



# St Joseph's Catholic Primary School

## February 2026 Newsletter 8

### Lent

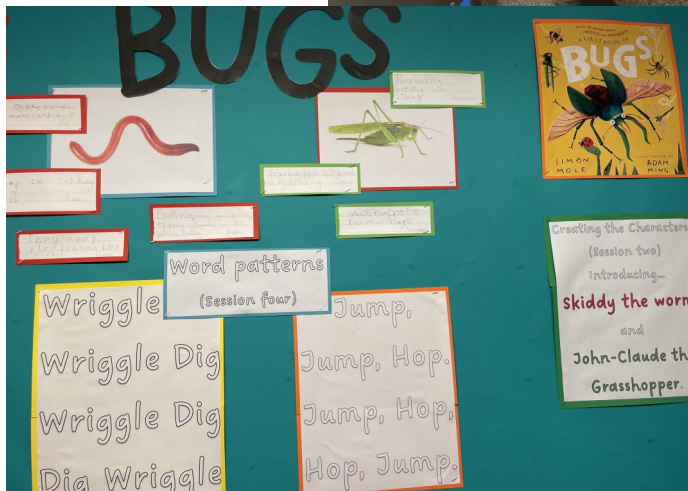
Next week is half term and we are looking forward to a break. Hopefully the weather will improve!

Lent starts on 18th February with the celebration of Ash Wednesday. In school, our RE Ambassadors have been working with Mrs Cameron to prepare and lead an assembly to help the children understand the importance of Ash Wednesday and the season of Lent. Traditionally, in the Christian faith we mark Lent with Penance, Alms Giving (Charity) and Prayer as we prepare for the feast of Easter. We will be raising money for CAFOD during Lent with a break the rules day. More info after the half term.

### National Year of Reading

We are taking part in the National Year of Reading which has been announced by the Department for Education. Mrs Selby and Miss Robinson have planned lots of exciting events to encourage reading for pleasure across the school. The book fair will be on 25th Feb to 4th March. Thank you to The Friends of St Joseph's who are helping to organise this. We have also linked up with Waterstones and the library for a series of visits and the first few started last week. Last week was National Storytelling Week and the theme was 'Soundtrack your story.'

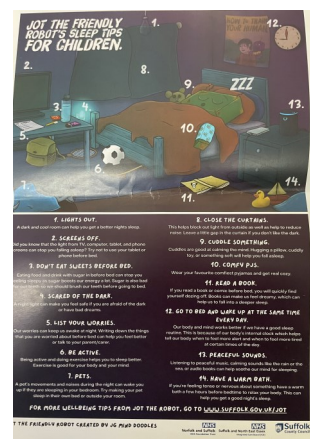
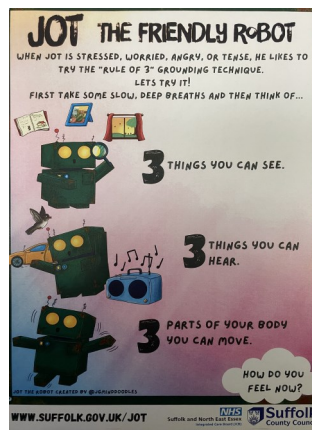
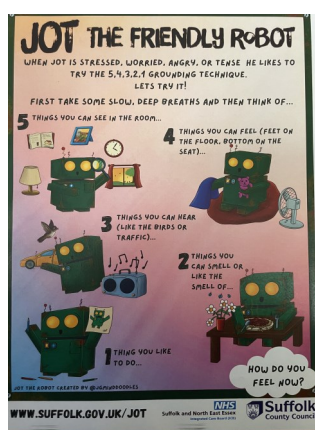
In school, the children have enjoyed various activities with a storytelling theme. The children in KS2 took part in a live workshop with Alim Kamara. The webinar explored the magic of storytelling through sound and rhythm. In KS1, the children enjoyed a live workshop with Annemarie Anang who wrote the text, 'I am Nefertiti'. In Reception the children were enthused by poet Simon Mole and musician Gecko. They used word patterns to explore the



## Children's Mental Health Week

This week is Children's Mental Health week and the theme is 'This is My Place'. The children and staff have been exploring this in assembly and PHSE sessions to help them understand the need to belong and fit in with others. Suffolk CC and NHS have provided some materials which we have shared with the children (see photos below). The materials are designed to help support mental well-being and you can find out more at <https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/children-families-and-learning/wellbeing-in-education/emotional-wellbeing-support-for-primary-school-children>

OM Health and Well-being are in school on the morning Weds 25th February. Annie (school nurse) is available for consultations relating to your child. She can help support anxiety, sleep routines, toileting, diet and emotional development. If you would like to book an appointment please contact the office. She will also be working with the children in year 3 and 4 to explore how to be resilient and happy.



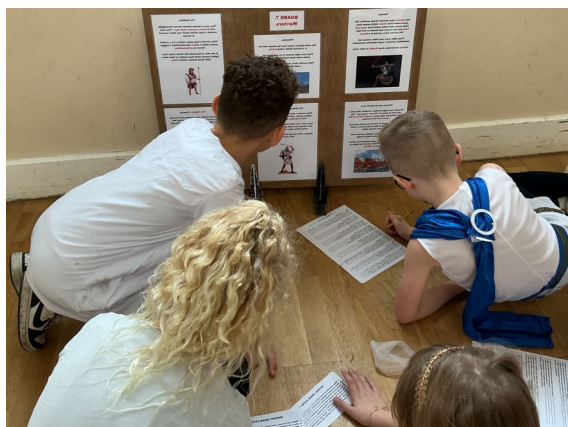
## The Robot and the Bluebird by David Lucas.

Children in year 3 & 4 have been learning the music, songs and story as part of the music curriculum since the beginning of term. On Tuesday they visited St Gregory's school to be part of a special performance with the Suffolk Music Service. The children thoroughly enjoyed listening to the Britten Sinfonia Orchestra accompany Sheena Masson as she retold the story. They joined in with the songs and actions enthusiastically and even got the chance to meet the composer of the music, Raph Clarkson. The children were beautifully behaved and remained ready, respectful and safe throughout the trip and were fantastic ambassadors for our school.



## Ancient Greek Day

Jonah class have been learning about Ancient Greece as part of the history curriculum and took part in an Ancient Greek Day last week. Portals of the past hosted the day bringing in artefacts for the children to explore. The children dressed up in costume and enjoyed the day.



## Diary Dates

**Mon 16th Feb - Fri 20th Feb Half term**

**25th Feb - OM nurses in from 9am**

**25th Feb - 4th Mar Book Fair**

**26th Feb - KS 2 to Mass at Our Lady's to celebrate the start of Lent**

**10th, 12th, 17th & 19th Mar - Learning consultations**

**19th Mar St Joseph's Feast Day Mass 10am - all welcome**

**Mon 30th Mar - Mon 13th Apr Easter Holiday**