



**ST JOSEPH'S**  
CATHOLIC PRIMARY  
SCHOOL

**St Joseph's Catholic Primary School**

Newsletter May 19th 2023

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## A message from our Principal



Dear parents,

Well done to all of the children who have joined in with Walk to School Week and completed the challenge each day - I hope you enjoyed taking part and you will receive your certificates shortly. The children have also been engaging in Mental Health Awareness week this week with the use of the nature zone area. It has been wonderful to see the activities, prayer and reflections taking place outside. Please do ask your child about the activities that they have taken part in this week. Supporting our children with their wellbeing, mental health and developing a growth mindset has been a real focus for us this year and an area in which our children have really enjoyed

Father Philip celebrated a beautiful Mass for the Feast of the Ascension with the help of our liturgy leaders reading and altar serving, and our Year 6 children have also led the Rosary and served lunch for our senior parishioners - fantastic servant leadership!

There have been a number of school trips being booked recently, please keep an eye out for further details. Although the cost of transport has risen, I hope that you will agree that such experiences do enrich the learning taking place across the curriculum.

On Wednesday next week, the children will be taking part in our May Procession. As well as joining in prayer, the children are invited to bring in a flower each to offer to Our Lady during the procession. To support our Living Simply commitment, this could be a bunch of flowers shared between a number of children within the class (as opposed to offering a bunch each), or just a flower grown in your garden. Could I please ask for the flowers to be brought into school on Wednesday morning. After the procession, we will then place the flowers offered in our Rosary garden for the benefit of all of our school community who use this area for quiet prayer and reflection. Thank you.

Tomorrow of course is our PTA Outdoor Action Day - all are welcome! Thank you all for your support.

### **Updates:**

**May TEN:TEN Newsletter** Here is the May newsletter from Ten:Ten. This newsletter shares some of the content children will experience in school throughout May and suggests ways to support your family prayer times [www.tentenresources.co.uk/prayers-for-home/parent-newsletter/](http://www.tentenresources.co.uk/prayers-for-home/parent-newsletter/)

We have a number of places available in our before and after school clubs. Please do enquire in the office if this is something that you wish to access or learn more about. Our Gymnastics club is now open to our Reception children too.

Please see the PTA section below with updated plans for the outdoor area and information about our Outdoor Action Day on May 20th. The slides and plans that have been put together are fantastic I'm sure that you will agree!

The children have asked about the potential of an art after school club. Are there any members of the school community who may have experience in this and able to support us?

Could I please continue to politely remind parents to park considerately around school. Thank you.

Have a great weekend.

God bless

Mr A. Wilkes

Principal



The poster features a dark blue background with a circular logo at the top center containing a cross and a book. Below the logo, the text reads: "St. Joseph's Catholic School", "We have places available for children to join our wonderful school this September!", "For more information, please contact school reception:", "01384 431980", and "info\_stjosephs@emmausmac.com". A small "Ofsted Good Provider" logo is on the left. At the bottom, a collage of photos shows children in various school activities, including playing drums, a group dance, and a school assembly. Text at the bottom of the poster states: "We remain a GOOD rated school, Ofsted Feb 2023."

*1 - We have a limited number of places available for our Reception class starting in September 2023. If you would like to know more, please contact our school office on 01384 431980. Come and join our wonderful school! "St Joseph's continues to be a Good school" - Ofsted Feb 2023.*

