

St Hugh of Lincoln RC Primary School

Glastonbury Road | Stretford | Manchester | M32 9PD

t. 0161 912 2906 | text. 07860 005 074

e. sthughoflincoln.admin@trafford.gov.uk w. www.st-hughlincoln.trafford.sch.uk

Monday 4th March 2024

Dear Parents/Carers

On Saturday morning our Year 3 children received the Sacrament of Reconciliation as part of their Holy Communion preparation. Well done Year 3.

Thank you so much for all your support last week. The Dance Shows that took place on Tuesday and Wednesday evening celebrated the fantastic children's hard work. We are sure you will agree that the performances were amazing and we would like to thank our staff for giving up their evening (family time) to look after the children backstage.

Beat the Street

On Friday we sent out 'Beat the Street' letter, map and card. Over the weekend we have been blown away with the points achieved so far, particularly as St Hugh's were only added to the programme last week. As we write this letter, we currently have 12,700 points, which is fantastic! We have been told it is double points this week!

If you have not done already, please register the card so points then can be collected. There are prizes to be won for your child and the school. Please refer to the letter on the website in the letters section 'Beat the Street'. Thank you.

World Book Day

World Book Day is this Thursday 7th March. Children are asked to wear their pyjamas and bring their favourite bedtime book, and maybe a teddy!

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Lent Mass

It was lovely seeing so many children in church on Thursday. Prayer Leaders are taking turns to read. Mass begins on 8am every Thursday. All are welcome. As it is World Book Day this Thursday, Father Ged said he will allow pyjamas for those attending Lent Mass this week!





Safeguarding

Please find attached the Monthly Safeguarding Newsletters. Thank you for the positive feedback that we have had regarding the newsletters. This month it focuses on Child-on-Child Abuse, tips for holding off letting your child have a social media account and 'WhatsApp' is the app focus.

March Collective Worship

Please find attached this month's Collective Worship. http://www.tentenresources.co.uk/prayers-for-home/parent-newsletter/

Reminders

Please pay £2 for your child(Yr 1 - Yr 6) to attend the Science Workshop (Tuesday 27^{th} March) as this needs to be paid in advance.

Thursday 7th March – World Book Day

Friday 8th March – Year 3 Reading Breakfast

Friday 15th March – Non-Uniform Day £1 (Wear green for St Patrick)

Friday 15th March – Year 4 Reading Breakfast

Yours sincerely

Mrs Atherton and Mr Smith

SPOTLIGHT ON SAFEGUARDING

Working together to keep our young people safe

Primary | March 2024

In this month's issue:

- · Child-on-child abuse
- Tips for holding off letting your child have a social media account
- App focus: WhatsApp

Understanding Child-on-Child Abuse

Child-on-child abuse refers to any inappropriate behaviour between children that is abusive in nature. This type of abuse is so named because it typically involves individuals who are similar in age or developmental stages.

Child-on-child abuse can occur either inperson or online, and it can happen
anywhere – at school, in the park, or even
within the confines of a child's own home
via internet-connected devices. This type
of abuse encompasses physical, sexual, or
emotional abuse, harassment, exploitation,
bullying, coercive control, and initiation
rituals.

It is important to keep in mind that childon-child abuse can cause harm to both the victim and the perpetrator. There is often a complex web of reasons why a child may engage in abusive behaviour towards another.

Spotting the signs that your child may be experiencing abuse:

- noticeable change in behaviour
- not wanting to go to school or spend social time with specific friends
- withdrawn or mood changes
- · changes in the times spent online
- asking for money or giving belongings away/losing belongings





5 THINGS YOU CAN DO TO HELP YOUR CHILD STAY SAFE FROM ABUSE

HAVE A CONVERSATION WITH YOUR CHILD ABOUT STAYING SAFE IN VARIOUS ENVIRONMENTS

Children who are aware of risks and safety measures are better equipped to recognise potential abuse situations.

MONITOR THEIR DEVICES CLOSELY AND USE PARENTAL CONTROLS ON THEIR DEVICES



Be present when they are using internet connected devices. Research the safety features on their devices and utilise them.

SUPERVISION WHEN AROUND OTHER CHILDREN

If they spend time at another house, away from you, make sure they are suitably supervised by the adult they are with



MY CHOICE MY BODY

TEACH THEM ABOUT BODY SAFETY

Support your child in understanding boundaries regarding their body. It is crucial for them to understand the concept of consent.

