



ST JOSEPH'S
CATHOLIC PRIMARY
SCHOOL

St Joseph's Catholic Primary School
Newsletter May 5th 2023

Within this newsletter:



ST JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

- A message from our Principal
- This week's Gospel
- STEAM week update
- Curriculum
- Live Simply Award updates
- Fundraising updates
- Gift's from God awards
- Dates for this half term - Including Y6 leavers' events
- PTA Updates
- PE timetable
- Clubs
- Attendance
- Vacancies
- Our new lunch menu
- Pupil Premium and Free School Meals
- Safeguarding
- Dudley Early Help Strategy
- National Online Safety
- Contact us

A message from our Principal



Dear parents,

It feels as though the week has flown by with the bank holiday on Monday and of course another to follow next week - the summer term is completely whizzing by!

In school today Father Philip celebrated Mass where we prayed for Jesus to be with King Charles III and Queen Camilla ahead of the Coronation in London tomorrow. Our activities today too have focussed on this very special moment in history. We were blessed to be able to join together during our tea party this afternoon before singing our Coronation song to parents and all joining together for a rousing version of the National Anthem. I encouraged all of our children to watch at least part of the event tomorrow and importantly for everyone to enjoy the weekend.

As I mentioned last week, the children took part in an activity in the afternoon where they used sustainable, natural resources such as leaves and twigs to decorate an outline of the King's Coronation emblem or crown. Our intention is to highlight King Charles's commitment to preserving the natural environment as well as our own commitment to answering Pope Francis's call to protect our common home within the *Laudato Si'* encyclical. Please have a look at our social media for examples of this and I will also add photographs to next week's newsletter.

Dear Jesus, Bless the King to rule over our nation as You do, with love and kindness for all. May the coronation of King Charles help others to encounter You. May the King lead people in Your ways with justice and mercy and bring peace through his reign. Amen.

Please also keep our Year 6 children in your prayers as they sit their Key Stage 2 assessments (SATs) next week. We are so very proud of them for how they have prepared for the tests. Do your best, Year 6! We are very proud of you!

Updates:

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.

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.

I hope that you all enjoy the extra bank holiday this weekend and I will see all of our children back in school on Tuesday.

Have a great bank holiday weekend.

