

ST JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

St Joseph's Catholic Primary School Newsletter May 10th 2024

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A message from our Principal



Dear parents and families,

I hope that you all enjoyed the long weekend and the beautiful weather that we have experienced this week!

Thank you so much to the great amount of parents who came along to our first Reading Café on Thursday evening. It was a wonderful turnout and I hope you found it useful and enjoyable. Thank you to Mrs Riley for leading this. As a school we are passionate about the power of reading and I know that Mrs Riley has exciting future plans for similar evenings. Thank you too to the parents who expressed an interest in volunteering to hear our children read - we will certainly be in touch!

Next Thursday of course Mrs Cangiano leads us in our first St Joseph's Art Show - details are below for what promises to be a similarly successful evening for our school to showcase the learning and talents of our brilliant children.

Father Philip led us in a beautiful Vigil Mass on Wednesday to celebrate the fortieth day after Easter Sunday, which commemorates the Ascension of Christ into heaven, according to Mark 16:19, Luke 24:51, and Acts 1:2. The children read and sang well and it was lovely to see so many family members and parishioners joining us.

Next week is a very important one for our Year 6 children as they sit their end of Key Stage 2 assessments (SATs). The children have been prepared very well by Mrs Hickman and Mrs McCole and I know that they will do their very best. SATs of course only measure a small part of the learning and progress that the children have made throughout their time at St Joseph's and we are all so proud of their focus in lessons, maturity and care towards one another. Please keep Year 6 in your prayers this weekend and next week as they sit the tests. Do your best Year 6, we are all incredibly proud of you!

Have a great weekend everyone.

Mr A. Wilkes

Principal

Our school website is regularly updated - including summer curriculum study plans! Please have a look here - <u>St Joseph's Catholic Primary School Stourbridge - Home (st-jo-st.dudley.sch.uk)</u>

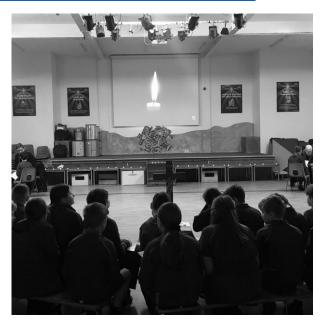
Updates:

Term dates - Next year's term dates and insets are available on the calendar section of the school website

Warm weather - please ensure that your child has sun cream applied in the morning and brings a cap to school in the event of warmer weather. The children should also bring a bottle of water (sports cap only please) into school with them. Thank you.

May - the month of Mary - Mrs McCole and the Caritas team will be praying the rosary with groups of children on a Wednesday afternoon.

May TEN:TEN Newsletter The May newsletter from Ten:Ten to support you with prayer at home www.tentenresources.co.uk/prayers-for-home/parent-newsletter/





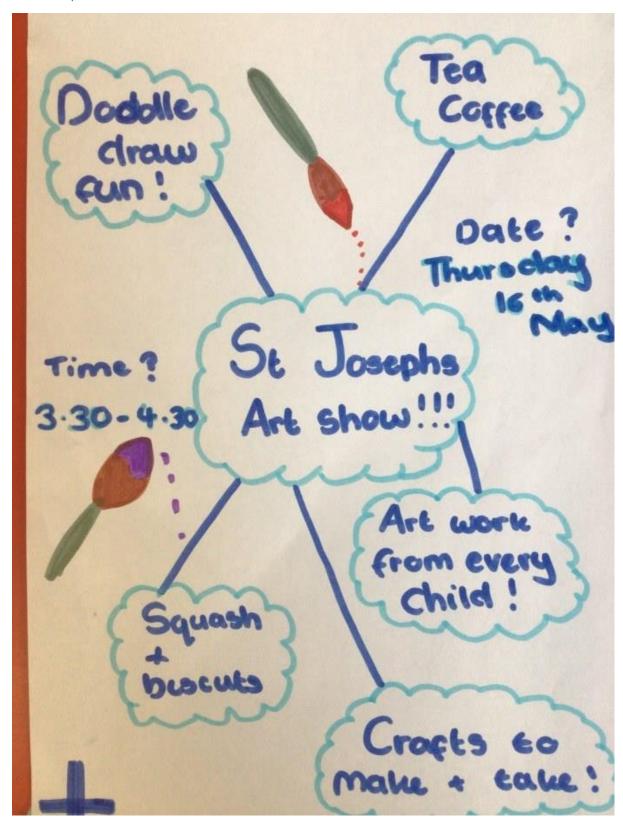




1 - Reception class 2024 - places available. All children are welcome at our flourishing school!

