

St. Joseph's Specialist School & College Newsletter



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Letter from the Principal



Dear Families and Friends

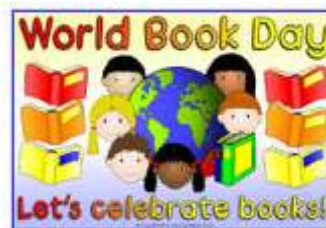
This half term started with two very busy professional learning days, where as well as other training, education staff began to get to grips with how to help the learners increase numeracy and mathematical skills through using Numicon more effectively.



Numicon is a curriculum proof, multi-sensory approach, built on a proven pedagogy that raises achievement across all mathematics ability levels. Teachers here are now very excited about how they can further integrate this approach across the curriculum and many more sets of resources have been ordered to help with this. Numicon will be a topic of one of our forthcoming Family Learning Coffee mornings. If families would like, we will buy a small number of resource sets for use at home.

If you want to know more about Numicon now, talk to your child's Education Link Worker, Martin Johnson our Mathematics Leader or Sarah our Home School Link Worker.

Yesterday was World Book Day, as you will see from the photos inside a good many learners and staff dressed up as their favourite Disney character. There was much excitement in the hall when the winners of the writing competition were announced. (for more see inside).



Our School Improvement Advisor Maria Landy was in for two days this week, helping us develop our curriculum and learning and teaching. She has been our Advisor since 2004/5 and strangely has the same birthday as myself, as well as being famous for having a Fuchsia named after her! Maria makes termly visits for two days. She always has lunch in the dining room, and has been a constant over the years in many of our learners lives.



Whilst there has been snow in some parts of the country we have been lucky enough to have some lovely sunny weather and signs of Spring are definitely all around.

I hope you all have a safe and happy weekend.

As always you are in our prayers,

Love and best wishes

Mary Fawcett



Welcome



Daniel Brito Medeiros

TA



Gabriella Kispal-Sarosi

Care Worker



Miroslav Petrov

Care Worker



Stanislava Mala

52 Week Care Worker



Jack Postance

TA

Change of Role



Isaac Abuta - STA

Isaac and George left us at the end of February to take up new positions at Long Barn, our new supported living house.



George Almeida

Care Worker

Farewell



Lizzie Paske

Care Worker



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Congratulations to Maggie Thomas (pictured left) on completing 20 year's service at St. Joseph's

Maggie started working at the school as a Teaching Assistant and later trained to teach 14-19 year olds. She has been a qualified teacher for nearly 15 years.

Maggie teaches the learners in St. Francis Class (Year 14) and helps prepare them for when they leave St. Joseph's.

To mark the occasion she was presented with an enormous bouquet of flowers



Forest Schools Education

Congratulations to Harriet Agbenowu (pictured below) for successfully passing the Open Awards Level 3 Forest Schools Practitioner Award. Now Harriet has become a qualified practitioner we are now officially recognised as a Forest School.



Please remember to send your child in with £1 to buy a red nose for **Red Nose Day**. Learners from St. Francis class will be going round next week to sell the noses ready for Friday 13th.



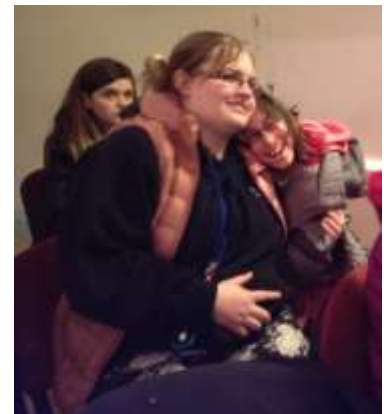
Ewhurst Pantomime

On Thursday 5th February a group of Residential learners attended Goldilocks and the Three Bears Pantomime in Ewhurst.

Before the pantomime began, two musicians played music which the learners enjoyed singing and dancing to.

The learners enjoyed listening to the story of Goldilocks and the Three Bears and interacting with the characters on stage.

The Learners thoroughly enjoyed themselves and made excellent effort in participation and behaviour. We look forward to next year's performance.





STAFF PROFILE



Dorek Martell
TA, St. Martha's Class

What type of person are you?

Describe yourself in five words:

Honest, fat, ugly, cheeky, domestic



What's top of your to-do list?

Plastic Surgery



What's your favourite biscuit?

Chocolate Chip Cookies



What's your top holiday destination?

Any desert



What wouldn't you do for £1 million?

Kiss a crocodile

Who would play you in the film of your life?