God bless

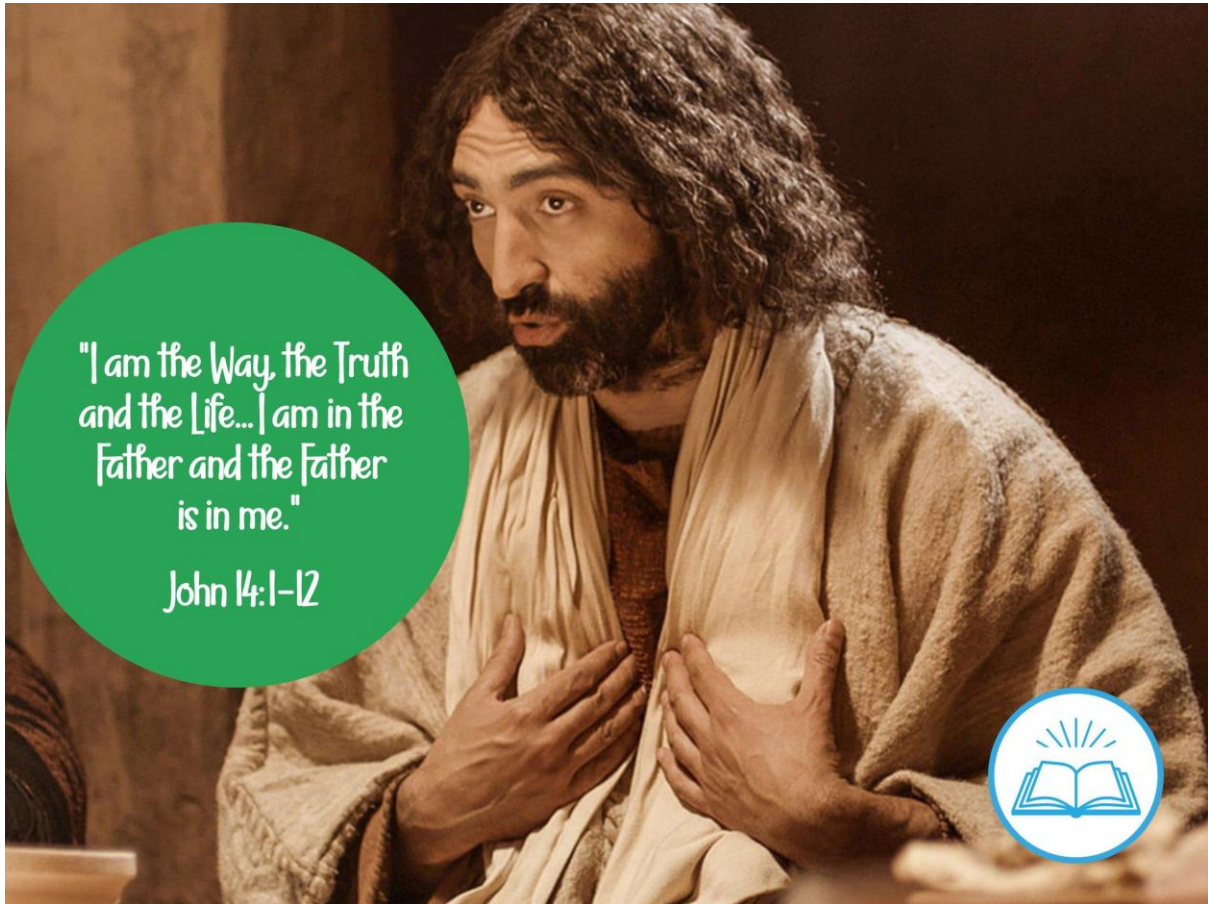
Mr A. Wilkes

Principal

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



Children's liturgy – 5th Sunday of Easter (John 14: 1-12)



In today's reading, Jesus is telling his disciples that he is the Son of God. But the disciples find it difficult to understand.

Right at the beginning of today's gospel, Jesus tells the disciples not to be worried and to believe in him.

He is asking them to trust him. What does it mean to trust someone?

Trusting someone means believing that they are always there for us, that they are always willing to help us, that they will comfort us when we are upset or frightened. When it comes to trusting someone, what they do is often more important than what they say.

Jesus also tells the disciples in this reading that if they find it hard to believe in his words, to believe in the things that he does.

Jesus did not only teach his disciples with words. Throughout his life he showed them (and us) how to love one another, to serve others and to care for and support people who were poor, sick, or sad. He showed us how to make sure that we treated all people well, even those who are usually ignored, or who are not well-liked.

We all need people in our lives that we trust. Who do you trust?

How does it feel when someone breaks your trust?

Do other people trust you? How can we help other people to trust in us?

People are more likely to trust us if we are kind, if we listen to what they are saying, if we are willing to help, and if we tell the truth.

We can also trust in God. We know that God is always there for us and wants what's best for us. God is always ready to listen.

How can we share our worries with God? How can we show our trust in God?

We can talk to God through prayer. When we pray we can share all our worries and fears and also all our joys and hopes with God.

And we can show our trust in God by listening to what Jesus asks of us and trying to follow him. By loving one another and by doing what is right, we are doing what God wants us to do.

This week how will you show your trust in God?

This week what will you do for the people who trust in you?

We share all our worries, fears, joys and hopes with God as we pray together:

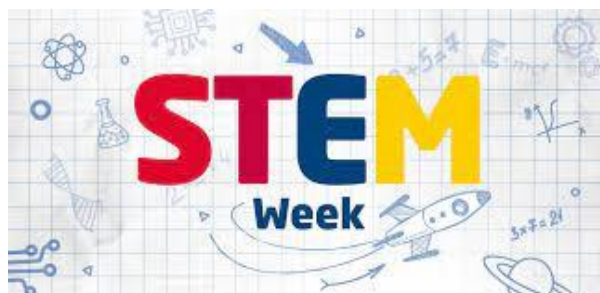
We pray for the Church throughout the world: that it may be a place of safety and welcome, where all people can come to know the love of God for us all. Lord, in your mercy...

