



ST JOSEPH'S
CATHOLIC PRIMARY
SCHOOL

St Joseph's Catholic Primary School

Newsletter April 28th 2023

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ST JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

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A message from our Principal



Dear parents,

We have had an enjoyable week in school this week and it has been lovely to see the progress being made in classes. I have been overwhelmed with the fantastic response to our upcoming gardening club - it is great to see so many of the children wanting to play a part in sustainable food growth, living simply and caring for our common home. I will have further information very shortly about how the gardening club will run and how each class will care for the outdoor area that we now have access to in school. *Please see the videos of the progress in the garden area in the PTA section below.*

The children are excited about the upcoming Coronation celebrations and we would like to invite you to school at 2:50pm next Friday to join in the National Anthem on the school playground and to hear our Coronation song that the children have been learning. All of the children are welcome to wear red, white and blue on Friday and we will begin the day with whole school Mass at 9:10am.

As well as this, the children will take part in an activity in the afternoon where they will use sustainable, natural resources such as leaves and twigs to decorate an outline of the King's Coronation emblem or crown. Please could I ask that the children try to collect some natural resources over the next few days to use and bring them into school in a bag from Wednesday next week? 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. We hope that the final outcome will be very effective!

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 use.

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

I hope that the bank holiday weather is more befitting of spring, and I will see all of our children back in school next Tuesday.

Have a great bank holiday weekend.

Mr A. Wilkes

Principal

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



1 - Instagram @STJOSEPHSCATHOLICPRIMARY

Twitter @StJoStourbridge

Children's liturgy – 4th Sunday of Easter (John 10: 1-10)



In today's reading Jesus tells us a parable in which he is the gate which takes us to God. But can you remember what Jesus says, right at the end of today's gospel?

Jesus says, "I have come so that you might have life – life in all its fullness."

What do you think it means to have life in all its fullness?

Living life to the full doesn't mean having all the latest toys or the coolest clothes or the biggest house.

And it doesn't even mean just having all the things we need in life, like enough food and somewhere safe to live, although this is a really important part of living life to the full.

It also means being the best person that we can be, living our lives well and having the chance to use all our gifts and talents for the good of all.

What gifts and talents do you have? What are you good at?

Do you always make the most of the gifts that you have? Do you always try to be the best person you can be?

Lima, a city in Peru, is extremely dry, with very little rain. Which means that it faces many challenges, particularly when it comes to the climate.

Lima is surrounded by a chain of mountains called the Lomas de Lima. Lomas means 'hills'. These mountains are very important and are known as Lima's 'green lung'. But despite their importance they are under threat from pollution and mining.

But children in schools in Lima are doing what they can to protect them. Supported by CAFOD, a local organisation called CIDAP have set up an eco-brigade in four local schools.

Gloria is 11 and is a member of one of the eco-brigades. She says: "If I could change the world, I would collect water and grow plants. If there are no plants, there is no life. They give us life; they protect us so that we can breathe fresh air."

Gloria and the other members of the eco-brigades are using their talents to protect the Lomas and to make the world a better place for their community and for all of us.

Let's do all that we can this week to live our own lives to the full – doing all that we can to be the best people we can be and using our gifts and talents for the good of others.

And let's also do all that we can to help others to live their lives to the full too – people here who we see every day and our brothers and sisters around the world.

What will you do this week to live life to the full and to help others to do the same?

We pray together to God, who comes to give us life to the full:

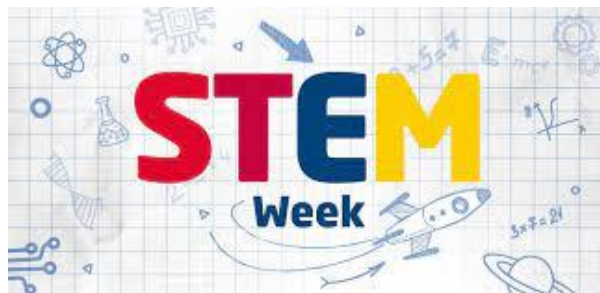
We pray for world leaders: that they may do all that they can to make sure all their people have the chance to live life to the full. Lord, in your mercy...

We pray for all our brothers and sisters around the world: that they may have the chance to live free from poverty and hunger and be able to make the most of their own talents and gifts to build a better future. Lord, in your mercy...

We pray for our parish, family and friends: that we may use our gifts and talents to be the best people we can be and for the good of all. Lord, in your mercy...

Closing prayer: God of life in all its fullness, be with us as we try to be the best people we can be. Inspire us to help one another to use the gifts and talents you have given us, so that the world may be a better place, reflecting the glory of your Kingdom. 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.

