

ST JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

St Joseph's Catholic Primary School Newsletter May 26th 2023

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A message from our Principal



Dear parents,

Quite unbelievably we reach the end of another half term in school - the school year is flying by. We have had a wonderful week in school with the sun shining. Our May procession on Wednesday was beautiful - thank you for donating flowers which are now placed in the Marian garden. The outdoor area around school is looking fresh and welcoming for our children. Thank you so much to our quite brilliant PTA.

Our Year 5 children are on their way back from Alton Castle as I type this newsletter and I have been informed that they have been 'fabulous' and a real credit to our school. Very well done Year 5, I hope that this visit has been enlightening and supportive on your spiritual journey. I'm sure that they will be ready for a restful weekend and break!

I'm delighted to inform you that during the half term break work will begin on the school roof which will be completely replaced ensuring a warm, waterproof school environment for many years to come. There will be scaffolding around school and we will lose part of the staff car park by the KS1/Reception entrance where the contractors will be based - other than this I am hoping that there will be only minor disruption to the school day. The work will last 12 weeks and I will explain all that is happening to the children on their return to school.

The second half of the summer term is always extremely busy. I have included everything planned so far in the diary section below. I will of course also let you know straight away if any further events are planned.

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/

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.

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

Have a great half term break.

God bless

Mr A. Wilkes

Principal



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 - Pentecost Sunday John 20:19-23



The disciples were alone and afraid, because their friend Jesus, who they knew was the Son of God, had been put to death.

Suddenly Jesus appeared to them. What did Jesus say to the disciples? (Peace be with you)

And how did the disciples feel when they saw Jesus again?

The disciples were filled with joy. Jesus repeated the words "Peace be with you."

What happened next? Jesus breathed on the disciples and gave them the Holy Spirit. He told the disciples he was sending them out to spread his word.

The disciples had been sad, lonely and frightened. How do you think they felt after Jesus breathed the Holy Spirit onto them?

The disciples were filled with joy, hope and courage to go out and spread the word of God. God's special message of peace for all people.

The Holy Spirit gives the disciples the courage to see that they can do what Jesus asks of them.

What does Jesus ask us to do? How does Jesus want us to behave and to treat other people?

Jesus asks us to do the same as the disciples – to spread his message of love and peace to all people through what we do.

Can you think how you might do this? And how does the Holy Spirit help us?

The Holy Spirit gives us the courage to answer Jesus' call, to do what God asks of us even when it is difficult. We each answer that call in a different way, but the Holy Spirit helps and guides us along the way.

This week let's try to notice the Holy Spirit in our lives, helping us to be brave, and helping us to spread Jesus' message of peace in our world.

What will you do this week to try and spread peace in our world?

We pray to God who is Father, Son and Holy Spirit:

We pray for all those who work for peace in our world: that they will have courage and strength to carry on, even in the most difficult times. Lord, in your mercy...

We pray for all people and especially those who have lived through war and conflict: that, filled by the power of the Holy Spirit, they can find it in their hearts to move forwards in peace and forgiveness. Lord, in your mercy...

We pray for our parish, family and friends: that we may be inspired by the Holy Spirit to spread Christ's message of peace in all that we do. Lord, in your mercy...

Closing prayer: God of mercy, fill us with your Spirit and guide us as we try to share your peace in our world. We ask this through Christ our Lord, Amen.

Reflection adapted from Cafod children's liturgy

Our May Procession



The May Procession at St. Joseph's

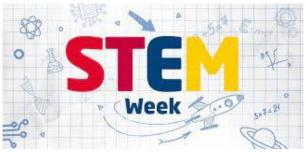
On Wednesday 24th May, our school community came together to hold a May Procession. Father Phillip led us in our Liturgy along with our Year 6 children. Our celebration began in the hall where we gathered to share praise and thanks for Mary our Mother. Then, to the beautiful sounds of "As I kneel before you', we processed through school and out onto the KS2 playground. The sun shone as we paused to pray for our wonderful Year 6 children as they prepare to move to their new schools. Still singing we then, moved to our KS1 playground where we stopped to pray for our families and thank them for their love and support. We then returned to the hall to place flowers around the statue of Our Lady and to reflect on the vey special place Mary has in our lives, our hearts and our faith. Thank you to everyone involved in making this a memorable occasion.

'Mary is the mother who patiently and tenderly leads us to God' Pope Francis









3 - Our Steam week takes place in the first week back after half term - we can't wait to learn lots about Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Maths! There are lots of activities planned for the children and also architects to learn about. To support with the practical activities planned, Mrs Cangiano has asked for the following materials to be brought into school if possible -

STEAM Week materials - Please send in any empty boxes (shoe box size or bigger) for Reception's architecture activities.

