

Sacred Heart RC Primary School

Parish Bulletin

WESTHOUGHTON

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Executive Headteacher: Mr M Johnson | Deputy Headteacher: Mrs S Bridge

28th / 29th October 2023

MARIAN TERM NEWS

Welcome: This term we welcomed 60 new pupils and their families to our Reception cohort. Teachers, Mrs Purtill & Mrs Kakoullis also joined us in Year 1 along with support staff members, Miss Shackleton, Miss Jones, Mr Flanagan, Mr Bannister & Ms Stake. Our current number on roll is 423.

<https://www.sacred-heart.bolton.sch.uk/meet-the-team/>



Admissions: [Our admissions policy is available on the school website.](#) You can apply for a primary school place online anytime from 1 September 2023 to 15 January 2024 11:59pm.

<https://www.bolton.gov.uk/admissions/primary-school-places-1>

Governing Board: There are 2 [foundation governor](#) vacancies on our governing board. If you feel your skills would be useful to our school's strategic leadership, please speak to Fr Christopher or contact us at school for more information.

Thank you: On 18th October, we gathered for Mass in the school hall to thank Kathleen Morris for her 16 years of service as a foundation governor. We wish Mrs Morris a very happy retirement.



School Prayer: Join us in praying our school mission prayer: **Jesus lives in our school, in our minds and words and actions...**

Sacred Heart Singers: Our singing pupil leaders led a joyful contribution to Fr Christopher's induction Mass on 10th October.



BBC News: Did you see our school, very positively featured, on [BBC News](#) in an RSE report last Tuesday?



Normandy2023: A group of UKS2 pupils took the road to France this September, including a visit to Lisieux in the year of the [150th anniversary of Saint Therese of Lisieux's birth](#). Pope Francis says, "Don't stay home. Go, get out! Because when a young person doesn't move they rust. It's very sad to see a rusty young person. Be courageous and go!"



Pupil leadership groups: We have 28 pupil leadership teams across school including Apostles, Pupil Parliament, Wellbeing Champions, Eco-committee, Digital Leaders, Reading Ambassadors, Hope Ambassadors, Safety Agents, Lunchtime Assistants, Times Tables Tutors, Sacred Heart Singers, Healthy Champions, Arts Council, Sports Crew, Creation Ambassadors & subject ambassadors.



LOVE ONE ANOTHER

Data headlines:

The proportion of children reaching the GLD (good level of development) in Reception in 2023 was 83%, which is well above average.

2023/24 end of Y6 achievement data reflects a strong picture of achievement in reading, writing and mathematics. Pupils with SEND made strong progress across KS2.

Summer 2023 Y6 Data	RWM Combined National Standard	RWM Combined Greater Depth	Reading National Standard	Reading Greater Depth	Writing National Standard	Writing Greater Depth	Maths National Standard	Maths Greater Depth	SPAG National Standard	SPAG Greater Depth
National	63%	8%	73%	29%	71%	13%	73%	24%	72%	30%
Local	59%	10%	73%	26%	74%	17%	77%	25%	76%	33%
School	76%	22%	86%	34%	86%	36%	88%	36%	86%	49%

Overall pupil attendance in the last academic year was **95.3%** which is above the national average for all pupils and for those with SEND.

Liturgical Prayer: Every week, groups of pupils in all classes lead 'liturgical prayer' linked to the following Sunday's Gospel. As we have been in the **Marian Term**, we also held a 'rolling worship', outdoors, for all classes to celebrate the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary.



Cornerstone Harvest Appeal: Last week, our Apostles spent time sorting the Harvest donations. After the half term, some of our Hope Ambassadors will take them to Cornerstone...



REQM Gold: On 9th October, the RE Council of England & Wales recently conducted an assessment of RE at the school. They report: *The leadership and staff of the Sacred Heart RC Primary School are committed to providing the children with high quality teaching and*

learning which is reflected in their outstanding progress and achievements. RE is described as the 'core of the core' and pervades all areas of the curriculum and school life. Their use of Hope Ambassadors, RE Subject Champions, Apostles and Creation Ambassadors enables the children to learn skills, deepen their understanding of stewardship, and become empowered to 'be activists for change'. The RE curriculum provides the children with a range of stimulating, enquiry based and cross curricular activities which develop their knowledge and understanding. In addition, the use of guest speakers and visits provides other interesting and interactive opportunities for learning. The school motto: Love One Another and Catholic Gospel values are inherent in all that they do and are combined with enriching learning experiences which enable the children to develop into loving, respectful and confident individuals. Mr Edwards is an inspirational RE Leader who is dedicated to nurturing and supporting the children, striving to ensure that 'all children succeed'. The Headteacher, Mr Johnson, and Mr Edwards are passionate about RE and are working hard to support their staff and other schools by sharing their knowledge and expertise.

We have now begun work towards the revised curriculum found in the [new RE Directory, To know You more clearly](#)... This must be in place by September 2025.

Primary Geography QM: Achieving silver award, the assessor reported: *The subject is obviously well led. You have continued to review and develop, creating a rich curriculum with ambitious standards and a relevant and enjoyable curriculum. The Geography at Sacred Heart RC Primary School is rigorously planned, and the curriculum design is coherent, with geographical knowledge and concepts sequenced for progression and depth.*



Key Dates: Please read our weekly news on [The Sacred Heart Standard](#) which contains events for the **Remembrance term**, to which parishioners are invited. These include the joint school & parish **Christmas Fair** on Friday 8th December 2023, from 3:35pm. <https://www.sacred-heart.bolton.sch.uk/newsletters/>

UNITE | ACHIEVE | CELEBRATE

Jesus lives in our school: in our minds and words and actions...