THINK ABOUT WHO THEY MIGHT TELL IN SITUATIONS OF ABUSE

Discuss which adult they feel comfortable confiding in when they are in different environments.

The_Enlightened_Parent



SPOTLIGHT ON SAFEGUARDING

Delaying Your Child's Access to Social Media

In light of recent tragic incidents involving children, there is a growing push to restrict social media access until the age of 16. Various reports link social media to these incidents, prompting concerns about its negative effects on children. Despite this, more primary school children are creating their own accounts or using those managed by parents.

If you would prefer your child not to engage in social media at a young age, how can you address this with them, especially when their friends are already active on these platforms?



WhatsApp: The Risks and Safety Features

Whilst WhatsApp may market some of its features as protecting the privacy of users, they also put children in a vulnerable position.

- End-to-end encryption means that only people in the chat can read the messages; this also means that chats cannot be monitored for illegal activity.
- Live location sharing can be useful but it also means that children and young people can put themselves in a vulnerable position by sharing their location to people they don't really know.
- View once allows content to be sent and read by users only once before disappearing. This leaves children and young people vulnerable to being sent inappropriate content and not being able to report it as it has disappeared.
- Disappearing messages means that content disappears after either 24 hours, 7 days or 90 days. This
 may encourage a user to send more risky content as they believe it will disappear. It can be forwarded
 or a screenshot taken within that time and, therefore, shared with others.

<u>Tips on keeping your child safe on WhatsApp:</u>

- Check privacy settings (click the cog) to see what information is currently shared .
- Talk to your child about what to do if someone they don't know contacts them (they should tell you).
- Have open conversations about what is appropriate and inappropriate content to share.





March 2024

March is packed with celebrations! From the Feast Days of St David, St Patrick and St Joseph to Mothering Sunday. Then as the clocks spring forward, we reach Holy Week and the joy of Easter!

Among the excitement and reflection of the Lenten season, family life goes on. As you help with homework or do the school run, perhaps you could find your own moment of calm by using the prayer resources below.

This newsletter shares some of the content children will experience in school throughout March and suggests ways for you to engage with them about it. We hope it is a useful resource for your family prayer time.

Perfect Promises

Throughout Lent, our assemblies follow the theme of God's **Perfect Promises.** Continuing from last month, in March children will explore themes of guidance, presence and belonging connected to stories from the Old Testament.

All these help children to understand that Jesus is the fulfilment of God's Perfect Promises. Because of Jesus' death and Resurrection (that we anticipate in Lent and celebrate at Easter) we can be close to God and have a relationship with Him!

Perhaps you could use this game to think about 'belonging' with your child/ren and have your own discussions at home.

See the game here:

https://www.tentenresources.co.uk/prayers-for-home/parent-newsletter/

- These items are in the wrong place, where do they really belong?
- What do you think it means to belong to God?

With your child, you might also wish to...

- Create your own 'list of guidance' on how your family wants to live and love others well.
- Talk about places or buildings where you feel at peace or experience God's presence. Why not plan a trip to one of these places during Lent and spend time in quiet or praying there together?
- Read <u>Psalm 100</u> and discuss why the writer of the Psalm is so joyful.

Journey with Jesus through Holy Week

This year, Holy Week begins on Sunday 24th March. During the week beginning 25th March, children will have the opportunity to focus on the events of the last week of Jesus' life on Earth, leading up to His Crucifixion.

These prayers are guided by retellings of the events of Holy Week, from the perspective of Jesus himself.

Why not listen to this audio clip with your child/ren and make time to pause and reflect on the journey Jesus takes to the Cross in your own family prayer time.

https://www.tentenresources.co.uk/prayers-for-home/parent-newsletter/

With your child, why don't you...

- Bring some of the Holy Week Scripture passages below to life by making your own palm branches or washing each other's feet.
 - Palm Sunday John 12:12-13
 - o Jesus washes the disciples feet John 13:4-5, 12-15
- Talk about what practical ways you can help and serve others. What actions can show care to the people around you?

Prayer

The daily prayers for the week beginning 11th March introduce children to Laetare Sunday. These prayers focus on rejoicing in Jesus, light of the world, who brings us joy both now and forever in Heaven.

These prompts might encourage active participation in family prayer time.

- Jesus, thank you for bringing me joy by...
- Jesus, thank you for bringing me hope by...
- Jesus, thank you for bringing me life by...

You might like to use this short prayer to conclude your personal or family prayer time.

Jesus you are the light!

Help us to live in the light you bring.

Amen