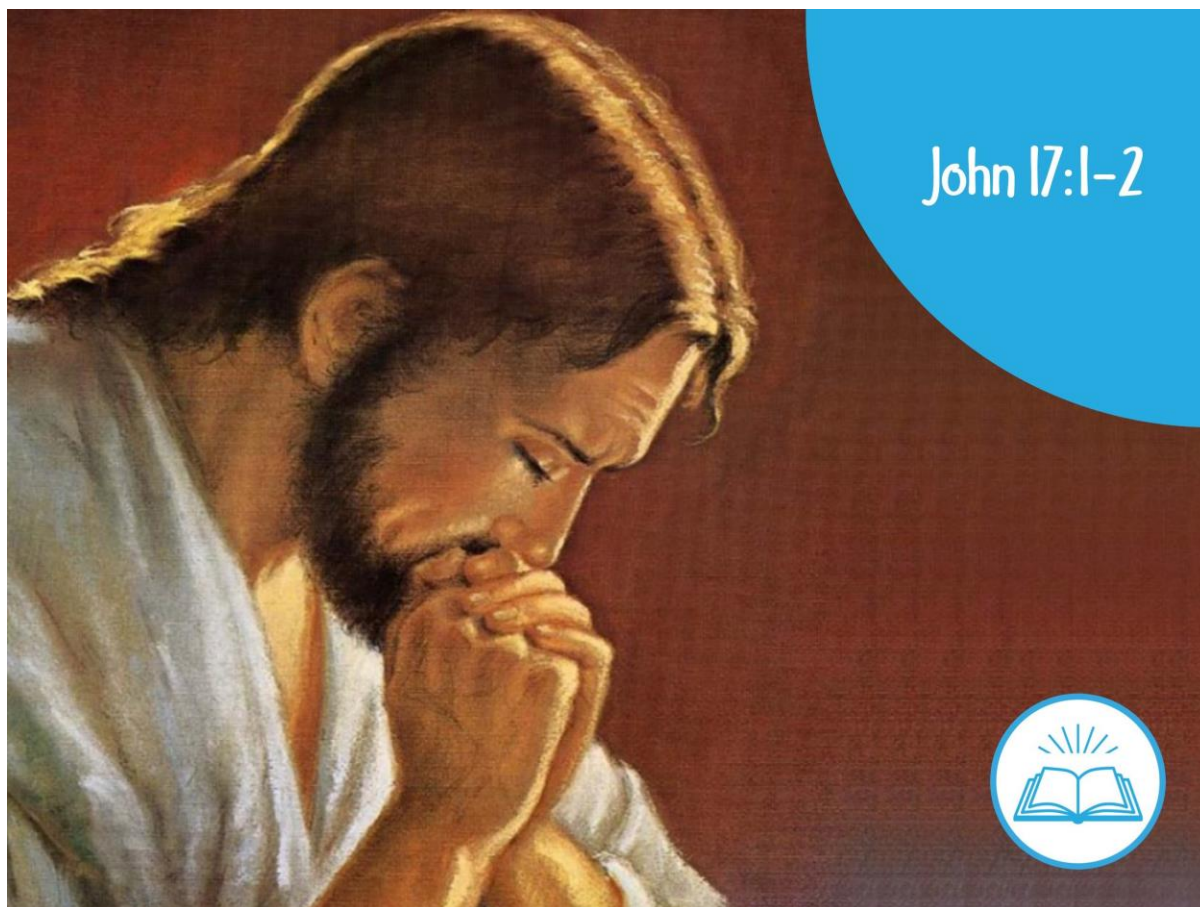
Thank you for joining us at family Mass each Saturday at 5pm at OLAS, it is a great success!



*2 - Instagram @STJOSEPHSCATHOLICPRIMARY*

*Twitter @StJoStourbridge*

## Children's liturgy – 7th Sunday of Easter (John 17:1-11)



Jesus prayed to his Father, that his friends “may be one just as you and I are one.”

What do you think he meant?

Jesus wanted his disciples to love one another, to be united with each other, to be together – just as closely as Jesus and God the Father are together.

Jesus prayed for us too. He wants us to be united, together, loving one another.

What sort of things might we do if we are united?

We might spend time together. And be at peace with each other, listening to each other and helping each other. We would want what is best for the other person – loving one another as much as we love ourselves.

What do you love to have, or to do? Would you be able to help someone else enjoy the same? Perhaps you have a favourite book and could read it to your little brother or sister. Perhaps you enjoy making music and you could invite a friend or family member to join you in singing or playing an instrument.

Do you have any other ideas? How else could we come together with others?

In a special letter called *Laudato Si'*, Pope Francis asked us all to join together to care for our earth and for each other.

What could you do in this special time after Easter to become more united - or 'at one' - with other people?

