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Welcome to the Oratory Chronicle!

I am delighted to present the first edition of the Oratory Chronicle which showcases the vibrant curriculum within our school and the God-given talents of our children.

Our enthusiastic and talented journalists have worked tirelessly under the direction of Miss Nelson who is currently training to be an English teacher at St Paul's School for Girls.

Miss Nelson said, "I have been so impressed with all the children, their enthusiasm and diligence are outstanding!"

The Oratory journalists were chosen as a result of their improved writing skills since September in addition to their 'always ready for a challenge' attitude!

Enjoy...

Mrs Dickinson

Meet Our Journalists

Aviana is in Year 4 and is a bright, enthusiastic pupil.

Clezi is in Year 4 and her favourite subject is English.

Danny is in Year 5 and loves science.

Eva is in Year 5 and likes dogs.

Dylan is in Year 6 and his favourite sport is water polo.

Fossy is in Year 6 and his favourite sport is football.

Freya is in Year 6 and she loves maths and photography.

Isobel is in Year 6 and likes art, maths and music.

Manveer is in Year 6 and likes reading and writing.

Mong Ting is in Year 6 and she loves playing basketball.

Natalia is in Year 6 and she likes football and basketball.

Shane is in Year 6 and he loves school and learning.

News

Terrific Times Tables!

By Fossy, Year 6

This half-term, pupils in year 6 were set the task of a times table competition to see who's the quickest at times tables.

The competition was set for the students of the school to get better and faster at times table and children were split into teams of girls versus boys. The competition ended on Thursday 25th October 2018 at 8pm. Shane in year 6 said, "I think this is an amazing idea and I've become much quicker. Also, I hope the boys win."

This fascinating event was held online on the Times Table Rock Stars website and on the app. In school, Miss Corns (the Year 6 teacher) has allowed the children to play on the iPad to gain points for their teams.

The winners were the girls by 4000 points!

Learning Latin

By Dylan and Manveer, Y6

Every Thursday since the beginning of term, we get together in the hall to sing hymns in Latin. This is held by Father Anton and Brother David.

We are doing this to get closer to Jesus, as well as to learn some Latin. Freya in Year 6 said, "It's a good opportunity to improve your language skills and learn some Latin."



Welcome Back Mass

By Dylan, Year 6

On Friday 7th September, pupils and teachers all got together for the first mass of the year. We went to this mass to welcome everybody back from their summer holidays.

This was a very important mass because it welcomed the pupils back to school and allowed everyone to come together to reunite with each other and celebrate God. Freya in Year 6 said: "I loved the mass, it was very welcoming." Natalia in Year 6 also enjoyed the mass and thought that it was an "amazing experience."

The mass also gave us an opportunity to think about Our Lady, which was important because it is Our Lady's birthday in September. We are also thinking about her this month, because it is the month of the Rosary.

We are all looking forward to more masses throughout the year and will definitely enjoy them. We are also joyful to be back in school after the relaxing summer holidays.

News

The Fabulous Disco

By Shane, Year 6

On Friday 19th October, pupils from the Oratory RC Primary School attended a school disco in Ladywood.

The party was held at Ladywood Social Club and there was lots of dancing and music. It was such an amazing party: people had great fun and there were plenty of treats and sweets.

People were singing and dancing, running around and laughing. They stuffed themselves with sweets and drinks. Natalia said excitedly, "It was really fun and no one could possibly be bored!" Dylan agreed and said, "It was fun because all of my friends were there."

Overall, everyone had a great time and we hope to have more discos and much more fun!



The Daily Mile

By Isobel, Year 6

Since the beginning of the academic year, pupils in Key Stage One and Key Stage Two of the Oratory R.C. Primary School have been participating in a fitness initiative called the Daily Mile.

In the Daily Mile, pupils have to run laps around the school field. To complete the mile, you have to run seven laps of the field. It's a brand new challenge so not everyone can do seven laps yet, but we always aim high!

We're all feeling more healthy and fit because of the Daily Mile: it has really made a difference! Fossy in Year Six said, "Sometimes it's hard work and the ground is a bit slippery, but it's always worth it!"

