

St Joseph's Journal

15TH MAY 2020



**LAUDATO SI'
WEEK 2020**

Laudato Si' Week

Starting on May 16, the Catholic Church is dedicating a week to celebrate the fifth anniversary of the publishing of Laudato Si' – the letter by Pope Francis on caring for our common home. Earlier this school year, we achieved the Laudato Si' Award from CAFOD for our commitment to being good stewards to the planet in the following categories: living wisely, thinking deeply and loving generously.

This video, by CAFOD, provides an excellent summary of the letter by Pope Francis:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o3Lz7dmn1eM>

The Catholic Education Service have put together a booklet on how we can celebrate Laudato Si' at home. This booklet will appear on the school website on the class pages. It would be great to complete one of the selected activities from the booklet or complete your own activity which demonstrates care for our common home.

Please email any examples of activities completed to you're class email address.

To all staff, Parents and families

(a message from our Chair of Governors)

I write on behalf of the Governing Board to thank and congratulate all the staff, parents and children for their help, understanding and assistance during these unprecedented times since the school has had to close due to the COVID-19 virus pandemic.

Thanks to all the staff who have volunteered to keep the school open for the benefit of children of key workers or vulnerable pupils. To all teachers who have also been providing lessons for children who are not in school to ensure that their education does not suffer during the time the school is closed. Not forgetting the non-teaching staff such as kitchen staff cleaners and maintenance staff who are vital to keeping the school open and safe for pupils.

Finally, thanks to the parents and families for helping the school to provide a stable existence in these difficult times. I hope that the school will be able to resume normal teaching soon, initially in a phased programme in accordance with Government advice, but be assured that this will only happen when all safeguards for the safety of pupils and staff are in place. Until that time, follow the rules and keep well and keep safe.

Thank you, Liz and all your team, for your efforts and keep up the hard work, you are doing a great job.

Jim Livesey, Chair of Governors

The planned phased re-opening of School

As you will have seen in the news, schools are now being asked to prepare for a phased reopening from June 1st, starting with Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 pupils, if it is considered safe then.

In practice, school will look and feel very different in our efforts to keep both pupils and staff as safe as possible. I have posted a letter on the school website providing some initial indications of the changes as well as a link to some frequently asked questions for parents and carers.

We appreciate this is a very unsettling time and the decision whether to send your child(ren) back to school will not be an easy one. We take our responsibility of looking after your children extremely seriously and will be doing everything within our power to keep them safe if we reopen in the coming weeks. However, we are also not going to be pressuring anyone to send their children to school since you know your personal circumstances and children best. Parents will not be fined during this period for keeping their children off school. We are asking that only if you are sure that you will NOT be sending your child/ren into school before September, please let us know as it will help enormously in organising the appropriate staff ratios, timetables and physical spaces. Please either phone the school office or email admin@stjosephs.romerocat.com to share this information. Thank you for all you continue to encourage your children to do from home. We know so many are benefiting in ways that can not be taught in the classroom. Stay safe.



HOME LEARNING

What has everyone been up to this week?

Check your class page on the website... www.st-josephs-tod.org.uk

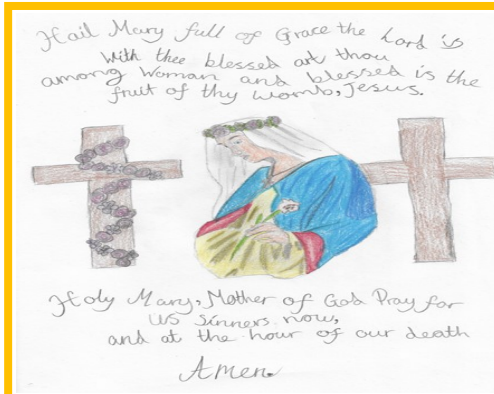


Please email any activities you have been completing to the class email address.



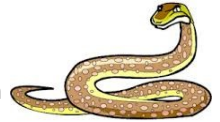
Ryley making the most of the outdoors for his daily exercise. How lucky are we to live where we live and have all of this beauty right on our doorstep.

Lovely photos Ryley



Caitlin from Oak Class has created a beautiful piece of art of Mary for the month of May.

The adults in Oak Class were impressed with Kai's innovation of The Hound of the Baskervilles, which was titled Python in the Palace.



Class Email Contacts for Home Learning Help

If you have any queries about your child's home learning during our school closure please use the email address for your child's class

ACORNS@stjosephs.romerocat.com

BEECH@stjosephs.romerocat.com

CEDAR@stjosephs.romerocat.com

ELM@stjosephs.romerocat.com

LARCH@stjosephs.romerocat.com

OAK@stjosephs.romerocat.com

**Teachers will respond between 10am and 2pm
Monday to Friday.**

LEARNING MORE EVERY DAY

Have you been accessing the weekly class learning sheets?

They are available on our school website under the class tabs: <https://www.st-josephs-tod.org.uk>

This is where you will find the work set by your child's class teacher - it is specific to our school and your child's year group so is the best place to start each week's learning.

Here are many more recommended sites if you want to do even more!

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/dailylessons>

<https://www.thenational.academy/online-classroom/schedule>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-online-education-resources/coronavirus-covid-19-list-of-online-education-resources-for-home-education>

FREE yoga video lessons for children: <https://bit.ly/3cnmzsh> Pupils and parents stuck at home may find this useful...

The lessons are simply structured, easy to follow, as well as safe, highly engaging and great fun.

Parents do not need any yoga knowledge or experience to do this. The lessons consist of THREE short animated videos, which parents can download from the website at the link shown, and use when it best suits the children. So no Zoom, no streaming problems; no privacy worries.

You can stop, start, freeze, go back, fast forward, when you want...and revisit time after time, after time; thereby reinforcing the activities...

Your kids will be learning simple yoga postures, a sequence and a relaxation technique, and the whole family will be having fun at the same time.