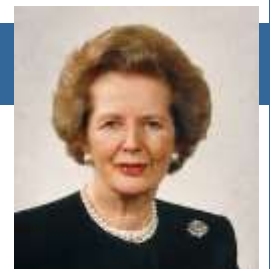
If a comedy, Charlie Chaplin, if a romance, Brad Pitt, any other genre Edward G Robinson



Complete the following sentences

The celebrity I'd most like to have as a teacher at my school is:

Margaret Thatcher



As a child I wanted to grow up to be:

A naval aviator

My most embarrassing moment in school:

Too slow one day to dodge a flying nappy

If I've learned one thing, it is:

How to cheat at poker when playing with Jaden



I shouldn't be telling you this, but

I'm really only 23 years old

Tell us your best Joke



Q. Which football team's players never meet each other?



A. Queen's Park Strangers

Adventure to the Philippines

Naomi Harding, one of our Speech and Language Therapists has just returned from the **Philippines** where she went for two weeks. She took her four children to work in a deprived area of the country. Thank you to St. Joseph's who donated £103 to the project for her to take. Over all she and her children raised over £3000 which went to specific projects. These are:



- Books for a new curriculum in 'Joyland' Children's home. They currently are using a Christian home-school programme and want to start using a whole school curriculum that the teachers will be able to deliver.
- A new boundary wall for the youth centre in Payatas, next to the dump in Manila.
- A scholarship programme for youth in Dacutan, a fishing village in the Island of Negros. A two month course will give them enough skills to then be able to get a job.



Classroom Medics

The look of satisfaction, the smile of accomplishment and the overall sense of competition between learners and staff said it all, the visit was a huge success! These activities directly linked their bodies to Science and Sports.

Learners and staff used different equipment and activities to measure their strength, reflexes, weight, temperature, oxygen levels and lung capacity. It was a fun and inclusive opportunity for all to learn.



Fundraising for St. Joseph's



John Taylor the owner of The Richard Onslow Pub in Cranleigh is preparing to run a marathon across the Sussex coast to raise funds for St Joseph's . On Saturday 21st March, he will be taking to the dramatic cliff ridden coastline route between Eastbourne and Seaford to participate in the Endurance Life marathon. His goal is to raise £2000 to cover the cost of a new outdoor table tennis table for the school.

A keen sportsman, John decided to tackle his first marathon to help us. He has been training hard, running cross country routes three or four times a week and going to the gym: he says he is "determined to give it his best shot". He has also been fundraising hard, asking regulars at the pub as well as family, friends and colleagues to sponsor him.

If you would like to sponsor John please do to his Virgin Money Giving page at <http://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/JohnTaylor32> to make a pledge.



Thank you

St. Joseph's Cookbook

We hope you have received Magdalena Diuczek's letter regarding a St. Joseph's Recipe Book. If you haven't please let the office know.

Magdalena hopes to create a cookbook full of delicious recipes that we can all try and enjoy.

Please send in your favourite recipes in the link files or via the Office email. The deadline is the end of this half term, **26th March**.

Thank you



Active Kids Vouchers

Don't forget to send in your Sainsbury's Active Kids vouchers.

There are over 100 products for us to choose from and range from cooking and nutritional toolkits to gardening, sporting and therapy equipment. The more we collect, the more we can buy.

The collection box can be found in the School Reception.

Thank you



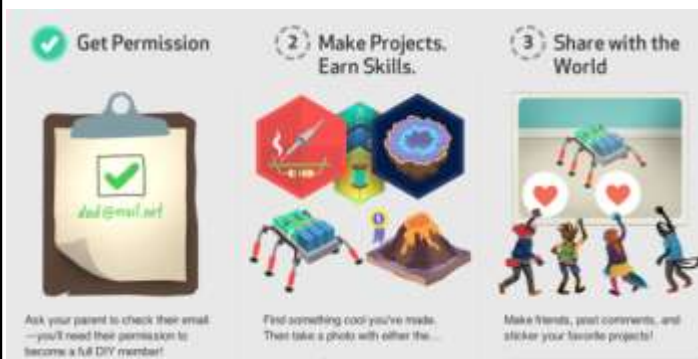


App of the Week - DIY - Skills for Kids
Tom Milson, ICT Subject Leader



DIY – Skills for Kids! (free)

Explore thousands of awesome challenges that help you learn new skills. Share what you make and do, get followers, comment on your friends' stuff, and earn patches for what you achieve. DIY has more than 100 skills to try including Animator, Backyard Farmer, Minecrafter, Fashion Designer and Illustrator. You can do anything, become anyone. DIY is the best way to learn how.