Please send in flattened cardboard (cereal boxes, Amazon packets) and empty, clear, plastic drinks bottles for Year 1's architecture activities and recycled flower sculptures the following week.

*Please also see the competitions below to join in with

Art competition Ks1 and KS2



Art Competition

for VC1 and VC2 minila

Design a sustainable house, fit for the future!

You may wish to include:

- green walls or rooftop gardens
- a rainwater recycling system
- charging points for electrical vehicles
- solar panels
- a balcony vegetable patch

I'm sure you can think of many more, planet friendly ideas!

How to take part:

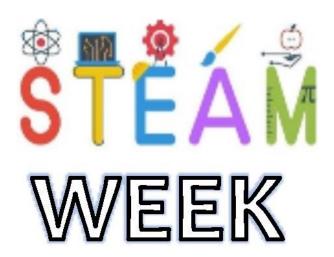
Draw and colour your design on the back of this sheet. Add labels and annotations to explain all the amazing features of your sustainable house. Hand your design to

vour toachar ar the school office by Thursday Oth luna



Art competition EYFS





Art Competition

for Pagnetion musile

Design your dream house.

What would it look like? Would you have:

- A swimming pool or football pitch on the roof?
- A helter-skelter?
- Rainbow coloured bricks?
- A vegetable garden on a balcony?
- A climbing wall?

Would it be at the top of a mountain? Or maybe, at the bottom of the ocean. How about in space? Use your imagination and be as creative as possible!

How to take part:

Draw and colour your design on the back of this sheet. Hand your design to your teacher or the school office by Thursday 8th June. There will be a prize for the winner, which will be announced on Friday 9th June. Good luck!



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)

Live Simply Update



Walk to School Week 15th-19th May



Well done to everybody who took part in the walk to school week and received their certificate in today's Gifts from God assembly!

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	Charlie T	Eli & Whole Class
Year 1	Flo H	Emme
Year 2	Lucy	Seth & Erin
Year 3	Trinity	Charlotte
Year 4	Elissar	Charlie
Year 5	Emilia, Zach & Max	
Year 6	Jarvis	Whole Class

Diary Dates - Summer term



Please note the following diary dates for Summer

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

Monday 5th June - Year 4 Multiplication Tables Check window begins

Wednesday 7th June - PTA Plant Sale 8.45am

Wednesday 7th June St Mark house Mass (for children only)

Thursday 8th June - Individual school photographs am

Monday 12th June - Phonic Screening Check administration week

Monday 12th June - Year 3 trip to Think Tank

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

Wednesday 14th June 2:10pm - Year 3 class Mass (parents welcome to join)

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

Wednesday 21st June - Year 6 serving lunch for the senior parishioners

Wednesday 21st June 2:10pm - Year 6 class Mass (parents welcome to join)

Friday 23rd June - School closed for inset day

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

Wednesday 28th June - Whole School Mass (St Peter and St Paul)

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

Monday 10th July - Dudley Road Safety Officers in to visit Year 6

Wednesday 12th July - Hagley Catholic High School band performing in school

Wednesday 12th July 2:10pm - Year 1 service (parents welcome)

Thursday 13th July - Year 4 Viking musical performance

Wednesday 19th July - Year 6 serving lunch to the senior parishioners

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

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!

The PTA will be holding a Plant Sale on Wednesday 7th June at 8.45am at the front on school. Please come & support this wonderful event, there will be tomato, courgette, pumpkin & strawberry plants available.

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)



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!













4 - Fathers' Day sale information!



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 - Thursday & Friday

Year 4 - Monday & Friday

Year 5 - Tuesday & Thursday

Year 6 - Tuesday & Thursday(Swim)

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





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

FO SMART

Allergy information available on request

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 Colesia
		Deli	9	
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 May Egg Mayo or Cheese
		Vegetables		
Hot Seasonal Vegetables	Hot Seasonal Vegetables	Hot Seasonal Vegetables	Hot Seasonal Vegetables	Hot Seasonal Vegetable
Fruit Shortbread	Iced Carrot Cake	Jelly	Vegan Summer Loaf	Fruit Cheesecake
Fruit/Yoghurt	Fruit/Yoghurt	Fruit/Yoghurt	Fruit/Yoghurt	Fruit/Yoghurt













Attendance



Congratulations to Years 3 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: 93.6%

Year 1: 94%

Year 2: 98.7%

Year 3: 99%

Year 4: 95%

Year 5: 91.3%

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

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)



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