



In Sunday's Gospel, John 2:13-25, Along with many other pilgrims, Jesus went to the Temple in Jerusalem at Passover. In the Temple, as there often was, were people selling cattle, sheep and doves, which were used as offerings to God and money-changers, exchanging money so that pilgrims from different lands could buy the offerings.

The Temple should have been a place of prayer and yet the money changers and stallholders made it into a place of business, making it hard to pray and disrespectful to God.

Jesus decided to assert his authority as Son of God. He made a whip and drove the traders out of the Temple. When asked by the Jewish leaders why he had done that, Jesus told them to, 'Destroy this temple and in three days I will build it again.' They did not understand what he was talking about; he was, of course, anticipating his own crucifixion when his body would be destroyed, and built again when he rose on the third day.

Jesus annoyed the pilgrims, the traders and the Jewish authorities. But why? Because he felt he needed to upset the status quo; he wanted to challenge the disrespectful use of the Temple. But he also had to face the consequences, which he knew were going to happen. But he saw something that he did not think was fair or right and so he acted to change the situation.

Closing prayer: Christ Jesus, show us how to be brave enough to stand up for what is right and fair. Give us the courage to change the things we know

are wrong and help us to make the world a fairer place for our brothers and sisters around the world. Amen.

Growth Mindset

We have been doing a lot of work with the children on developing a growth mindset.



Our plans are to introduce a whole school reward scheme based on statements the children have developed that encapsulate a growth mindset. These words and phrases will be shared with you when the school council have confirmed them.

We then want to have a competition between the children to design characters / symbols for the phrases that can be used as posters and stickers to represent the phrases. Are there any parents who could advise and / or work with the children in designing these characters and how to convert them into posters and stickers?

Please contact Mrs Verhiest, me or your child's classteacher if you are able to help.

Class Masses

These will be held on Tuesdays in the school hall, commencing at 2.45pm. We look forward to welcoming you at your child's class mass. *Please note the change of time and place.*

Tuesday Date	Class
13 th March	Kangaroos
20 th March	Leopards



Class Liturgy

These will be held in class. Please join us at 9.15am for your child's class liturgy.

Wednesday Date	Class
7 th March	Ladybirds
14 th March	Bumblebees

Class Assemblies

These will be held in the School Hall every Wednesday afternoon. Please join us for your child's class assembly, which begins at 3.10pm for which you may arrive at the School Office from 3pm.

Wednesday Date	Class
28 th February	Dolphins
7 th March	Gorillas
14 th March	Seahorses
21 st March	Wolves

Parents' Information Evening (Years 1, 3, 4 and 5)

What should my child be able to do in reading, writing and maths by July?

At the end of the year, children are assessed by the teachers to determine if they have reached the end of year expectations in reading, writing and mathematics. We are putting on a session to explain the end of year criteria and what standard the children's work needs to be in order to achieve them.

Recently we had an information evening for parents of children in Y2 and Y6, as these are the SATS years.

On Wednesday 14 March at 6pm we will hold an information session for parents of children in year 1, 3, 4 and 5. This session to look at the expectations at the end of these years. Look out for a letter giving further details soon.

'Junior Dance Off' 2018



On Thursday 1st February, 18 children from years 5 and 6 went along to the Kings Theatre to compete in the 2018 'Junior Dance Off'. We had been learning a dance routine every Friday morning before school. We worked hard to put a routine together, to the songs; 'Human' by Rag'n'Bone Man and 'Heroes' by Alesso, based around the theme 'Empowerment'. We won 'Best Team Effort' award.



Amelie (Panthers) also won an individual award with a medal for 'Gifted and Talented'. We learnt new skills and dance moves and we all grew in experience. We loved the opportunity to perform at the Kings Theatre.

Amelie B and Laura T, St Swithun's Street Dance Team



St Swithun's Catholic Primary School Portsmouth

Guy Bass visits St Swithun's!



'On Wednesday the 6th of February we met the extremely famous... Guy Bass! He spoke to us about his famous books and ideas of how he

wrote them. He spoke to us about his childhood, also about what our fears were and how Stitch Head came to life. He told us about his other series like 'Spynosaur' and 'Dinkin Dings'. Guy told us about his new series which should be coming out next year. Later, we went to buy his books and he signed them for us. It was AMAZING and we all really enjoyed it!

Joshua, Leopards



Want to know more about FOSSS?

Volunteers for Friends of St Swithun's School regularly meet to help plan the great events your children attend.

Their AGM is being held on Thursday 8th March at the Northcote Hotel from 7.30pm. All are welcome to attend.

We also invite you to join the [FOSSS' Facebook page](#). The page is updated regularly so you will always be up to date with what is happening at St Swithun's.

Senior School Open Days

Mayville High School are holding a 'Whole School Open Day' on Saturday 3rd March from 10am-1pm.

Please contact Mayville on 02392 734847 for more details.

Portsmouth High School will be holding their Open Morning on Tuesday 6th March from 9-11am. Please contact Louise Nunan on 02392 826714 for more details.

St John's College are holding an Open Morning on Saturday 17th March from 9.30-12.30pm. Please contact Mrs Mengham to book your place at jmengham@stjohnscollege.co.uk or on 023982 815118.

Literature Quiz



Portsmouth High School Literature Quiz

'On 22nd February, two teams from year 5 and 6 took part in a Literature

Quiz. There were 8 rounds on different books and authors, each worth a certain amount of points – totalling 70. Our Year 6 team came 3rd out of 31 teams, and the Year 5 team did a great job too! It was a great morning and everyone really enjoyed it!

Isobel and Bailey, Panthers



St Swithun's Catholic Primary School Portsmouth



Office News...

Letters

Please [click here](#) or see below for a list of letters that were sent home recently:

Year 1/2 –

- Infant Voices – Kings Theatre (*Year 2 Choir Member Only*)
- Traction Man Author Visit

Year 3/4 –

- University of Portsmouth Hypermobility Study

Year 5/6 –

- Caen Trip – *Year 6 Pupils Only*
- University of Portsmouth Hypermobility Study
- Swimming Gala

All letters are now sent via email and are available on our website. If you have reason to receive a paper copy, please let the School Office know.

Sunlight / Twilight Clubs

A reminder to all parents to book your child's before or after school care place through the School Office. We are now reaching full capacity, so please do not turn up without a booking as we may not have a space for your child.

School Meals - Cypad

If you prefer your child to follow a vegetarian or Halal diet, please make their meal choice at home prior to them coming into school. There have been a few incidents recently where children have chosen a meat option in class by mistake.

Many thanks.

CONGRATULATIONS!!

Congratulations to Ting (Kangaroos) who won the Winifred Woodwind Shield at the Portsmouth Music Festival 2018.



Well done to Ben (Panthers) who recently won a trophy in Karate, for being a great student.



And a very well done to our St Swithun's Netball 'A' Team who are through to the finals which take place on Wednesday 7th March!

If you have any other excellent achievements and photos, we would love to share them in future newsletters.

INSET Days

Please note that the dates on the Portsmouth City Council website **DO NOT** include our INSET days. These can be found here in our newsletters, or on our website.

- **Monday 23rd July 2018**
- **Tuesday 24th July 2018**