Jesus prayed for his disciples to be one, just as Jesus and God the Father are one. So, we pray together...

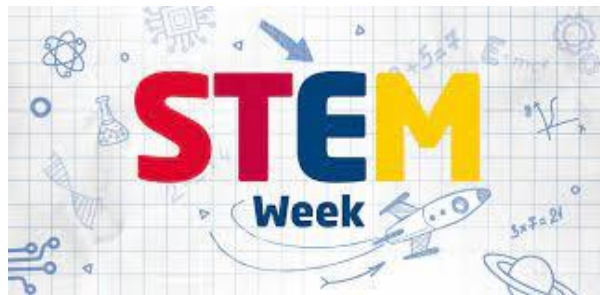
We pray for all world leaders: that they may learn to work together and make decisions that will make the world a more peaceful place. Lord, hear us...

We pray for people who are poor around the world: that they may feel supported by us as they work to improve life in their communities. Lord, hear us...

We pray for our parish, families and friends: that we may love one another, and work together for the good of the earth and everyone who lives here. Lord, hear us...

Closing prayer: God of love, help us to be like Jesus, and work together with others to build a better future for all people. Amen.

*Reflection adapted from Cafod children's liturgy*



*3 - Calling all parents: Do you have a career that involves science, engineering, art or maths? Would you be interested in talking to the children about how you use these skills in your job? During our 'STEAM' week (5th-9th June), we would love for parents to come in and chat to the children about their jobs. Please don't worry if you are not available on these dates, you could always send us a video. If you are interested, please contact Mrs Freeman or Mrs Cangiano to find out more information. We can't wait to hear from you.*

*\*Please note - due to the great feedback from parents so far who wish to talk to the children we have moved the date back a little to ensure that everyone who wishes to talk to the children will have the chance to inform us and the opportunity to do so.*

## Curriculum



Have you seen the curriculum area on our school website? It is full of information about the progression of key knowledge and skills that our children learn throughout their time at school. Our curriculum is designed to ensure that the precise knowledge and skills are learnt and reinforced so



that the children develop a wide schema (web of knowledge) and are able to know more and remember more during their time at school and are prepared for their next stage in education.

Ofsted agreed that we are continuing to develop an ambitious curriculum so that in all areas the children are able to achieve well and use the techniques that they have been taught to tackle a variety of challenges. Our curriculum is rooted in the teachings of the Gospel and Catholic Social Teachings so we make links with the children's learning to areas such as caring for our world, the dignity of workers, developments for the common good and more.

To bring the curriculum to life, we also plan for educational visits and visitors that enrich learning further.

You can view your child's learning in all areas at the link below.

[St Joseph's Catholic Primary School Stourbridge - Curriculum Plans \(st-jo-st.dudley.sch.uk\)](http://st-jo-st.dudley.sch.uk)

## Live Simply Update



## Walk to School Week 15th-19th May



Activity:	Completed:
Spot God's wonderful creation on your walk today	
Walk and talk to a family member today	
Walk and talk to a friend (and grown up) today	
Count the birds that you can spot today	
Spot plants on your walk today. Can you name any of them?	

Hand your completed form into your teacher/ the school office.

You might also like to ask your grown up to email in some pictures of your walk(s).

We would love to see what you have been up to.

[info\\_stjosephs@emmausmac.com](mailto:info_stjosephs@emmausmac.com)



*4 - Can you walk to school every day next week?*

*Let's live simply*

*Let's live sustainably*

*Let's live in solidarity with each other*

*Are you up for the challenge?*

## Gifts from God



The following children have been awarded certificates in our Gifts from God assembly this afternoon and will be invited to 'Brew with Mr W' on Friday afternoon to discuss their achievements. Well done children for your hard work and commitment to our school values.

Year group	Gospel values	Good work
Reception	Antonina	Cordelia & Phoebe
Year 1	Ava	Joshua
Year 2	Elienne	Francesca & Annie
Year 3	Leonardo	Daniel
Year 4	Seb	Iris
Year 5	Riley	Clemency
Year 6	Isla	Gabrielle

## Diary Dates - Summer term



### **Please note the following diary dates for Summer**

\*KS1 Assessments begin in May

Saturday 20th May 10am-4pm - PTA Outdoor Action Day. Information below.