We pray for world leaders: that they may do what is right and best for all people, especially those who are poor, so that their people may trust in them. Lord, in your mercy...

We pray for our parish, family and friends: that through our actions we may show that we trust and believe in God. Lord, in your mercy...

Closing prayer: God of life, we thank you for being there for us always. Help us to do all that you ask of us and to love one another, so that all people may have someone to trust. Amen.

Reflection adapted from Cafod children's liturgy



2 - 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)

We have completed CAFOD's Big Lent Walk!



Our school community joined with thousands of others to help fight extreme poverty.

We walked a total of 5 kilometres during the last two weeks. Well done everyone! Thank you for all of your sponsorship money - we raised a magnificent £2,597.87

By continuing to put Catholic Social Teaching into action, we are showing our commitment to living simply, sustainably and in solidarity with the poor and creating a legacy for the future.

CAFOD is an international development charity and the official aid agency of the Catholic Church in England and Wales.

Further details at cafod.org.uk/walk/



3 - Our Easter Gardens .

The children have used sustainable materials to represent the crucifixion and Resurrection in the form of an Easter garden. They are wonderful and displayed in the school entrance. We have had so many positive comments about them and I hope that you enjoyed supporting your child to make them. Each child received a special treat and two children were chosen as the winners of the competition and received an Easter egg and a book.

Lent fundraising updates



There are a number of fundraising activities that are taking place in school this Lent. Below is a brief update. Thank you so much for your donations. It has been wonderful to see our pupils leading the fundraising efforts, truly bearing witness to their faith!

The Cafod Big Lent Walk - £2,597.87 raised

Ups and Downs (A Down Syndrome charity) - £306.53 raised

The Year 2 cake sale towards our sponsored children in The Gambia - 313.50

Donation of food and Easter eggs towards the Stourbridge food bank

FAITH IN ACTION!

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.

****Please note - due to the coronation celebrations in school gifts from God has not taken place this week and will return next Friday.***

Year group	Gospel values	Good work
Reception	Charlie A	Zara & Belle C-K
Year 1	Arjun	Jamie
Year 2	Heidi	Georgie & Hugo
Year 3	Mary	Isla L
Year 4	Alfie	Isabella

Year 5	Archie	Emilia
Year 6	Oscar	Harry

Diary Dates - Summer term



Please note the following diary dates for Summer

*KS1 Assessments begin in May

Friday 5th May - King Charles III Coronation celebrations in school (parents are welcome to join us before the end of the day on the playground to join in the National Anthem, hear our Coronation songs and see the Coronation craft activity that we have completed) - details will follow shortly

Monday 8th May - Bank Holiday for the King's Coronation - school closed

Tuesday 9th May - Friday 12th May KS2 SATs week (Year 6)

