



Friday 26th April 2024

It has been a wonderful and busy week in school with Vocations Week. The children have enjoyed listening to various visitors talk about their vocations and have been thinking about what God calls them to do. Thank you to all those who have taken time out of their busy days to come and talk to our children. It has been delightful to read such lovely feedback from parents about how much their children have enjoyed this week and been inspired by the many speakers – thank you for getting in touch with such positive comments!

Unfortunately, time has been taken up again dealing with social media issues. Please remember that no children of primary school age should be using social media.

I have also been made aware of social media use by parents regarding school matters. These can only be addressed if raised with the school directly, please make an appointment or speak to myself or Mrs Keating on the gate.

As I explained in July, and reminded parents last week, the school uniform has not changed. I also explained if white PE t-shirts or polo shirts had already been purchased at that time, they were fine to wear until replaced. If any parents are having financial difficulties purchasing uniform for their children, please make an appointment to speak to myself or Mrs Keating.

This week's learning block has been Art. Pupil Voice comments have been wonderful! Art has a very important place in our curriculum, giving the children the opportunity to express their creativity and individuality. Reception have been building sculptures after learning about artists who carve wood and stone to make sculptures. Key Stage 1 have been learning about abstract art and used paper weaving to create a map from the story they are reading, *The Enchanted Wood*. Lower Key Stage 2 have used the rainforest as a stimulus to develop their drawing skills by experimenting and using repeated patterns. Upper Key Stage 2 learnt that art can be expressed in many ways, and they used clay to mould and shape their memories. It's clear that we have some extremely talented artists here at St Dunstan's. Well done to all!

Next week is our Science block. School is closed on Thursday for Polling and Friday for an Inset day. Our May Procession will take place after 1JH's Mass in Church on Wednesday at 9.30am. Family and friends are warmly welcomed to join us for both of these. Mass is at 9.30am.

Attendance and Punctuality:

Attendance has improved this week and hopefully this will continue as we have some nicer weather. Attendance review letters were emailed home this week, informing you of your child's attendance stage. Attendance Review Meetings will be arranged over the coming weeks.

Punctuality has also improved this week; we are delighted that there were no late arrivals today! All children who were on time every day that they were in, will be entered into our Punctuality Spin The Wheel draw on Monday!

Bishop Challoner Platinum Jubilee:

What a pleasure it was to be a guest at Bishop Challoner's Platinum Jubilee celebration last night. It was wonderful to hear Bishop Challoner's Headteachers, past and present, speak so warmly of the close relationship between our school and Bishop Challoner. Sharing the same campus allows us access to their Sports Hall and specialist facilities which otherwise would not be possible. There were so many ex St Dunstan's pupils taking part in various exhibitions last night including the Bishop Challoner's Poet in Residence, AJ who performed for the invited guests. Retired Headteacher, Mr McEvoy always said 'the pupils from St Dunstan's hit the ground running when they join to Bishop Challoner!'

Have a lovely weekend all.

Mr Tekan



Art



"I have loved learning that art can be abstract so we can use our imagination without it being too realistic, like our maps. We used all different craft materials to make a map of Enid Blyton's Enchanted Wood" (KS1)



"This week it's been so good to learn that art is NOT just painting. You can make art with so many things, like now, we're using clay. It is interesting to know that sometimes your hands are your main tools" (UKS2)



"I really enjoyed turning something real into my own art" (LKS2)



Vocations Week

"God has called me to be a teacher because I want to help children" (KS1)

"I have loved listening to all our visitors talking about their vocations. I absolutely loved the F1 logistics talk because I love cars. I think God is calling me to be a kind and helpful person in whatever job I choose" (UKS2)



"I would love to perform in musicals like Ash has. I'd love to help others enjoy themselves" (UKS2)



"I liked the vets. I want to be a vet so I can help God's animals" (EYFS)



"When I grow up I want to be a policeman like the one we saw today" (EYFS)



"The firefighter influenced me the most because they are risking their lives to save others" (LKS2)



Educational Visits

KS1 have loved their trip back in time to see what life was like in the olden days. Their trip to the Black Country Living Museum has been a great success! Thank you to children and staff for making the day a great one. (KS1)



Miss Adam's class thoroughly enjoyed their visit to Pizza Express in Solihull. As part of their healthy eating topic they learned all about where the ingredients come from and how the pizzas are prepared. (Reception)





Star Writers and Mathematicians

	Writing Champion	Maths Champion
RecVB	Zara	Zuzanna
RecEA	Ayaan	Isla
1JH	Jaelynn	Logan
1/2CA	Roda	Cecilia
2VC	Roman	Martina
3EK	Tilly W.	Farah-Lee
3/4AK	Ted	Aarin
4LT	Ekiem	Thomas
5SH	William	Annalise
5CP	Rayyan	Cecilia
6LD	Stanley	Katherine
6ZG	Beryl	Oliver