Wednesday 24th May - May Procession (for children)

Wednesday 24th May - Friday 26th May Year 5 residential at Alton Castle

Friday 26th May - End of half term

Monday 29th May - Friday 2nd June - Half term break

Monday June 5th - School opens for the second half of the summer term

Monday 5th June - Friday 9th June - STEAM Week in school

Thursday 8th June - Individual school photographs am

Wednesday 14th June - Friday 16th June - Year 6 residential at Pioneer Centre

Wednesday 21st June - Emmaus Year 5 sports event at Hagley Catholic High School

Friday 23rd June - School closed for inset day

Tuesday 27th June - Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 Sports Days

Thursday 29th June Y1 trip to Cosford

Thursday 29th June 5:30pm - Reception parents' induction

1st July - St Joseph's Summer Faye

Monday 3rd July - School Nurse in school to meet with Y6 parents (time to follow)

Tuesday 4th July - School Nurse in Y6 all day (2:30pm for parent drop ins)

Wednesday 5th July - Hagley Catholic High School Year 7 transition day

Wednesday 5th July - Stay and play for new Reception intake

Wednesday 5th July - Whole school 'moving up' transition day

Friday 21st July - Prize giving for Years Reception - Year 5 (9:10am)

Monday 24th July - Year 6 leavers' assembly and prize giving (9:10am)

Tuesday 25th July - Year 6 leavers' Mass (9:10am)

Tuesday 25th July - Final day of the summer term

**\*Further dates to be added (including all Masses for the summer term)**

## PTA updates



We are very lucky to benefit from such an active and passionate PTA - thank you for your ongoing support to our school!

Please see the below videos for how our outside area has been transformed in school with thanks to the PTA! We have lots of exciting plans including a gardening club, vegetable patch, the use of a greenhouse, a pond area, new benches to listen to stories from the storytelling chair and areas for children to be responsible for. All showing how we are caring for our common home - how wonderful!

Thank you so much to our fantastic PTA!

Please see the link below for an update on the PTA outdoor projects for the rest of this year. If you can help in any way, please do let your

class PTA representative know. Thank you to the PTA for preparing this wonderful slideshow! [OUTDOOR PROJECTS \(canva.com\)](https://www.canva.com)





<https://sway.office.com/S5myYNaqYfcrWq3J#content=BbkWZgRqTlwANG>

5 - PTA Quiz night - Friday 19th May. All welcome!

<https://bearbookshop.co.uk/shop>



WE NOW HAVE A WISHLIST OF BOOKS HELD BY BEAR BOOK SHOP. THE LIST FEATURES TITLES OUR TEACHERS WOULD **LOVE** TO ADD TO THEIR BOOKSHELVES!

IF YOU ARE ABLE TO CONSIDER PURCHASING A BOOK FOR OUR SCHOOL COLLECTION, PLEASE CLICK THE LINK BELOW.

## PE Timetable



Please take note of your child's PE days for this half term.

