

# ST JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY

SCHOOL

# St Joseph's Catholic Primary School

Newsletter September 22nd 2023

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#### A message from our Principal



#### Dear parents,

I hope that you have all had a good week. Last week in assembly we revealed to the children who had been voted by their classes to take up the roles of school councillor, liturgy leaders and of course in Year 6 our Head boy and girl and their deputies, along with our sports captains and prefects too. It was wonderful to see the children so proud of being chosen to use their God given talents for the benefit of others, and also the reaction of their classmates who were so pleased for them. Well done to all of the children who put themselves forward to be part of our leadership groups - there will be plenty of other opportunities throughout the year. We're all so very proud of you. Our first group of Year 6 children also served lunched to the senior parishioners this week - fantastic children, a great example of putting your faith in action and serving others in our community!

There has been further coverage recently of Jude Bellingham's visit last week which we shared last night on our Instagram page. Jude also shared on his page which was great to see. As a reminder, our BBC coverage and our own press release will remain below for this newsletter and can also be seen on our website.

Jude Bellingham thrills Stourbridge pupils with guest role - BBC News

<u>St Joseph's Catholic Primary School Stourbridge - PRESS RELEASE – SEPTEMBER 2023 - Jude</u> Bellingham visit (st-jo-st.dudley.sch.uk)

Diary dates note\* We look forward to seeing Reception parents and children at the welcome Mass tomorrow evening at 5pm at OLAS.

I have added many diary dates for this term to the end of this newsletter and they will also be updated on the calendar section of the school website. Reception parents, may I draw your attention to the welcome Mass and assembly that you are invited to attend. Also, you will see our Open Morning for prospective Reception 2024 children is on October 4th 9:30-11:00am. Please share this date with all who this may concern. As previously mentioned, St Joseph's welcomes children of all faiths and from all pre school settings in line with our admissions policy.

#### **Uniform/Hairstyles update:**

A polite reminder that PE uniform is:

School PE t-shirt

Plain blue PE shorts

Navy / Grey jogging bottoms over the top of shorts in the colder weather (please not leggings)

School jumper in colder weather

Children must be able to remove their own ear piercings before PE

Please could I re-emphasise that hairstyles should be conventional and longer hair tied back. There should not be any tram lines shaved into hair. Please do ask the office if you wished to clarify anything about hairstyles and we'd be happy to help.

Please could I ask that this is closely adhered to to ensure the high standards at our school are maintained. Thank you.

#### Dogs on leads:

Please can I remind parents that dogs should be kept on leads when close to the school as some of our children are nervous of dogs.

#### Smoking:

Could I please politely ask that parents refrain from smoking on the council car park while the children are entering and exiting the school site. Thank you.

#### **Updates:**

**September TEN:TEN Newsletter** Here is the September newsletter from Ten:Ten. This newsletter shares some of the content children will experience in school throughout July and suggests ways to support your family prayer times <a href="https://www.tentenresources.co.uk/prayers-for-home/parent-newsletter/">www.tentenresources.co.uk/prayers-for-home/parent-newsletter/</a>

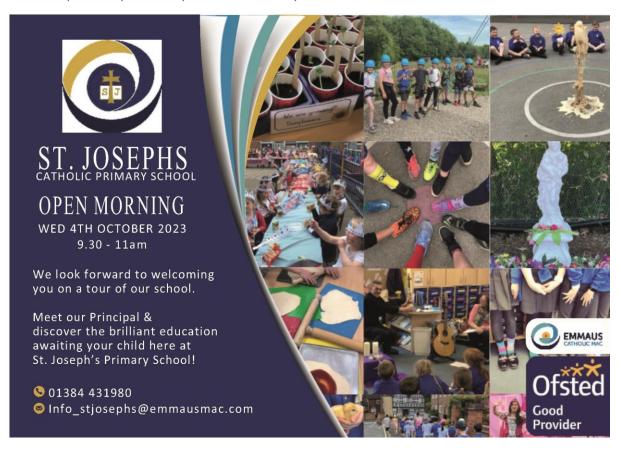
Have	a g	grea	ıt w	/eel	ken	d.

God bless

Mr A. Wilkes

Principal

# St Joseph's Open Day- Wednesday October 4th. All are welcome!



1 - Please share the date and time with anyone who has a child that will begin in Reception in September 2024. St Joseph's welcomes children of all faiths and from all nursery/pre school settings.

Reminder- Family Mass takes place each Saturday at 5:00pm. Please come and join us! The latest Parish newsletter can be found at this link OLAS-Bulletin-17th-September-2023.pdf





2 - Instagram @STJOSEPHSCATHOLICPRIMARY

Twitter @StJoStourbridge

# Children's liturgy - 25th Sunday of Ordinary Time Matthew 20: 1-16



A landowner went out to hire some workers for his vineyard. He took on new workers at the start of the day and three more times later in the day. He promised them all a fair wage.

