



St Joseph's Catholic Academy
Member of the Newman Catholic Collegiate

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Acting Executive Principal- Mrs D Farmer
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Week Commencing: 11th May 2020

Dear Parents/Carers and Reception Class,

We are so glad that the sun has decided to make an appearance again. We hope you had a lovely Bank Holiday weekend and enjoyed your VE day celebrations. Thankyou for continuing to send photos- we love to see all of the amazing things that you have been up to. It was lovely to see that so many of you made Union Jack bunting and flags to display in your windows.



It was so lovely to speak to you all again this week. We are so impressed at how well you are behaving at home and the wide range of home learning tasks that you are completing. We loved hearing your stories and you really put a smile on our faces. Some of the delightful things you shared with us this week were: your baking and science experiments, helping to decorate your house, practising writing number sentences, saying your prayers at home, helping to care for your new puppies, fantastic work on our Pirates topic, the horses that you spot on your daily walks, learning to ride your hoverboard and some of you even shared that you are now riding your bike without stabilisers! What amazing achievements and life skills you are learning! Skylar also shared some super exciting news that she is going to be a big sister later on this year!



A really big well done to Harper who won the **National Stoke Speed Bounce Competition** for our age group! A medal will be coming your way when lockdown is over. We know that Harper is already practicing this week's challenge! We are really proud of you. Please see more information below for details on how to get involved in similar activities.



We also have some more birthday shout outs this week. Happy Birthday to Nicky, Tinadion and Zak! We hope you have a super day! Don't forget, if you are celebrating your special day, we would love to see photos!

We have updated the **Home Learning Page** again with some more fun and exciting activities for you. <https://sites.google.com/view/eyfshomelearningstjoca> We have included direct links below for you. This week please can you try the following activities:

Phonics- <https://sites.google.com/view/eyfshomelearningstjoca/reception-phonics>

This week can you try the free **Letters & Sounds** Phonics lessons again. Every day Monday-Friday a new lesson is uploaded on YouTube at 10am. Once the lesson is live, the link will be activated so you click straight through it. Don't worry if you miss the lesson at 10am, you can still go back to access it at another time. This weeks sounds are: oi, ear, air, ure, er. If you didn't do last weeks sounds, you can also have a go at those as well if you wish. Remember to select the 'Reception' button. Can you also have a go at reading the phase 3 sentences? Download the powerpoint on the home learning page and see how many you can get right.

<https://wandleenglishhub.org.uk/lettersandsounds/reception>

Reading- <https://sites.google.com/view/eyfshomelearningstjoca/literacy-reading-story-time>

Our story this week is '**The Pirates Next Door**'. There is an audible copy for you on the home learning page to listen to. What do you think the Jolley-Rogers will do before they leave? This story teaches us not to assume the worst in people or situations.



Literacy- <https://sites.google.com/view/eyfshomelearningstjoca/literacy-reading-story-time>

Some of you that we spoke to this week, mentioned that you were finding it tricky to get your child writing or engage them with writing and wanted more clarification on the expectations for your child at the end of Reception. Remember, little and often. Try to break writing activities down. They don't always need to use a pencil. Can they write with chalk, paint, a coloured felt tip pen or whatever engages them? It is an expectation that at the end of Reception, your child can write a sentence with a capital letter, full stop and ideally finger spaces. It is also an expectation that your child can form most of their letters correctly. This week have a go at the sentence unscramble sheets on the home learning page. If you don't have access to a printer, ask a grown up to write you some sentences and practise constructing the correct sentence underneath. If your child is struggling with the writing side, get them to cut out the parts of the sentence and construct them physically first. Can you also practise forming all your letters correctly? If you have tried the lowercase letters, have a go at the uppercase letters.

