

*Together we follow Jesus' footsteps in our living and learning.*

*Article 17: Children have the right to access information*

**31 January 2023**

Dear Families

Welcome to the first newsletter of 2023. I hope this year is filled with joy and happiness for you and your family.

**Commando Joe's Days**

Nursery, Reception, Year 1, Year 2 and Year 3 have enjoyed their Commando Joe's Days this January and other year groups are looking forward to their days in February. The children have all worked well as a team and developed resilience through problem solving and overcoming challenges. Well done everyone.

**Nursery Parent Stay and Play**

It has been lovely to have some of our Nursery parents join us for stay and play sessions this month. The children have loved sharing their play with their families. We hope you have all enjoyed spending time with the staff too, thank you for the positive feedback we have received. The staff have appreciated your kind words.

**Class Liturgical Prayers**

At the end of every RE unit of the work, the children plan and deliver a liturgical prayer to be shared with the class. It has been lovely that some families have been able to join us for these short moments of prayer.

We aim to invite parents throughout the year to join us at the end of the RE topics.

**Safeguarding**

A reminder that the adults in school responsible for safeguarding and child protection are Mrs Nealings, Mrs Binney and Miss Micklethwaite.



Mrs Nealings



Mrs Binney



Miss Micklethwaite

The school governor responsible for safeguarding is Mrs Devine-Wilkinson and she can be contacted via the school office.

**If any of your child's contact details, collection details, medical conditions have changed, please remember to update the school as soon as possible.**

## Positive Relationship Policy

Mrs Binney is hosting a consultation meeting on Monday 6 February for parents and carers at 9am. If you cannot attend the meeting, you can share your views using the online form which you can access via the school website.

## Safe Squad

Thank you to everyone who applied for the Safe Squad. There was a very rigorous recruitment process and there was lots of deliberation as the candidates were so good and passionate!

They have had a visit from the local community police and have been involved in creating the new school footprints for the positive relationship policy. They have some fantastic ideas and I am delighted to be working with a wonderful group of children.



## Bible Crew

We have Bible Crew sessions taking place for children to learn about the Bible and scripture. Children can drop in to the sessions. Last week the children learned about the Bible and read the first story in the book of Genesis. They have suggested lots of scripture they want to study and have thought about ways they want to share the message of these Bible stories across the school.

I was delighted at how many children came to the first session.

This week the Bible crew have been looking at scripture to represent our Footsteps that the safe squad created.

## Laudato Leaders

The Laudato Leaders have started their hard work towards the LiveSimply Award. They have gathered ideas from their own classes about how they can live simply, live in solidarity with people in poverty and live sustainably with creation. We are currently hosting a bottle top competition in school – we would like each class to bring in as many bottle tops as possible so we can create a fantastic piece of artwork to display in our school grounds.

Every two weeks we are going to share an important message or set a challenge for families – you will find this on our school Twitter page @StCharlesPrimNE. If you have any ideas on how we can live simply or you would like get involved, please contact the school office.

### Art Curriculum

This term the children across school are all enjoying their art topics. It was wonderful to see the children engaged in learning and they know so much about the artist they are studying. From Richard Long in Year 1, William Morris in Year 3 and Lowry in Year 6.

We hope to display some of the final pieces in school this term. We are looking forward to celebrating their wonderful creations.



### Parent Workshops

Miss Micklethwaite will be hosting the following workshops for Reception parents this term. We have listened to feedback from parent questionnaires and there will be a demonstration phonics session included in the writing workshop. Materials from the workshops will be on the school website after the sessions.

#### Reception Class Writing Workshop (8:50am - 9:45am)

Tuesday 7 February 2023

#### Reception Class Maths Workshop (8:50am - 9:45am)

Thursday 9 March 2023

### Safer Internet Day 7 February 2023

Next week Mr Gray is leading an assembly to spread this year's message 'Want to talk about it? Making space for conversations about life online'.

The children will be completing tasks in their class and also discussing the influence of social media on their mental health.

**Safer  
Internet  
Day 2023** | **Tuesday  
7 February**

Coordinated by the UK Safer Internet Centre

[saferinternetday.org.uk](https://saferinternetday.org.uk)

### **Parking In School Car Park**

Please do not use the disabled car parking spaces in the school car park unless you have a blue badge allowing you to do so. Please also refrain from parking on the double yellow lines; cars parked on the double yellow lines can prevent other cars from reversing out of the car parking spaces.