Reception Class - Monday

Year 1 - Tuesday & Friday

Year 2 - Monday & Tuesday

Year 3 - Tuesday & Friday

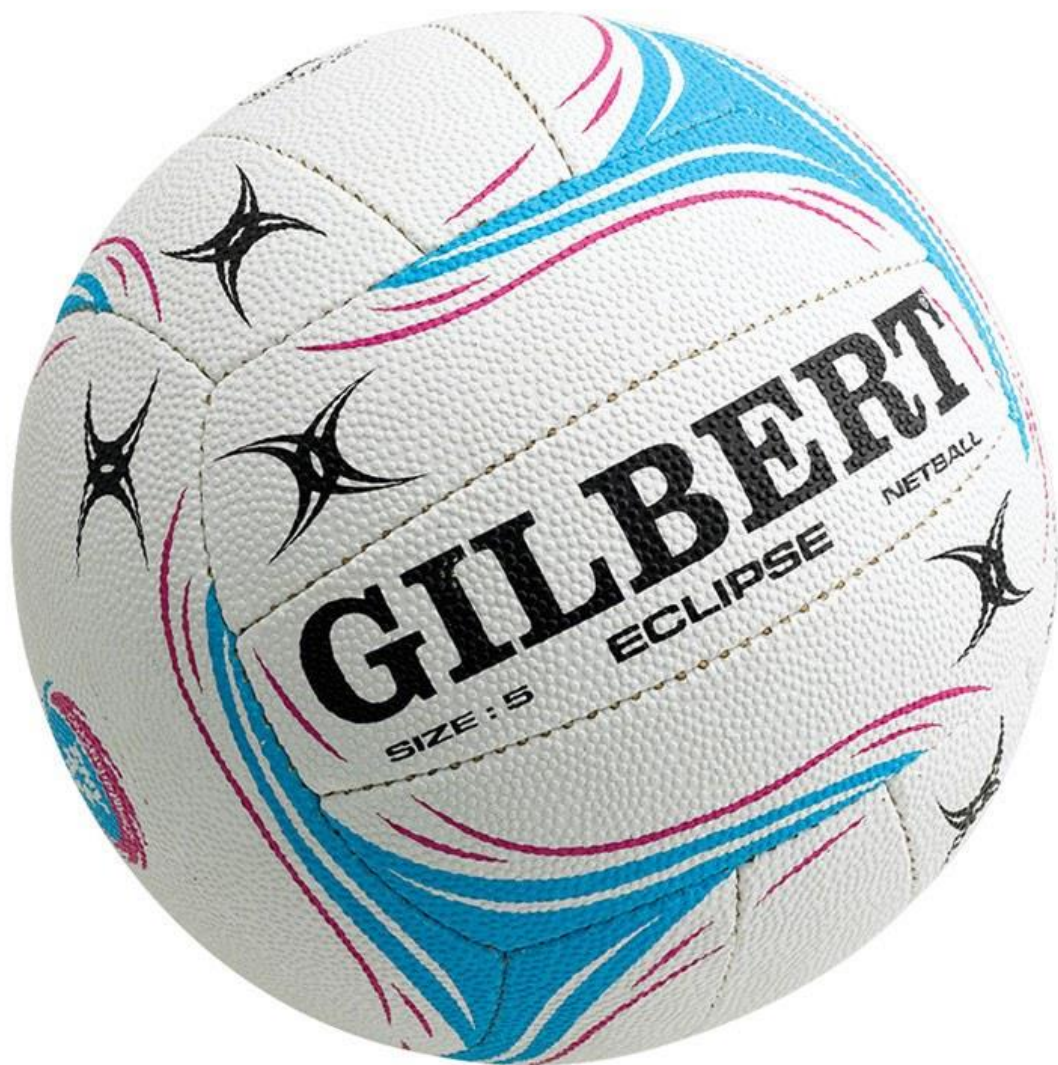
Year 4 - Tuesday & Thursday (Swim)

Year 5 - Wednesday & Thursday

Year 6 - Monday & Wednesday



## Clubs



### Lunchtime Clubs:

Monday - KS2 Choir (Mrs Cangiano)

Tuesday - Cricket Club - Years 4/5 & 6

Tuesday - Y6 leading 'Mindfulness group'

Thursday - Football training with Mr Wilkes - Years 4/5 & 6

Friday - KS1 Choir (Mrs Cangiano)

***\*A lunchtime gardening club is to soon begin. Please contact the school office if you would like for your child to be included in this club!***

If your child is interested in joining any of our Before & After school clubs, please contact the school office for more details.