Did you know? The Daily Mile actually started in Scotland at St Ninian's primary school and now we are one of over five thousand schools who are involved in this marvellous sporting event.

Brilliant Black History Month

By Aviana and Clezi, Year 4

Earlier this October, children at The Oratory R.C. Primary School were set the task of doing a homework project on a black role model of their choice.

The competition was set for the Oratory children to see who they could find to look up to and be inspired by. Clezi in Year 4 created a 3D model about Mary Seacole and Aviana wrote an information booklet about Barack Obama. There were also some beautiful and creative posters! Aviana said that the month was "brilliant!"

We celebrate black history month to celebrate black people who are excellent role models. Everyone found the month interesting and enjoyed learning more about people who are inspiring.



News

Magnificent Macbeth!

By Eva and Danny, Year 5

On Thursday 25th October, Year 5 performed the excellent play 'Macbeth' at the Old Rep Theatre in town.

Our experience of rehearsals at the Old Rep was incredible. Nick, a member of staff for Shakespeare in School Festival (SSF), complimented our play. We'd like to give a big thank you to Nick and our teachers who made the play possible.



We rehearsed for the play for six weeks and even memorised our lines at home to make sure that we could put an incredible show on for our audience. There were a massive four hundred people in the audience, so some of us felt a little nervous but we were all glad to have the opportunity.

After we finished the play and left the stage we could hear the audience cheering for us; we were very appreciative of their support.

Eaford, who played Macbeth, gave a brilliant performance. We all worked very hard to produce the play and found it an amazing experience!

Amazing Afternoon!

By Shane and Natalia, Year 6

Monday afternoons at The Oratory are very special because we spend the afternoon doing a range of creative, cross-curricular activities which make our education even more interesting and fun.

We start the afternoon with prayers and reading, then we begin our amazing activities.

Our activities include:

- Fabulous French with Mrs Livingstone,
- Art to stimulate our creative sides,
- Marvellous Music with Miss Mulenga and Miss Stevens,
- Chess, which is a great new skill for developing strategic minds,
- PE with Mr Morris, to help us be fit and active.

These afternoons encourage us to develop our creative talents and brighten up our Mondays!

Sports News

Netball Team Triumph

By Freya, Year 6

On the 22nd of October 2018, after school, The Oratory R.C. Primary School's netball team won the first netball match of the academic year while playing an away match against St Peter's, Harborne.

Arriving to the match late, we had to reduce time off the match. The first net of the match was scored by Dilis swiftly followed by substitutions and change of position. After a net by the opponents, drawing us at 1-1, Eva made the winning net!

I asked the captain, Tyla, about the outcome and she said: "I am happy that we won because it was a good experience for the newcomers." I thought it was great to put all of our hard work into practice.

How about joining the netball club and getting in on the fun?

Funny Football Fail

By Natalia, Year 6

On Tuesday 9th October, girls from Years 5 and 6 had their first girls' football tournament against other Catholic schools. The tournament was held by St Paul's School for Girls.

After four matches, the winning school was St Vincent's. Each match was seven minutes long; the whole tournament lasted about three hours. The matches were really fun and to keep things fair the referee did rock, paper, scissors to see which team would start.

Sadly, we got fifth place but it was really fun to meet other children from different schools and also to improve our teamwork skills. Isobel said, "Even though we didn't win it was still a really fun experience!"

The girls found it extremely good fun and we hope to have many more matches!

Epic Football Victory

By Shane, Year 6

On Tuesday 23rd October, pupils from years three and four from The Oratory R.C. Primary School participated in a football match against St George's.

It was held here at school. The people who took part had a great time and really enjoyed the event. It was great to work as a team and make new friends from another school.

The Oratory won by 6 goals to 4.

One of the pupils from St George's said, "Even though I'm sad about losing, I enjoyed taking part." Antony from The Oratory was overjoyed at the result and said, "I'm so happy we won!"