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 - Spring term



Please note the following diary dates for Spring

Monday May 1st Bank Holiday - school closed

*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 14th June - 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

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

1st July - St Joseph's Summer Faye

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 to everyone who supported this week's uniform bank - A total of £77.00 has been raised.

Thank you so much to our fantastic PTA!



<https://sway.office.com/S5myYNaqYfcrWq3J#content=r7NLRaaQ5xDoI3>

4 - Before...



<https://sway.office.com/S5myYNaqYfcrWq3J#content=6YWWucGGFnS5R4>

5 - And after!



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

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

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



Bear Bookshop

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

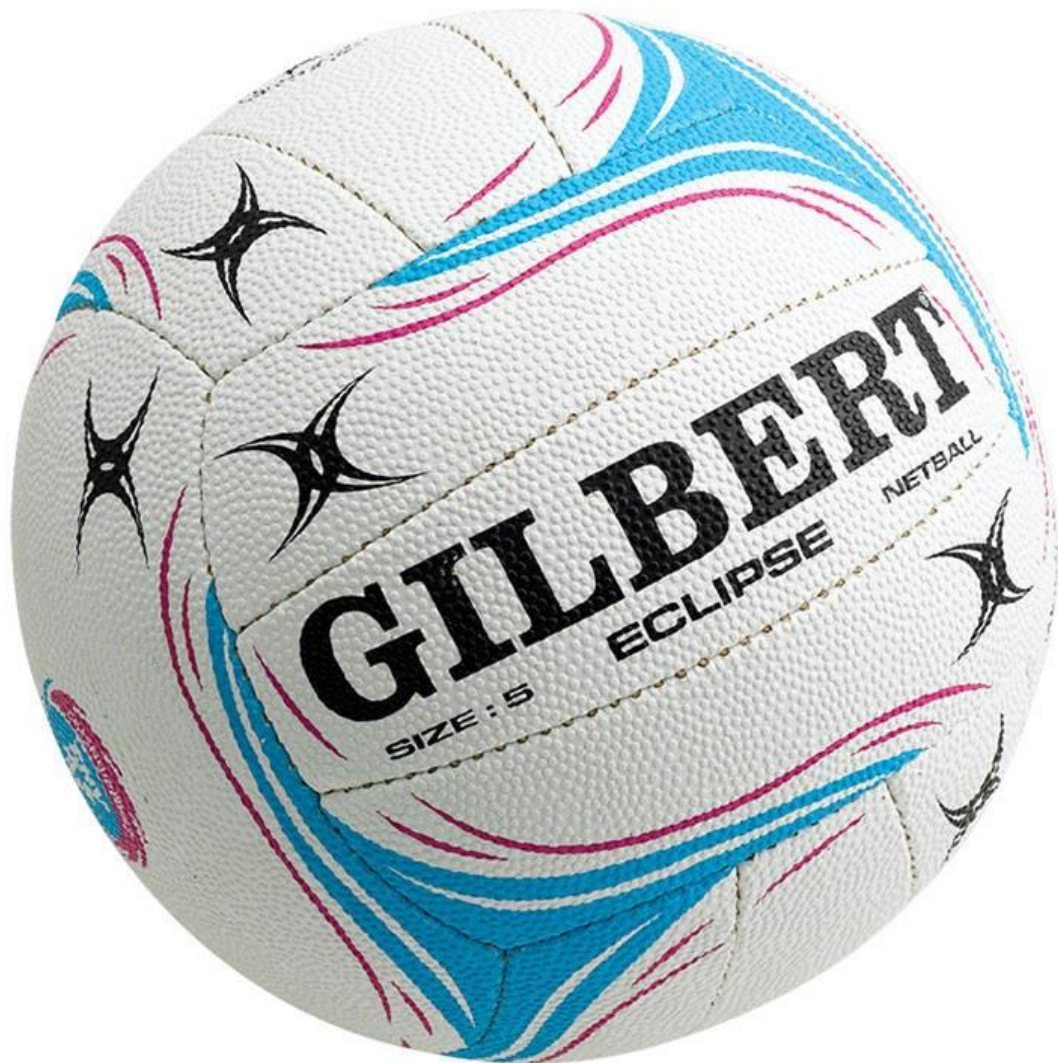
Year 3 - Tuesday & Friday

Year 4 - Tuesday & Thursday (Swim)

Year 5 - Wednesday & Thursday

Year 6 - Monday & Wednesday

Clubs



Lunchtime Clubs:

Monday - KS2 Choir (Mrs Cangiano)

Tuesday - Cross country training - 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 Year 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 96.13%.

Here is the attendance for this week for each class:

Year R: 98%

Year 1: 96.3%

Year 2: 98.7%

Year 3: 100%

Year 4: 89.7%

Year 5: 96.3%

Year 6: 94.3%

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





7 - 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.



8 - 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