Maths- <https://sites.google.com/view/eyfshomelearningstjoca/reception-maths>

This week can you play the 'What's the Time Mr Wolf?' interactive game? Can you also download the ladybird doubles powerpoint on the home learning page? Afterwards, if you have some dominoes, use them to practise doubling numbers. Can you also interact with the 'Calendar and Time' lessons on the Oak National Academy website. We have included the link here for you and also on the home learning page.

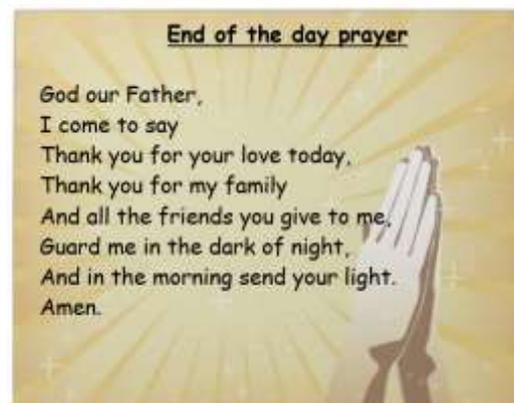
<https://www.thenational.academy/online-classroom/reception/maths#subjects>

RE- <https://sites.google.com/view/eyfshomelearningstjoca/eyfs-re>

As we mentioned last week, May is the **Month of Mary**. Please continue to work on the activities we set last week. We have also included a few more ideas for you to try below:

- Lots of Catholics wear miraculous medals in memory of Mary. Design a miraculous medal on the sheet provided on the home learning page. Cut out the back and front of the medals and stick them together.
- Mary listens to our prayers and she prays with us and for us. Write a prayer to ask Mary Our Mother to look after us.
- Mary's special colours were blue and white. Can you colour the Month of Mary colouring sheets on the home learning page or draw your own?

Some of you have been trying to remember and share with your families our daily prayers. At school, we pray together 4 times a day: at the start of the day, before and after lunch and at the end of the day. Please see the prayer below that you may want to pray together as a family:



Understanding the World- <https://sites.google.com/view/eyfshomelearningstjoca/eyfs-the-world-around-us>

In the 'Pirates Next Door' story the Jolley-Rogers were a pirate family. Can you have a go at making a very simple family tree for your family? Now that the weather is warmer, there are a lot of minibeasts about, can you go on a minibeast hunt and see what minibeasts you can find? If you have access to a printer, you could print the minibeast checklist on the home learning page.

Creative- <https://sites.google.com/view/eyfshomelearningstjoca/creative>

This week can you use any junk modelling materials that you have around your home to make a pirate ship? If you have an old shoebox, you could also make your own treasure chest. When you have made it, why not hide all your secret treasure in it.

PE- <https://sites.google.com/view/eyfshomelearningstjoca/eyfs-pe-and-music-movement>

Don't forget to keep doing your daily exercise. This week, can you practise throwing and catching with a grown up? How many can you catch without dropping the ball? If you find it too easy, move further apart to make it more challenging. Also keep an eye out for the **School Games** competitions that Mrs Grange posts on the school Facebook and Twitter pages. They have age-appropriate activities and if you win you get a medal- just like our Harper! Let's see if more of you can get involved and get our school on the leaderboard.



A special mention to all the parents this week for doing a super job at navigating the home learning websites and providing a wide range of home learning tasks for your child. Most of the children we spoke to could tell us lots of activities they had been doing and we were amazed at the lengths you have been going to, to keep your child progressing with their learning. We know lots of you have been printing out packs as you find this easier (this is not a requirement and we understand that not all of you have access to a printer to do this) please do check though that they follow the **UK National-EYFS Curriculum. Teacher's Pet** are offering free EYFS home learning packs to download. We have included the link here for you.

<https://tpet.co.uk/downloads/early-years-eyfs-home-learning-resource-pack/>

As always, stay safe, keep smiling and keep working your socks off!

Have a fabulous week! We miss you lots.

Miss Mogford, Mrs Wilson & Mrs Bradley ☺