The workers who arrived first expected to be paid more than the workers who arrived near to the end of the day. After all, they were hot and tired and had worked very hard all day, while some of the others have only worked for one hour.

How did the workers who had been hired first feel when they saw that everyone was being paid the same wage?

They thought it was unfair. They were angry and complained. Do you agree with them? Why/why not?

The landowner says that he has paid the first workers exactly what they agreed was fair at the beginning of the day. He says that they have no reason to be cross that he is generous to the other workers, that he can do what he likes with his own money.

Can you think of a time when you felt something was unfair? How did it make you feel? What did you do about it?

Who do you think the landowner in the story is supposed to be? What is Jesus trying to tell us?

Jesus is showing us that God's idea of fairness (sometimes we use the word justice), is different from ours. God's fairness is about making sure that every single person gets what they need, no matter what their situation.

God gives us what we need and not just what others think we deserve. God is generous and created a world with enough for absolutely everyone.

But do you think everyone in our world does have enough money? Or even enough food and water? Why/why not? Do you think this is fair? Do you think this is what God wants?

How can we help make sure that all people get their fair share of the good things that God has given us?

We can try hard not to take more than we need and make sure we don't waste food, water or energy.

We can be generous with what we have, like the landowner in the story, sharing what we have with others.

And we can try to make a change to our world so that it is a fairer place for all people to live. Sometimes we can make a difference by ourselves. And sometimes we do this by writing to the Prime Minister or other people in power asking them to make the changes.

What will you do this week to try to help make sure that all people around the world get their fair share of the things that God has given for us all?

We believe that God is generous and fair and so we pray together:

We pray for world leaders: that they may do all they can to make the world a fairer place and make sure that all people have their fair share. Lord, in your mercy...

We pray for our sisters and brothers around the world, especially those who are poor: that every single person may have what they need to live. Lord, in your mercy...

We pray for our parish, family and friends: that we may be generous and fair to all people in our one
global family. Lord, in your mercy

Closing prayer: Living Lord, we give thanks for your generosity and love. Help us to take no more than we need, to share all that we have and to work together for change so that the world becomes a fairer place for everyone. Amen

Reflection adapted from Cafod children's liturgy

# 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.

<u>St Joseph's Catholic Primary School Stourbridge - Curriculum Plans (st-jo-st.dudley.sch.uk)</u>

#### Live Simply Update



Please continue to bring in any food that you can donate which will be taken to the food bank. Our WOW walk to school once a week is up and running! Can you walk to school once a week? Talk to a friend or family member about God's creatures that you see on your journey.

Our Gardening club is coming soon and will be led by Liam, Parish Youth Worker. How exiting for our children! The seeds and greenhouse has arrived and we will shortly begin growing to show our commitment to living sustainably! More news to follow!

### Catholic Social Teaching



Each class has a Catholic Social Teaching focus this year. Links will be made to this throughout the school year. Catholic social teaching (CST) is rooted in Scripture, formed by the wisdom of Church leaders, and influenced by grassroots movements. It is our moral compass, guiding us on how to live out our faith in the world.

The season of creation - Stewardship - Pope Francis invites everyone on the planet to consider how our actions are affecting the earth and the poorest people. Everything is interconnected, and all of creation praises God. It is our Christian vocation to care for creation.

### **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	Arlo	Huey
Year 1	James	Charlie A
Year 2	Darcy	Emme
Year 3	Erin	Bethan
Year 4	Oscar	Eliza
Year 5	Iris	Jack
Year 6	Orla	Emmett

#### **Diary Dates -Autumn Term**



\*Please note all term dates are available on the calendar section of the school website

St Joseph's Catholic Primary School Stourbridge - Calendar (st-jo-st.dudley.sch.uk)

Saturday 23rd September - Reception welcome Mass at OLAS 5:00pm

Monday 25th September - Little Way Week (Acts of kindness)

Tuesday 26th September - Read Write Inc parents meeting (6pm) - Details will be emailed out

Wednesday 27th September - Reception welcome assembly 9.10am (Reception / Year 6 parents)

Wednesday 27th September - Year 6 MAC sports at Hagley

Monday 2nd October - The month of the Holy Rosary and Black History Month

Wednesday 4th October - St Joseph's Open Day 9:30am-11:00am

Wednesday 4th October - Year 1 prayer service (for children)

Thursday 5th October - Vision screening for Reception

Thursday 5th October - Cafod Harvest Fast Day

Friday 6th October - Inset Day

Monday 9th October - Children to bring tins/dried food in for Harvest donation to the food bank

Wednesday 11th October - Stay and Pray for Year 6 and parents 9:10am

Wednesday 11th October - Year 2 Mass (for children)