### **ParentPay**

Please remember that your ParentPay account should **never** be in debt. Funds should be added to ParentPay in advance of your child taking their meals. If your account is persistently in debt, you may be asked to switch to packed lunches to avoid any debt being incurred by the school.

### **Children Arriving Late**

If your child is late for school and has to enter the school via the school office, **a parent** should come to the school office to sign the child in using the new signing in system.

### **Nursery Application Forms for September 2023**

An application form is now available to download from the school website ([www.stcharlesprimary.uk](http://www.stcharlesprimary.uk)) or a copy can be obtained from the school office.

### **Early Collection of Siblings**

Please avoid, wherever possible, the early collection of siblings if one sibling has to leave school early for any reason.

### **School Closure on 8 May 2023**

The school will be closed to pupils and staff on Monday 8 May for the new King's Coronation.

### **Poverty Proofing**

As part of our poverty proofing strategy, we are no longer able to hand out sweets or cake in classes for birthdays, etc.

### **PTA**

Coming soon is a PTA newsletter sharing some of the fantastic ideas they have for the next few terms. They are planning a uniform swap and a World Book Day costume swap before half term. Please come and join us for a coffee and wellbeing afternoon on Monday 13 February from 3.20pm.



Mrs Nealings  
Head Teacher

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Follow us on Twitter: [@StCharlesPrimNE](https://twitter.com/StCharlesPrimNE)

## Forthcoming Diary Dates

Day	Date	February 2023	Class
Thursday	02.02.23	Reception Liturgical Prayer – Reception parents welcome at 2.50pm	Reception
Thursday	02.02.23	Y2 Liturgical Prayer – Y2 parents welcome at 2.50pm	Y2
Thursday	02.02.23	Y4 Liturgical Prayer – Y4 parents welcome at 2.50pm	Y4
Friday	03.02.23	Y3 Commando Joe's Day	Y3
Friday	03.02.23	Y4 Commando Joe's Da	Y4
Friday	03.02.23	Parent Stay and Play	Nursery
Tuesday	07.02.23	Writing Workshop for Parents	Reception
Tuesday	07.02.23	Internet Safety Day	Whole School
Wednesday	08.02.23	Team Challenge Day	Y4
Thursday	09.02.23	Team Challenge Day	Y3
Friday	10.02.23	Science day in school to celebrate International Day of Women and Girls in Science	
Monday	13.02.23	PTA coffee and wellbeing afternoon – details to follow	From 3.20pm
Friday	17.02.23	Last day of term	
Day	Date	March 2023	Class
Monday	27.02.23	First day of term	
Monday	27.02.23	Y4 and Y6 visit to Newcastle Central Mosque	(Morning trip)
Tuesday	28.02.23	Possible strike action by NEU members	
Tuesday	28.02.23	CAFOD Big Lent Walk will be launched in assembly	
Thursday	02.03.23	World Book Day – details to follow	
Monday	06.03.23	KS2 Author visit – Jenny Pearson	
Wednesday	08.03.23	Y5 and Y6 Reconciliation with Father Michael	In school
Thursday	09.03.23	Maths Workshop for Parents	Reception
Monday	13.03.23	St Charles' Church Visit	Year 2
Tuesday	14.03.23	St Charles' Church Visit	Year 1
Wednesday	15.03.23	St Charles' Church Visit	Reception



Wednesday	15.03.23	Possible strike action by NEU members	
Thursday	16.03.23	Possible strike action by NEU members	
Friday	17.03.23	Red Nose Day – details to follow	Whole School
Wednesday	22.03.23	Y4 Stations of the Cross	Newcastle Cathedral
Friday	24.03.23	Y4 Safety Works trip	Afternoon
Monday	27.03.23	Y3 Liturgical Prayer	2.30pm families welcome.
Tuesday	28.03.23	Y4 Liturgical Prayer	2.30pm families welcome.
Wednesday	29.03.23	Y5 Liturgical Prayer	2.30pm families welcome.
Thursday	30.03.23	Y6 Liturgical Prayer	2.30pm families welcome.
Friday	31.03.23	Rocksteady Music Concert	Families of those children who take part in Rocksteady Music are welcome to join us at 2.30pm
Friday	31.03.23	Last day of term	