Christian Life

Saint of the Half Term

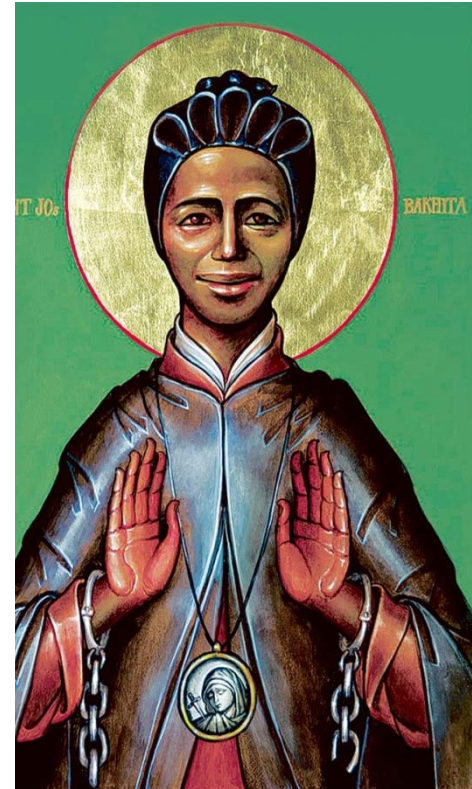
This half term's saint is St Josephine Bakhita. We chose her because it is Black History Month and she is an amazing black role model!

Saint Josephine Bakhita became a saint because: of her devotion to Christianity and because of how she was holy even though she suffered so much.

Canonisation: 1st October 2000 by Pope John Paul the 2nd.

Biography:

- Saint Josephine Bakhita was a slave in for twelve years.
- She learned about Christianity when she was living in Venice with one of the families she was a slave for. It was the Canossian Sisters of Venice who introduced her to Christianity.
- After learning about Christianity, Saint Josephine decided that she wanted to devote her life to God. She refused to stay with the family who owned her, and was allowed to stay with the Canossian sisters.
- She was baptised, confirmed, and received Holy Communion all on the same day: 9th January 1890.
- On 8th December 1896, Saint Josephine took her vows to become a Canossian sister. She spent her 45 years as a sister sharing the gospel, telling her story of her life as a slave, and preparing younger sisters for work in Africa.



Mr Paine Trains to Become a Deacon

By Manveer, Year 6

The Oratory's Deputy Head teacher is currently training to become a deacon at Oscott College. The training will take four years and Mr Paine has already spent one unofficial year deciding to become a deacon.

He is in his first official year. He has to do four years at Oscott College and complete special exams throughout his training. He has friends who are also training to become deacons who will take these exams as well. When he is a deacon, Mr Paine will be able to perform marriages and funerals and help the priest and the bishop.

We asked Mr Paine how he feels about becoming a deacon. He replied, "It's very exciting but scary at the same time!"

Mr Paine is very busy training to be a deacon and working hard at school! Please pray for him and his friends at Oscott College.

Prayers

Dear Lord,

We would like to pray for Mr Paine and his friends as they work hard to prepare to become deacons.

Lord, hear us.

Amen.

Please keep in your thoughts and prayers

Fr Paul Chavasse, Fr Gabby Maguire and all those who are poorly, undergoing an operation or having personal difficulties at this time. Of your charity please pray for the souls of those who have recently died including Freya Payne's grandfather and all those whose anniversaries occur at this time.

Eternal rest, grant unto them O Lord and let the perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen.

School Clubs

Before School

Day	Club	Open to	Time	Location	Charge	Coach / Teacher
Daily	Breakfast Club	All	8-8:50am	Family Learning Room	£2 per day	Breakfast Club Staff
Monday	Football Skills	Y3 to Y6	8 – 8.45am	Hall	No charge	Mr Morris
Monday	Coding	Y5 and Y6	8 – 8.45am	Y5	No charge	Mr Douglas
Tuesday	Multi Skills	Y1 and Y2	8 – 8.45am	Hall	No charge	Mr Morris
Wednesday	Multi Skills	Y3 to Y6	8 – 8.45am	Hall	No charge	Mr Morris
Thursday	Coding	Y5 and Y6	8 – 8.45am	Y5	No charge	Mr Douglas

