I raise my eyes toward the mountains. From where will my help come?
My help comes from the Lord, the maker of heaven and earth.  Psalm 121:1-2

Coming Soon...Heroes & Villains Theme Day!

There will be a ‘Heroes & Villains’ theme day (date to be announced) to enhance children’s interest and enjoyment of reading and writing. We hope that our aspiring heroes have started to make their outfits for our top secret mission!

We will be writing to you all soon to ask you to bring in your outfits for safekeeping at school as you may only get a moment’s notice about this top secret mission!

So, please ensure you have prepared your costumes and that you are ready for immediate action. We await further instructions from the boss (Mrs Titus!)

Class 4O Assembly

On Thursday 25 October, Class 4O presented an assembly about their recent learning on the topic of ‘The 7 Wonders Of London’. We learned about their recent research trip to central London which was key in helping the audience decide which London ‘wonder’ was the best! After hearing the cases put forward by the children, the audience voted the River Thames the best modern wonder in London!

The children have also been writing accounts about their learning experience and how their skills and knowledge has developed.

“As part of our topic we designed and created our own ‘Wonders of London’. We used paint, oil pastels and recycled cardboard boxes. In the end, we had some sophisticated replicas!” Quentin

“On our trip to London, we used a map to work out our route.” Louise

“We learned about ancient wonders and modern wonders. Did you know that the Pyramid of Giza is the only ancient wonder which looks most like it did in the past?” Letitia

School Photographs

The school photographer will be at St Joseph’s on Monday 12 November for individual child photographs. Family groups will be photographed together if requested, but please note that this only applies to siblings currently at St Joseph’s. Please see the letter which was sent earlier this week for more information.

Attendance

During week beginning 22 October 2012, Classes RSG, 3F, 4O, 5NW, 6K and 6N all achieved 100% attendance. Classes 1O, 2M, 3M and 5D were very close behind having achieved 99% attendance.

Classes RM, 1O, 1F, 2M, 3A, 5M, 5D and 6K had 100% punctuality last week so well done to those classes for this excellent start to your learning day.

This half term, we will be preparing for our Christmas learning activities which are always popular with the children. Please ensure that your child has excellent attendance and punctuality so they can benefit from our learning and enjoyment during this very significant and spiritual time of year.
Roald Dahl Week

Roald Dahl was one of the world's most popular children's authors, publishing 21 children's books (as well as many adult stories) including the well-loved Charlie and the Chocolate Factory, Matilda, The BFG and James and the Giant Peach.

At St Joseph’s we decided to have a Roald Dahl themed week so that we could introduce some of his most popular stories to the children. We wanted children to learn about Roald Dahl and the characters in his books so that they would be motivated to go on and read more of his stories and this in turn would help them to become fabulous writers.

Please continue to support your child with reading at home. You can do this by encouraging your children to read a range of Roald Dahl books and other reading materials at home. As Roald Dahl once said: “I have a passion for teaching kids to become readers, to become comfortable with a book, not daunted. Books shouldn’t be daunting, they should be funny, exciting and wonderful; and learning to be a reader gives a terrific advantage.”

At St. Joseph’s we absolutely agree with this and we all want our children to be great readers and writers - so keep reading! Please also take the opportunity to view the school website next week to view some photographs relating to our fun learning activities during Roald Dahl week.

Class 5M Science Treasure Hunt

Just before the half term break, Class 5M decided to go outside to look at science in the world around us.

The class also took part in a ‘Treasure Hunt Quiz’ to end their learning unit on the topic of ‘Living Things’. The children organised themselves into small groups to work together to find the clues and to answer the tricky questions which were based on their recent learning.

The children thoroughly enjoyed this fun and interactive learning experience which helped the children to remember all the facts they had learned.

Remembrance Sunday

This Sunday, 11 November, church services across the country will be leading the nation to remember the millions of lives lost in conflict and war.

Our children have been buying poppies at school to show their gratitude for the freedom we enjoy today thanks to the sacrifices made by others. Please remember the fallen in your prayers and pray for an end to all wars so we may live in peace with others.

Everyone is receiving a printed black and white copy of the newsletter this week as a special treat! A full colour version is available to view and / or download from the school website as usual.