Monday 8am - Dodgeball

Tuesday 8am - KS2 Gymnastics (spaces)

Wednesday 8am - KS2 Multi-skills

Thursday 8am - KS1 Gymnastics(spaces)

Thursday 3.15-4.15 - Year 5&6 Netball

Friday 8am - Archery Club

Friday 3.15-4.45pm - Years 1-4 Football

Tuesday & Wednesday 3.15-4.30pm - Irish Dancing

## Our new caterers and lunch menu



The children have been delighted with our new lunch menu at school. Meals can be pre-ordered daily or weekly on the new School Food United app, details were emailed out to all parents on

Monday 27th February. Please remember to order before 8am. Pupils in Reception & KS1 are entitled to Universal Free School Meals. Dinners for KS2 pupils are £2.30 per day.

## School Menu - Summer term



**WEEK 1**

Allergy information available on request

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
<b>Main</b>				
Veggie Wholemeal Pizza (v)	Mild Beef Chilli con Carne with Brown Rice	Braised Chicken with New Potatoes	Pork Sausage Pasta Bake	Fish Fingers and Chips
<b>Vegetarian</b>				
Chickpea and Spinach Curry with Rice (v)	Lentil Cottage Pie (v)	Cheese and Potato Pasty (v)	BBQ Vegan Meatball Wrap (v)	Veggie Nuggets and Chips (v)
<b>3rd Options</b>				
Jacket Potato with Baked Beans, Cheese, Tuna Mayo or Coleslaw	Pasta with Lentil Tomato Sauce	Jacket Potato with Baked Beans, Cheese, Tuna Mayo or Coleslaw	Pasta with Lentil Tomato Sauce	Jacket Potato with Baked Beans, Cheese, Tuna Mayo or Coleslaw
<b>Deli</b>				
Baguette with Ham, Tuna Mayo, Egg Mayo or Cheese	Baguette with Ham, Tuna Mayo, Egg Mayo or Cheese	Baguette with Ham, Tuna Mayo, Egg Mayo or Cheese	Baguette with Ham, Tuna Mayo, Egg Mayo or Cheese	Baguette with Tuna Mayo, Egg Mayo or Cheese
<b>Vegetables</b>				
Hot Seasonal Vegetables	Hot Seasonal Vegetables	Hot Seasonal Vegetables	Hot Seasonal Vegetables	Hot Seasonal Vegetables
Lemon Drizzle Cake	Fruit Jelly	Mousse	Vegan Ginger Cake	Fruit Turnover
Fruit/Yoghurt	Fruit/Yoghurt	Fruit/Yoghurt	Fruit/Yoghurt	Fruit/Yoghurt

Fresh seasonal salad and bread available daily. Fresh fruit and yoghurt available daily as an alternative to the dessert of the day.

17th Apr, 8th May, 29th May, 19th Jun, 10th Jul, 4th Sep, 25th Sep, 16th Oct



**WEEK 2**

Allergy information available on request

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
<b>Main</b>				
Macaroni Cheese (v)	Butter Chicken Curry with Brown Rice	Roast Chicken with Roast Potatoes and Gravy	Beef Bolognese with Pasta	Fish Fingers and Chips
<b>Vegetarian</b>				
Sweet Potato and Bean Chilli with Jacket Wedges (v)	Veggie Enchilada (v)	Vegan Sausage with Roast Potatoes and Gravy (v)	Roasted Vegetable and Mozzarella Tray Bake with Rice (v)	Onion Bhaji with Chutney and Chips (v)
<b>3rd Options</b>				
Jacket Potato with Baked Beans, Cheese, Tuna Mayo or Coleslaw	Pasta with Lentil Tomato Sauce	Jacket Potato with Baked Beans, Cheese, Tuna Mayo or Coleslaw	Pasta with Lentil Tomato Sauce	Jacket Potato with Baked Beans, Cheese, Tuna Mayo or Coleslaw
<b>Deli</b>				
Wrap with Ham, Tuna Mayo, Egg Mayo or Cheese	Wrap with Ham, Tuna Mayo, Egg Mayo or Cheese	Wrap with Ham, Tuna Mayo, Egg Mayo or Cheese	Wrap with Ham, Tuna Mayo, Egg Mayo or Cheese	Wrap with Tuna Mayo, Egg Mayo or Cheese
<b>Vegetables</b>				
Hot Seasonal Vegetables	Hot Seasonal Vegetables	Hot Seasonal Vegetables	Hot Seasonal Vegetables	Hot Seasonal Vegetables
Summer Cake	Fruit Jelly	Fruit Flapjack	Vegan Chocolate Kale Brownie	Fruit Mousse
Fruit/Yoghurt	Fruit/Yoghurt	Fruit/Yoghurt	Fruit/Yoghurt	Fruit/Yoghurt

Fresh seasonal salad and bread available daily. Fresh fruit and yoghurt available daily as an alternative to the dessert of the day.