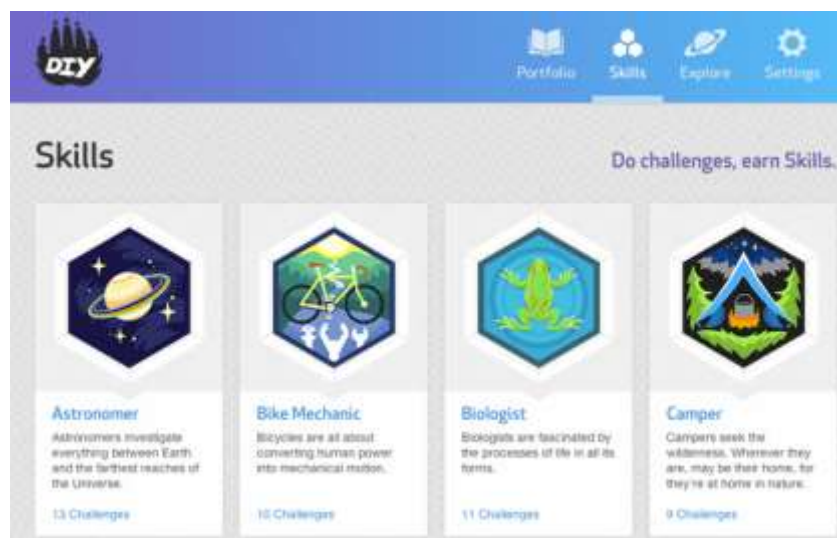
You'll need an account that's easy to set up to access DIY which means you'll be able to see lots of different videos and collect badges once you complete an activity. The app is set up so learners can post on videos and ask for advice and support – but keeping their real name anonymous as users select from a series of preset usernames and cartoon images. DIY say:

"DIY is a safe setting for your kids to try social media, get feedback, and be inspired by a community of peers. Every member's privacy is carefully monitored by a staff of moderators. No real names or faces are shown without parental permission. Comments are allowed, but jerks and bullies are not."

It's a really well designed app to promote independent learning in areas your child may be interested in. Take a look at the website for more information:

www.diy.org

As your learner begins to complete challenges they'll earn a digital badge for their account and you will then be able to purchase cotton badges too if you want to as a souvenir of their achievements!



Over February half term we were notified that we have successfully addressed the criteria for the **Intermediate level** of the **British Council International School Award!**

Here are the assessor's comments on our application:

"This is an excellent application. It clearly demonstrates your commitment to international education and to wishing to embed the international dimension into your curriculum. Ensure you develop your activities to be classroom based as much as possible to measure the progress your students make. The impact of your activities on student learning and attainment is essential and should be recorded as evidence for your evaluation. The work you have done with your Zambian and French partner schools is also impressive and provides a great opportunity for you to study some of the global themes you have selected in a contextual manner in order to bring your international learning to life. You will also be able to use a foreign language of your choice (in collaboration with your partner schools) to devise a specific language programme for studying the global themes you have selected. The activities mentioned above can also be linked with the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child to deliver focused learning activities. This in turn will enable you to demonstrate the impact of the activities more clearly. Well done so far."

Congratulations Francesca Arocas for helping St. Joseph's gain this award.



Please join us in welcoming **Joey Bear** as St Joseph's *Bear in Residence*. Joey has joined us from his home in the rainforests of the Corcovado National Park in Costa Rica. Joey is here to help us make links between our world at St Joseph's and the wider world. He will be visiting residential groups and the homes of staff & learners and wants to find out how our lives are influenced by international & multi cultural factors.

Please help Joey in his research by emailing photos and stories to Jbear@st-josephscranleigh.surrey.sch.uk Or join his facebook group The Amazing Adventures of Joey Bear.

Joey with Mick Nickells our
Grounds Supervisor





KS 3 - Forest Schools

Learners from St Patrick's created a sign to tell everyone the Spring has sprung and created some spring guardians from clay to protect the delicate new shoots!



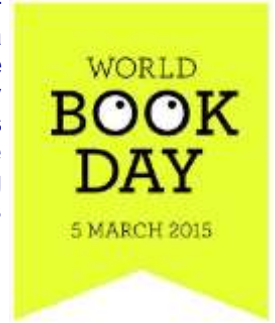
On Sunday 15th February the staff of St Christopher's & John Wright (Chaplain) were honoured to join Evangeline and her family for her First Holy Communion at St. Edward The Confessor Church in Sutton Green.

