with the Canal Trust again this year. Year 2 really enjoyed building their own rafts and doing a Scavenger Hunt, as well as doing mindfullness activities:

















Year 5 also loved their time with The Canal Trust this week. They enjoyed ‘Dragonfly breathing’ and making art from nature:









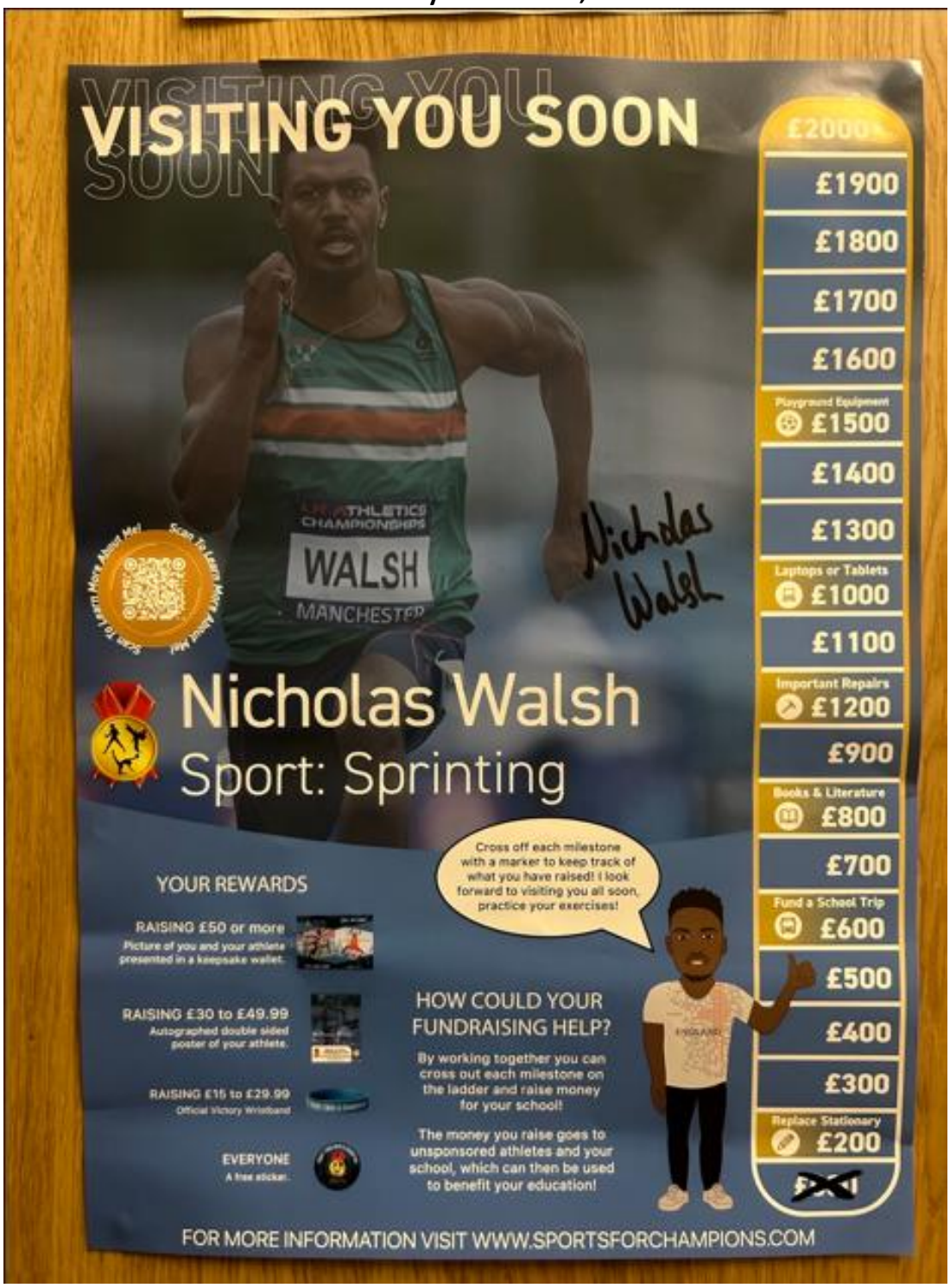








We are very excited that Nicholas Walsh (Champion 100m sprinter) is coming to visit the school on Thursday 26th November. Our Sports Leaders are keen to raise funds. Your child should come home with a letter with more details. If they haven't, talk to their class teacher.





Monday 16th-Friday 20th November	Anti-Bullying Week
Friday 20th November	Individual School Photos
Tuesday 24th November- Monday 30th November	Book Fair
Friday 27th November	Devizes Lantern Parade
Sunday 29th November	Family Mass in Church 11am
Thursday 3rd December 7pm	Mayor's Carol Concert, Devizes Corn Exchange
Tuesday 8th December 9:30am	Key Stage One Nativity in the Hall
Wednesday 9th December 2pm	Key Stage One Nativity in the Hall
Wednesday 16th December	Christmas Dinner Day (children can come into school in Christmas clothes)
Thursday 17th December	Carol Service in Church 2pm
Friday 18th December	Last Day of school
Tuesday 5th January	First Day of Term 3
Tuesday 5th January	Young Voices Choir to Birmingham



Our Anti-Bullying Ambassadors will play a leading role in Anti-Bullying Week, supporting activities and leading a whole-school Assembly **from the 16th-20th November.**

On **Monday 16th November,** we will take part in 'Odd Socks Day' and the children will be doing Anti-Bullying Activities throughout the week.



What is Odd Socks day?