24th Apr, 15th May, 5th Jun, 26th Jun, 17th Jul, 11th Sep, 2nd Oct, 23rd Oct



Allergy information available on request

1st May, 22nd May, 12th Jun, 3rd Jul, 24th Jul, 18th Sep, 9th Oct

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
<b>Main</b>				
Cheese and Bean Slice with Wedges (v)	Chicken, Leek and Sweetcorn Pasta	Pork Meatball and Tomato Bake with New Potatoes	BBQ Chicken with Rice	Fish Fingers and Chips
<b>Vegetarian</b>				
Roasted Tomato and Basil Pasta (v)	Veggie Biryani (v)	Vegan Sausage with New Potatoes and Gravy (v)	Broccoli and Cauliflower Cheese Rice Bake (v)	Samosa and Chips (v)
<b>3rd Options</b>				
Jacket Potato with Baked Beans, Cheese, Tuna Mayo or Coleslaw	Pasta with Lentil Tomato Sauce	Jacket Potato with Baked Beans, Cheese, Tuna Mayo or Coleslaw	Pasta with Lentil Tomato Sauce	Jacket Potato with Baked Beans, Cheese, Salmon Mayo or Coleslaw
<b>Deli</b>				
Sandwich with Ham, Tuna Mayo, Egg Mayo or Cheese	Sandwich with Ham, Tuna Mayo, Egg Mayo or Cheese	Sandwich with Ham, Tuna Mayo, Egg Mayo or Cheese	Sandwich with Ham, Tuna Mayo, Egg Mayo or Cheese	Sandwich with Tuna Mayo, Egg Mayo or Cheese
<b>Vegetables</b>				
Hot Seasonal Vegetables	Hot Seasonal Vegetables	Hot Seasonal Vegetables	Hot Seasonal Vegetables	Hot Seasonal Vegetables
Fruit Shortbread	Iced Carrot Cake	Jelly	Vegan Summer Loaf	Fruit Cheesecake
Fruit/Yoghurt	Fruit/Yoghurt	Fruit/Yoghurt	Fruit/Yoghurt	Fruit/Yoghurt

Fresh seasonal salad and bread available daily. Fresh fruit and yoghurt available daily as an alternative to the dessert of the day.



## Attendance



Congratulations to Years 3, 4 & 5 who have achieved the highest attendance this week. You will receive an extra play time!

Attendance for the whole school for this week is 97.23%.

Here is the attendance for this week for each class:

Year R: 96.3%

Year 1: 94%

Year 2: 96.7%

Year 3: 98.7%

Year 4: 98.7%

Year 5: 98.7%

Year 6: 97.7%

Please make sure your child is in school every day unless ill. Remember illnesses such as colds can be managed well with Calpol and although children can feel unwell first thing in a morning they do tend to brighten up during the day. We will always contact you if we are concerned that your child has become unwell throughout the day.

If there is no reason provided for your child's absence an unauthorised code is marked in the register. This will impact your child's overall attendance. Please contact school before 8.55am where possible and leave a message . If we are not aware of why your child is not in school we will try and contact you, if we are unable to contact the parent/carer we may call one of the other contacts on your child's records.

Please try to be as punctual as possible, we have noticed a small number of children are arriving late to school. If your child arrives after the close of the registration period (9.05am) this again is recorded as an unauthorised absence on the register and will affect your child's overall attendance figure. If your child arrives at school after 8.55am they MUST be accompanied by a parent/carer for signing in purposes.

In line with Government guidance all pupils who test positive for COVID-19 are recorded as ill in the register.