Evangeline looked beautiful in the white communion dress that her grandmother had made for Evangeline's mother's Communion celebration.

John has been preparing Evangeline for this special day since last term.



World Book Day 2015 started with a whole school assembly where the winners of the three competitions were announced. The first competition was to draw a character from a book, The winners of this category were Bavi and Michael. There were two further competitions, one to write a tweet about a Disney picture, this only allowed the anything the learners wanted to chose. We had some amazing stories and our judge (Jo George) found it very difficult to choose just two winners. She managed it in the end choosing Holly and Dominic S. Our final prize went to Jaden for his beautifully handwritten story. Well done to all the winners!! The most important part of the assembly for all, staff and learners, was showing off the World Book Day cake that had been made by our catering team.



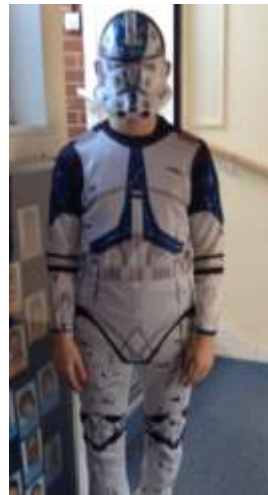
During the day we are joined by Sam, Megan and Hubble from Hubble Community Enterprises. The learners from the whole school were able to meet Hubble and join in craft activities. They made a ceramic tile each to take away with them and decorated a frame each that will make up a giant school patchwork wall hanging that will be displayed in the chapel. The highlight of the day was when learners got to work with puppets and mime along to 'You've got a friend in me' from Disney Pixar's TOY STORY. The learners loved it and got a lot out of working with the puppets.



To mark World Book Day our book bench was unveiled and has been installed in the orchard area, it looks magnificent.

Here are some of the photos from the day, everyone had a great time. Even the Secretariat team entered into the spirit of the day and wore Minnie Mouse ears all day - see photo on next page.





 <h1 style="text-align: right;">Dates for the Diary</h1> <h2 style="text-align: right;">Spring Term</h2>	
11th March	10.30am - 12.00 noon - Family Coffee Morning - <i>Makaton Taster Session led by Karen May, Head of Therapies</i>
12th March	7.00pm Full Governing Body Meeting
13th March	Red Nose Day <i>including Funny Face, Runny Race Cross Country Run @ 9.00am</i>
14th March	10.00am - 1.00pm (Lunch at 12.30pm) - Grounds Day - <i>see separate flyer for more details—don't forget to let the office know if you are able to attend</i>
w/c 16th March	Work Related Activities & Work Experience Block - Week 1 (for KS 4/5 learners)
19th March	<p>St. Joseph's Day</p> <p>9.00 - 9.30 am St. Joseph's Day Mass (All Key Stages)</p> <p>2.00pm - St. Joseph's Day Show</p> <p>6.00pm - St. Joseph's Day Show</p> <p>All friends and family are welcome to attend.</p> 
w/c 23rd March	Work Related Activities & Work Experience Block - Week 2 (for KS 4/5 learners)
23rd March	2.15pm - Palm Sunday Liturgy (All Key Stages)
25th March	2.30 - 3.15pm - Last Supper Liturgy (All Key Stages) 7.00pm - Work Related Activities and Work Experience Presentation Evening (KS 4/5)
26th March	Last Day of Term, Learners finish at 1.00pm
<h2>Summer Term</h2> 	
13th April	Learners return to school between 10.15-10.30am
15th April	2.45-3.15pm - Resurrection Liturgy (All Key Stages)
19th April	Motor Sport (Kitcar) at Goodwood Race track, Chichester
22nd April	10.30am - 12.00 noon - Family Coffee Morning
4th May	May Bank Holiday (school closed except for 38 week and 52 week learners)
6th May	2.45-3.15pm - Mary the Mother of Jesus Celebration (KS 4/5)
w/c 11th May	Christian Aid Week
11th May	9.45-10.15 am - Mary the Mother of Jesus Celebration (KS 1/2/3)
14th May	Surrey Girl's Football Tournament at St. Joseph's
20th May	10.30am - 12.00 noon - Family Coffee Morning - <i>Numicon Workshop</i> 2.45pm - Ascension & Pentecost Liturgy (All Key Stages)

The next newsletter will be published
on 26th March 2015