Most importantly, Odd Socks Day is designed to be fun! It's an opportunity to encourage people to express themselves and celebrate their individuality and what makes us all unique!

There is no pressure to wear the latest fashion or to buy expensive costumes. All you have to do to take part is wear odd socks to school, it couldn't be simpler! Odd Socks day takes place on the first day of Anti-Bullying Week each year to help raise awareness of bullying.



This week's Class Attendance:

Class	Attendance this week	Treat won?
Donaldson	86%	NO
Seacole	95%	NO
Brunel	98%	YES
Earhart	95%	NO
Attenborough	99%	YES
Peake	100%	YES
Pankhurst	98%	YES







Seacole Class loved their Class Attendance Treat today. They won a 'Crazy Hair' day in our Whole school Classopoly Reward Game:







As we move into the winter months, we know that the season of coughs, colds and winter bugs is upon us! We appreciate that children will sometimes become unwell, and we would never expect a child who is genuinely too ill to attend school to come in. The health and wellbeing of our children must always come first.

However, we would like to take this opportunity to remind all families of the importance of **good attendance and being in school every day.**

Every day in school really does count. Regular attendance helps children to develop positive learning habits, build friendships, feel part of our school community and, most importantly, make the best possible progress in their learning. Even missing just one day can mean missing important teaching, explanations, discussions and activities that are difficult to recreate.

We would particularly like to remind families that Fridays and the last days of term are just as important as every other school day. We sometimes notice attendance dipping on these days, but learning continues right up until the end of each week and each term. These are not additional holiday days, and we ask parents and carers to avoid booking holidays, extending weekends or arranging unnecessary appointments during school time.

We also encourage parents to think carefully before keeping children at home for minor coughs, colds or sniffles. A child who is otherwise well, comfortable and able to take part in the school day can usually attend. If you are unsure, please refer to NHS guidance or contact the school for advice.

As a school community, we all have a part to play in ensuring that our children get the very best from their education. We really value your support in making school attendance a priority, establishing good routines and helping children understand that being in school every day matters.

Thank you for your continued support and partnership. Together, we can give every child the best possible opportunity to SHINE and be the Best they can be!



Congratulations to all the pupils with 100% attendance this week who were entered into our weekly '100% Club Prize Draw'

Last week's Winner was:

Class	100% club
Donaldson	Ethan, Ben, Enzo, Reneah, Charlie, Winter-Violet, Aidan, Macey, Lily M, Louis, Otto, Matilda, Elijah, Clementine, Tabitha, Grayson, Riley
Seacole	Khaled, Hugo, Elijah D, McKenzie, Action, Logan, Olivia, Viviana, Enzo, Dougie, Maddison, Charlie, Maisie
Brunel	Penny A, Joey, Jackson, , Florence, Isabelle, Lily-Rose, Frankie, Darcie-Lou, Logan, Nova, McAlex, Deneris, Khloe, Kolbie, Serafina, Penny R, Celia, Jack-Daniel, Theodore S, Theo Sm, Felicity, Harley
Earhart	Tyra, Harmon, Arthur, Tayler, Dominik, Francesca, Alfie, Theo, Freddy, Thomas, Delia, Sofia, Femia, Iggy, Marshall, Rose, Alloise, Millie, Annabelle
Attenborough	Beau, Kudi, Shae, Joshua, Penny, Hunter, Charlie, Victoria, Scarlett, Dan, Jood, Joe, Toby, Harry, Leah, Mia, Jaime-Leigh
Peake	Scarlett, Laura, Xaia, Freya, Bethan, Violet, Hunter, Caiden, Eris, Matilda, Neo, Evie, Rad, Leo, Fedora, Lucy, Imogen, Margot, William, Wojtek, Evelyn
Pankhurst	Casper, Spike, Charlie, Django, Kwame, Starz, Hunter, Chloe, Aiden, George, Clara, Harry, Sophia, Roman, Jayden, Owen, Eli, Lucy, Miley, Freddie, Amira, Oliver, Baraa, Kupa, Emily, Thomas, Jax, Blu

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Pupils of the Week

Donaldson Class:

Grayson for working so hard on his letter formation in handwriting and phonics-we are so proud of his effort

Tabby for her kindness and thoughtfulness towards others and her hard work with all of her learning

Seacole Class:

Action for working hard to recognise, order and use ordinal numbers correctly in maths

Elijah D for having a fantastic, happy week and really extending himself in his writing by using wonderful onomatopoeia

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Brunel Class:

Jack-Daniel for showing our SHINE values in all of his learning, always working hard, being curious and a gentle peacemaker

Penny R for being an incredible leader and inquisitive learner on the canal trip and for representing St Joseph's wonderfully

Earhart Class:

Millie for being such a welcoming friend and having such a positive attitude to learning. Millie always gives 100% in her work.

Sofia for her fantastic attitude to learning. She has worked incredibly hard to improve her handwriting. She also blew Mrs Coltro's socks off with her spellings!

Attenborough Class:

Vicky for being a maths superstar this week and showing great knowledge of decimals and the value of money

Mia for her supportive and kind approach to others- she is modelling great behaviour with her constant polite attitude and empathy to others

Peake Class:

Eris for being a kind and compassionate friend to everyone around her. She spreads JOY everywhere she goes!

Rad for his amazing learning attitude- he always wants to improve his work

Pankhurst Class:

Clara for her lovely piece of writing based on Hamlet. She wrote an eye-witness account as Horatio seeing the ghost of King Hamlet. It was a JOY

Thomas for his enthusiasm in the Science Investigation- trying to grow mould- seeing which conditions make mould grow quickest