Thursday 12th October - Year 5 Harvest Assembly (2:30pm) (Year 5 parents)

Tuesday 17th October - Parents' evening night 1 - 3:30pm-6:00pm

Wednesday 18th October - Parents' evening night 2 - 3:30pm-6:00pm

Wednesday 18th October - St Luke's House Mass

Monday 23rd October Whole School flu vaccinations

Wednesday 25th October - Reception prayer service (for children)

Friday 27th October - final day of the first half of the autumn term

Half term - Monday 30th October - Friday 3rd November

Monday 6th November - Start of autumn term 2

Monday 6th November - UK Parliament week in school

Wednesday 8th October - Year 5 class Mass (for children)

Friday 10th November - Remembrance assembly - Year 1 and Year 2 10:45am

Monday 13th November - Anti-Bullying week

Wednesday 15th November - Year 6 serving lunch to parishioners

Wednesday 22nd November - Confessions Year 4

Thursday 23rd November - Confessions - Year 5

Friday 24th November - Confessions Year 6

Wednesday 29th November - Year 6 Mass (for children)

Friday 1st December - Catholic Social Teaching sharing assembly 2:40pm

Saturday 2nd December - OLAS Christmas Fayre

Wednesday 6th December - Music and Mince Pies concert 9:15am

Wednesday 13th December - Year 5 Stay and Pray 9:10am

Wednesday 13th December - Year 4 class Mass 2:20pm

Monday 18th December - Reception Christmas carols 2:30pm

Tuesday 19th December - Pantomime for the whole school

Wednesday 20th December - Year 1 and Year 2 Nativity dress rehearsal for children

Thursday 21st December - Nativity for parents 1:30pm and 6:00pm

Friday 22nd December - Whole school Mass 9:10am, Christmas carols 2:45pm

Friday 22nd December - School closes for Christmas

#### PTA updates



The PTA AGM is on Monday night. Information will be provided by your class representative. The PTA have asked me to share the agenda which I have included below. <u>St Joseph's Catholic Primary School Stourbridge - AGM (st-jo-st.dudley.sch.uk)</u>

Please also head to Facebook and search 'St Joseph's PTA' for direct updates from their page.

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! <u>OUTDOOR PROJECTS (canva.com)</u>



Thank you so much to the PTA who joined us last Saturday and helped out with the outdoor area at school. The school environment looks absolutely wonderful and the children had a brilliant surprise on Monday morning! Thank you PTA!











# **PE Timetable**



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

Reception Class - Friday

Year 1 - Tuesday & Friday

Year 2 - Monday & Tuesday

Year 3 - Thursday & Friday

Year 4 - Monday & Friday

Year 5 - Monday & Wednesday

Year 6 - Wednesday & Friday

### Clubs



#### Lunchtime Clubs:

Tuesday - Cross Country - Years 4/5 & 6

Wednesday - Y6 leading 'Mindfulness group'

Wednesday - Gardening club - Liam (Parish youth worker)

Thursday - Year 2 - 6 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 3:25-4:25pm - DPA Drums

Tuesday 8am - KS2 Gymnastics (R&B) -spaces available

Wednesday 8am - Dodgeball - Years 1-6 (Mark Bennett)

Thursday 8am - KS1 Gymnastics (R&B) - spaces available

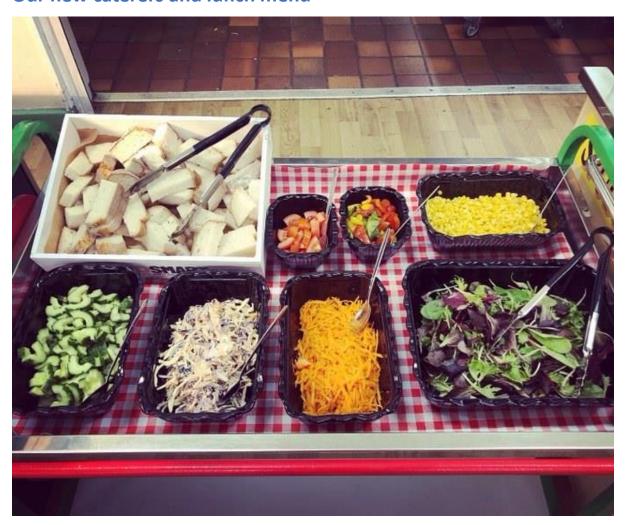
Thursday 3.15-4.15pm - Years 4 -6 Netball

Friday 8am - Archery Club - Years 1-6 (Mark Bennett)

Friday 3.15-4.45pm - Years 1-4 Football (Your sport)