After School

Day	Club	Open to	Time	Location	Charge	Coach / Teacher
Monday	Chess	Y2 to Y6	3.20 – 4.30	Family Learning	No charge	Mr Douglas
Monday	French	Rec, Y1, Y2	3.20 – 4.15	Music Room	£2	Mrs Livingstone
Monday	Football	Y3 and Y4	3.20 – 4.30	Outside/Hall	£2	Mr Barnett
Tuesday	Netball	Y3 to Y6	3.20 – 4.30	Outside/Hall	£2	Mr Morris
Wednesday	Football	Y5 to Y6	3.20 – 4.30	Outside/Hall	£2	Mr Barnett
Thursday	Guitar	Y1 to Y6	3.20 – 4.15	Music Room	£2	Mr Foad
Thursday	Football	Y1 to Y2	3.20 – 4.30	Outside/Hall	£2	Mr Morris
Friday	Basketball	Y3 to Y6	3.20 – 4.30	Hall	£2	Mr Griffith

Parents' Noticeboard

Thank you for all of your support with the Book Fair. We raised £400 to buy books for school!

**Friday 16th November,
9.30am**

Y5 Class Mass, Shrine of Blessed John Henry Newman.

All welcome.

**Friday 9th November,
9.30am**

Y6 Class Mass, Shrine of Blessed John Henry Newman.

All welcome.

Thursday 22nd November

1:30-2:15pm- Y3 to Y6
Benediction, Oratory Church.

Christmas Dinner Deadline. Slips must be returned by this date.

**Thursday 29th- Friday 30th
November**

Whole school story telling- Primary Books.

Book Fair in hall Thursday 3:15pm-4pm and all day Friday.

Friday 30th November

10am- 6:30pm- Learning Together Day.

Sunday 2nd December

First Sunday of Advent.
Children to begin to collect for Reverse Advent Box.

Monday 3rd December

Christmas raffle tickets on sale.
20p for 1 or 5 for £1.

**Friday 7th December-
9.30am**

Mary of the Immaculate Conception, School Patron,
Mass at Oratory Church.

Thursday 13th December

Whole School Christmas Dinner.

**Friday 14th September,
9.30am**

Y3 and Y4 Class Mass. Caritas Christi Carol Service, St Chad's Cathedral.

Tuesday 18th December

9.30am- 10:30am- Y1 Nativity ably supported by Y2.

2pm- Macbeth performance by Y5 for Y1-Y6.

Wednesday 19th December

Nursery and reception 10:30am- Christmas Nativity.

Nativities will be ticket based and include a mince pie and refreshments.

Thursday 20th December

Y3, 4, 5, and 6 to see ELF. Tickets are £20 per child.

Nursery (am) rec, Y1 and Y2 Christmas Parties and a visit to Father Christmas!

£2

Friday 21st December

9:30am- Whole School Mass.

1:30pm- Break up for the Christmas Holidays.

Activities

Word Search

S G G P V B K C A R D O M C V
P I N C E Y M L Y J W R M O J
R J I I X K W A O U O T B N T
P I K Q N M K U E F L H S C K
D B N K N R R A I R Y D P E J
G E I D P N A N U H E X O N D
G V H R A B U E G T U E R T L
H C T L G S Q Y L Z U U T R O
V U I O R A T O R Y F M S A Z
V S E L C I N O R H C N N T H
T S W E M R N C N K E C Y E E
B U M B G S J V R W I E T F E
I H V U L J L Q S A M D U B F
S H J A D G S K X X V T X U P
O G R L U V N M L V W P L X S

AUTUMN
JOURNALIST
ORATORY
UNIFORM

CHRONICLE
LEARNING
SPORTS

CONCENTRATE
NEWS
THINKING

Competition!

If you'd like to be in with the chance of having your drawing on the cover of the next issue of The Oratory Chronicle, this competition is for you!

All drawings must have a religious theme.

Please submit your drawings to The Oratory Chronicle journalist team.