



Our Lady's Catholic High School



A National Teaching School

Friday, 7 January 2022

The theme for next week is the Baptism of the Lord. (Luke 3: 15 – 22)

'Someone is coming who will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire'

At the River Jordan, God did not hold back. Through John the Baptist, he anointed Jesus, his only Son, with the power of the Holy Spirit, so that he could fulfil his purpose on Earth. Jesus is not alone as he begins his work, he has the Holy Spirit and the love of God, his Father. So, it is with us. Whatever challenge we face, we can be assured that, as we start afresh with new challenges, we have the Holy Spirit and the love of God to guide us and keep us safe. You are not on your own.

**Eternal Father,
you have given us your only Son,
and revealed him to us at his baptism in the River Jordan.
Grant that we may daily be renewed by your Holy Spirit,
through Jesus Christ, our Saviour.
Amen**

COVID 19 SAFETY

Our practice remains that tables/surfaces are sanitised at the start of every lesson, and pupils and staff must sanitise their hands. We continue to ask that every pupil carries their own small bottle of hand sanitiser so that they are always in a position to be able to sanitise their hands following touching surfaces. Would parents and carers please do a simple check each week to ensure that pupils have their own individual bottle of sanitizer.

We also ask that each pupil carries a spare face mask so that they have a reserve one should the need arise.

Wearing masks and sanitising have been exemplary throughout these challenging times and this is in no small part due to the wonderful support that you provide from home. Thank you.

INFORMATION FROM THE DFE

Daily testing for close contacts of COVID-19

People who are fully vaccinated, or children and young people aged between 5 and 18 years and 6 months, identified as a close contact of someone with COVID-19, should take an LFD test every day for seven days and continue to attend their setting as normal, unless they have a positive test result or develop symptoms at any time.

Children under 5 are not being advised to take part in daily testing of close contacts. If a child under 5 is a contact of a confirmed case, they are not required to self-isolate and should not start daily testing. If they live in the same household as someone with COVID-19, they should limit their contact with anyone who is at higher risk of severe illness if infected with COVID-19 and arrange to take a PCR test as soon as possible. They can continue to attend an education or childcare setting while waiting for the PCR result. If the test is positive, they should follow the [stay at home: guidance for households with possible or confirmed COVID-19 infection](#).

Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation (JCVI) advice on COVID-19 vaccination for at-risk 5 to 11 year olds, and booster doses for at-risk 12 to 15 year olds and all 16 to 17 year olds

On Wednesday, 22 December the government accepted advice from the [Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation \(JCVI\)](#) that a primary course of vaccination should be offered to children aged 5 to 11 years old who are in a clinical risk group, or who are a household contact of someone (of any age) who is immunosuppressed. The NHS is working through updated guidance and will set out how this is going to be operationalised shortly.

In response to the threat from the Omicron variant, the JCVI advised that a Pfizer booster vaccine should be offered to:

- children aged 12 to 15 years old who are in a clinical risk group or who are a household contact of immunosuppressed individuals, and those who are severely immunosuppressed and have had a third primary dose
- all young people aged 16 to 17 years old.

The NHS will communicate how eligible children and young people can get their boosters shortly.

SCIENCE IN THE NEWS

If you can tell your science teacher the answers to the questions you can earn a point.

Whilst we were all enjoying our Christmas break, the James Webb Space Telescope was successfully launched and the process of commissioning it (getting it ready to do its job) has begun. It is designed to be the more powerful successor to the Hubble Telescope. Read the article and find out about this exciting science project, then answer the following question.

Question 1: The diameter of the Hubble telescope is 2.4m. What is the diameter of the James Webb telescope?

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/science-environment-59873738>

Podcast

We are all currently being encouraged to make sure that we wash our hands regularly. But did you ever wonder about the history of soap and how it was made? Listen to the following podcast to find out.

Question 2: Soap can be made from animal fat. What other natural material was can be used to make soap?

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/play/p035917d>

Videos

We take electricity for granted, but in some parts of the world this is not a given. Watch this video about how one man in Kenya is bringing electricity to his neighbours. Then answer the following question.

Question 3: From what transport device did John Magiro build his first home made generator?

https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/stories-59635134?ns_mchannel=social&ns_source=twitter&ns_campaign=bbc_live&ns_linkname=59635134%26How%20to%20make%20electricity%20for%20your%20neighbours%262021-12-14T01%3A14%3A09.000Z&ns_fee=0&pinned_post_locator=urn:bbc:cps:curie:asset:915c0e4d-ba88-4db8-974e-a428dd6d9f08&pinned_post_asset_id=59635134&pinned_post_type=share

Home Research

Question 4: Who was Hitoshi Kihara and in which scientific field did he work?

Dates to remember

Friday, 11 February – School closes for half-term

Tuesday, 22 February – School opens

Thursday, 28 April – Year 7 Normandy Trip

Monday, 2 May – School closed for May Day

Friday, 27 May – School closes for half-term

Monday, 6 June – School opens



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