Wednesday 10th May - Year 5 Class Mass 2.10pm

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

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

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 parents

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>

4 - 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

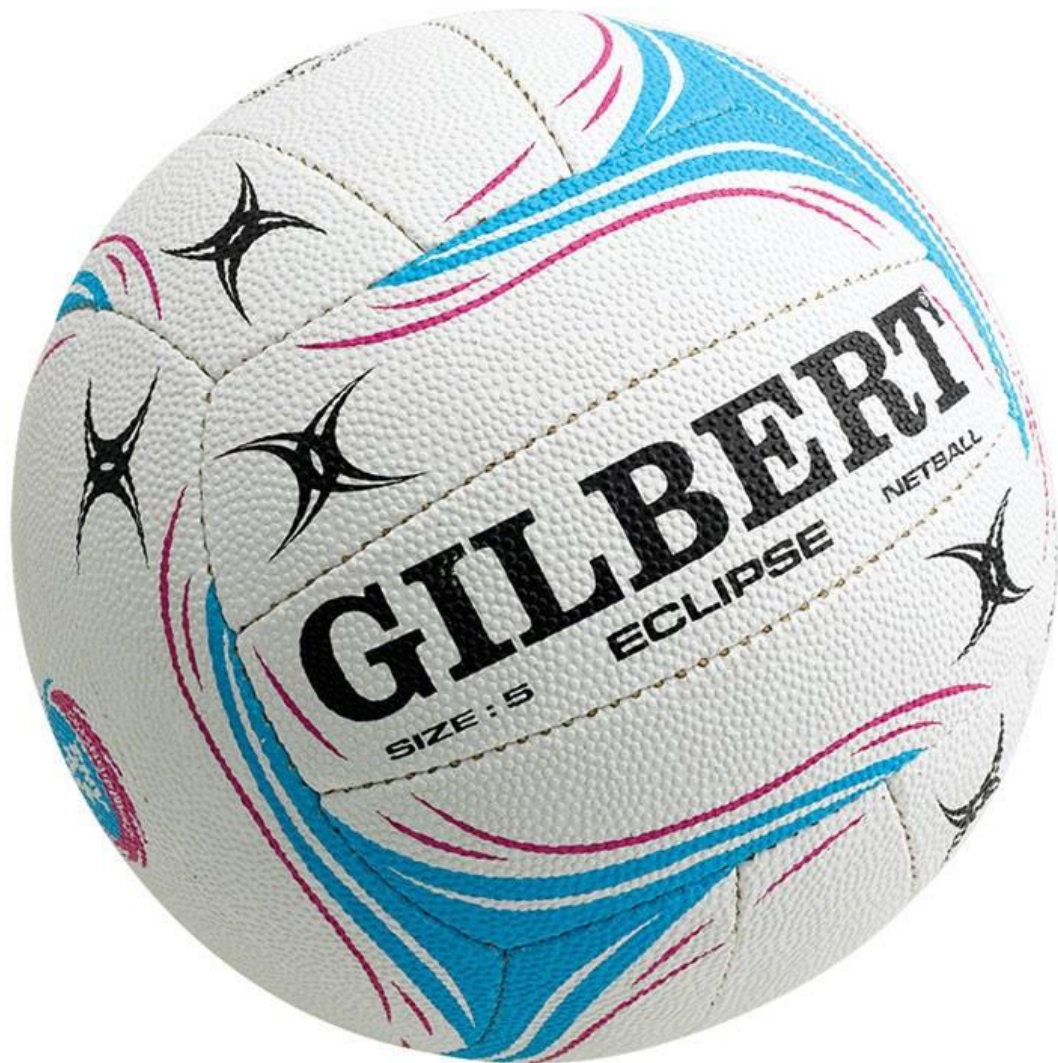
Year 3 - Tuesday & Friday

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. Parents can continue to order their children's meals through ParentPay. 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
Main				
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
Vegetarian				
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)
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, Tuna Mayo or Coleslaw
Deli				
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
Vegetables				
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
Main				
Macaroni Cheese (v)	Butter Chicken Curry with Brown Rice	Roast Chicken with Roast Potatoes and Gravy	Beef Bolognese with Pasta	Fish Fingers and Chips
Vegetarian				
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)
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, Tuna Mayo or Coleslaw
Deli				
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
Vegetables				
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
Main				
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
Vegetarian				
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)
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				
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
Vegetables				
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 1, 2 & 6 who have achieved the highest attendance this week. You will receive an extra play time!

Attendance for the whole school for this week is 96.65%.

Here is the attendance for this week for each class:

Year R: 97%

Year 1: 98.3%

Year 2: 98.3%

Year 3: 95.8%

Year 4: 97.9%

Year 5: 90.8%

Year 6: 98.3%

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 12.00pm-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

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





5 - 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.



6 - 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