Tuesday & Wednesday 3.15-4.30pm - Irish Dancing

#### Our new caterers and lunch menu



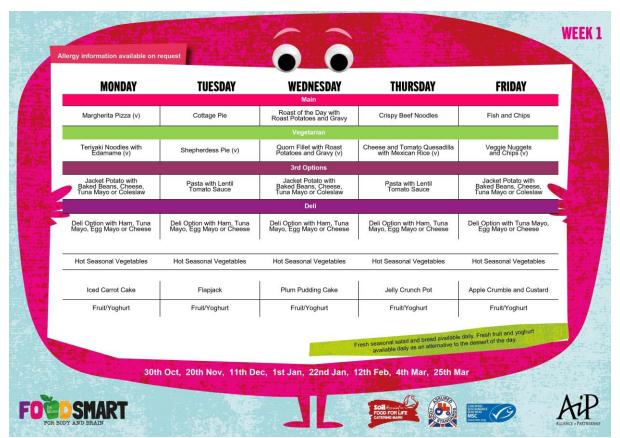
The children have been delighted with our new lunch menu at school. Meals can be pre-ordered daily or weekly on the new School Food United app, details were emailed out to all parents on

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- Autumn term



#### Menu autumn





# Allergy information available on request

MONDAY	13th Nov, 4th Dec, 25th	h Dec, 15th Jan, 5th Feb WEDNESDAY	o, 26th Feb, 18th Mar THURSDAY	FRIDAY
MUNDAI	TOLODAI	Main	IIIONSDAI	TRIDAT
Ratatouille Pasta Bake (v)	Meat Feast Pizza	Roast of the Day with Roast Potatoes and Gravy	Chicken Gyros	Fish and Chips
		Vegetarian		
Korean Cauliflower with Rice (v)	Veggie Pizza (v)	Mediterranean Gnocchi Bake (v)	Mushroom and Spinach Enchilada (v)	Cheese and Tomato Pinwheel with Chips (v)
		3rd Options		
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
		Deli		
Deli Option with Ham, Tuna Mayo, Egg Mayo or Cheese	Deli Option with Ham, Tuna Mayo, Egg Mayo or Cheese	Deli Option with Ham, Tuna Mayo, Egg Mayo or Cheese	Deli Option with Ham, Tuna Mayo, Egg Mayo or Cheese	Deli Option with Tuna Mayo, Egg Mayo or Cheese
Hot Seasonal Vegetables	Hot Seasonal Vegetables	Hot Seasonal Vegetables	Hot Seasonal Vegetables	Hot Seasonal Vegetables
Sticky Orange Cake	Gainsborough Tart	Fruit Crumble with Custard	Cinnamon Fruit Pudding	Chocolate Mousse
Fruit/Yoghurt	Fruit/Yoghurt	Fruit/Yoghurt	Fruit/Yoghurt	Fruit/Yoghurt











#### **Attendance**



Congratulations to Reception class who have achieved the highest attendance this week. You will receive an extra play time!

Attendance for the whole school for this week is 96.18%.

Here is the attendance for this week for each class:

Year R: 98.5%

Year 1: 95.7%

Year 2: 95.7%

Year 3: 96%

Year 4: 96.7%

Year 5: 94%

Year 6: 97%

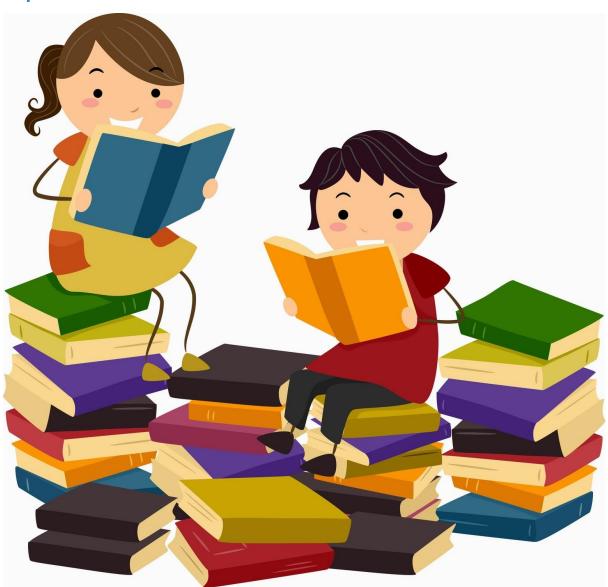
Please make sure your child is in school every day unless ill. Remember illnesses such as colds can be managed well with Calpol and although children can feel unwell first thing in a morning they do tend to brighten up during the day. We will always contact you if we are concerned that your child has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

# **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 <a href="https://www.dudley.gov.uk/resident/your-council/council-tax-and-benefits/benefits/free-school-meals">www.dudley.gov.uk/resident/your-council/council-tax-and-benefits/benefits/free-school-meals</a>

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

Telephone - 01384 814988

Email - 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



EARLY HELP STRATEGY | healthandwellebing (dudleyhealthandwellbeing.org.uk)



3 - 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.



4 - 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