## Lunchtime Supervisor Vacancy

We have a vacancy for a Lunchtime Supervisor - Monday to Friday 11.55pm-1.20pm term time only.

If you are interested or know of anyone who would be interested please contact the school office for more details.

## Pupil Premium and Free School Meals



If your child is eligible for 'free school meals' and you register them for this, we'll receive extra funding called 'pupil premium'. We use this extra money to improve the educational provision and resources at the school.

What is pupil premium funding?

Pupil premium funding from the government is given to schools to help pupils reach their full potential, regardless of their background or financial situation. It's provided for pupils who:

- Are registered for free school meals
- Have been registered for free school meals at any point in the past 6 years
- Are, or have been, in care
- Have parents in the armed forces at St Joseph's Catholic Primary School,



We get an extra [£1,385 (for primary schools) / £985 (for secondary schools) – these figures are for the 2022/2023 financial year] for every eligible pupil who is registered for free school meals. This extra money could make a real difference to the quality of education we offer.

For example, we've previously used pupil premium funding for:

- Educational provision/resources
- Academic interventions
- Wellbeing and self-esteem building interventions

Is my child eligible for free school meals?

Your child might be eligible if you access:

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance or Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guaranteed element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on
- Universal Credit, provided you have an annual net earned income not exceeding £7,400 (£616.67 per month)

Universal infant free school meals

Currently, pupils in reception, year 1 and year 2 are entitled to a free school meal thanks to a different government funding scheme known as universal infant free school meals (UIFSM). You shouldn't confuse UIFSM with free schools meals and the pupil premium.

If your child is in reception, year 1 or year 2 and is eligible for free school meals according to the criteria above, you should still register because we'll receive the extra pupil premium funding.

Does my child have to eat the free school meals?

No. Pupils who are registered for free school meals don't have to eat them. If you're eligible but you want your child to have packed lunches you should still register because the school will receive the funding which can support your child in other ways.

How do I register?

You only need to register once at the school.

To register, please go to [www.dudley.gov.uk/resident/your-council/council-tax-and-benefits/benefits/free-school-meals](http://www.dudley.gov.uk/resident/your-council/council-tax-and-benefits/benefits/free-school-meals)

If you need further information, you can contact the Free School Meals Teams by:

Telephone - 01384 814988

Email - [freeschoolmeals.benefits@dudley.gov.uk](mailto:freeschoolmeals.benefits@dudley.gov.uk)

More information

For more information about pupil premium go to our website, which contains details of how the pupil premium has been spent in the past academic year and how it will be spent this year.

## Safeguarding



You can reach out to Mr Wilkes, Mrs McCole or Mrs Riley or any member of staff in school.

St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School

The Designated Safeguarding Leads (DSLs) for this school are:



Designated Safeguarding Lead  
Mr A. Wilkes



Designated Safeguarding Lead  
Mrs J. McCole



Designated Safeguarding Lead  
Mrs M Riley

# Dudley Early Help Strategy





#### 6 - National Online Safety

*This week we have emailed you with information on how to sign up for resources, courses and webinars around online safety using the National Online Safety platform. I will shortly add suggested resources to your parent 'watch list' which I believe will be of great support to us all as we keep our children safe in an ever changing environment online. Please do sign up to this fantastic resource which we also use regularly in school. All schools within Emmaus have been provided with this opportunity to support online safety of our children.*

*Within school, we are able to see which courses that you have completed, but not any other details. Please ensure that you select the 'parent/carer' user group when you sign up.*



*7 - Please scan for our Instagram page.*

*Twitter @StJoStourbridge*

## Contact us



Mr Wilkes and Mrs McCole are available at the start and the end of the school day and can usually be contacted by telephone throughout the school day or a meeting arranged with a senior member of staff.

You will always receive a warm welcome at St Joseph's!

If you have any concerns or worries, no matter how small, please let us know so we can do everything we can to make things better and resolve your concerns. Never hesitate to get in touch. Thank you, as always, for your support.

Telephone-01384 431980

Email - [info\\_stjosephs@emmausmac.com](mailto:info_stjosephs@emmausmac.com)