Due to the unusually low birth rate in Stourbridge and Dudley, we have spaces available for our Reception class in September 2024. Please do pass this information on to anyone you know of who may wish to come and join our wonderful school this September!

St Joseph's Art Show!



ST. JOSEPH'S ART SHOW - SHOWCASING OUR VISUAL ARTS

Please join us on Thursday 16th May from 3.30 - 4.30 for a whole school art show. Our Arts Ambassadors have been busy making preparations and can't wait to welcome you!

Come and join us for a magical evening of music with The Mary Stevens Hospice Choir and St. Joseph's School Choir on Monday 24th June at 7.00p.m. Tickets are available from the school office



Catholic Social Teaching





2 - Each of the children in school has decorated a beautiful prayer stone to use during Collective Worship and at break and lunchtimes. We are thinking about how we can be good stewards of God's world when using our outdoor spaces as quiet, reflective areas in school.

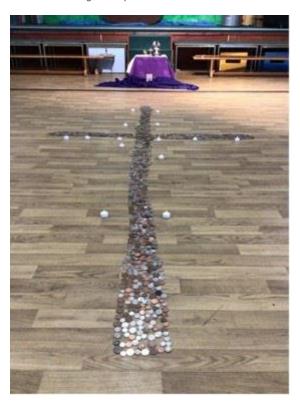








3 - Our Caritas ambassadors reading prayers from the prayer stop in school. During the Year of Prayer we are all encouraged to spend time alone with God.



 ${\it 4-Our\ beautiful\ cross\ of\ coins\ raising\ money\ for\ Father\ Hudson's}.$



5 - Instagram @STJOSEPHSCATHOLICPRIMARY

Twitter @StJoStourbridge

Our Lady and All Saints Church welcomes you! **Mass Times - Saturday 5pm, Sunday 8:30am and 11:00am.** Latest newsletter

<u>OLAS-Bulletin-5th-May-2024.pdf</u> May scripture reflection <u>OLAS-Scripture-Commentries-May-2024.pdf</u>



Children's liturgy - Seventh Sunday of Easter | Cycle B John 15:1-8



In today's gospel Jesus is talking to God. He is praying.

Do you pray? What do you pray for or about?

Jesus is asking God to help his friends – the disciples – when he is gone.

Jesus knows it will be hard for them to be without him. But he has also given his disciples a very special job to do and he wants them to carry on doing this, even after he has gone away. So he wants God to keep them safe.

What job do you think Jesus wants his disciples to do?

Jesus wants his disciples to follow his teaching, to love everyone just like Jesus loves us and to encourage others to do the same.

Jesus prayed for us too. Do you think Jesus has a special job for us to do as his followers? What do you think that job might be?

He wants us to share God's love with others – near or far away – and care for the lovely world he has given us. How do you think we can do that?

We can share God's love by helping each other. This also means taking care of our world so that everyone has the chance of a happy life.

Let us remember this week to pray to God to help us as we try to live as Jesus asks us to. And let us pray for all our brothers and sisters around the world, asking God to bless them and keep them safe.

We pray for world leaders: that they may be inspired by Jesus and make the right decisions for the good of all people, even when it is hard. Lord, in your mercy...

We pray for the Church throughout the world: that it may be a shining light in the darkest times, bringing help and comfort to all those in need. Lord, in your mercy...

We pray for our family, friends and parish: that we may always follow Jesus, respecting and caring for all people and for our planet. Lord, in your mercy...

Closing prayer:

Loving God, move us to follow your Son, to share your love with others and to work together to protect our beautiful world. We ask this through Christ our Lord, Amen.

Reflection adapted from Cafod children's liturgy

The Wednesday Word- <u>Care - Magazine - Page 1 (paperturn-view.com)</u>



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.

	Gospel values	Good work
Reception	Nell & Connie	Emily & Penny R
Year 1	Cordelia & Antonina	Belle, Phoebe & Emily
Year 2	Luca R & Jamie	Joshua & Anne-Marie
Year 3	Katie W & Bethan	Zara & Anouska
Year 4	Grace & Leonardo	Erin & Flynn
Year 5	Flo, Jude & Joe	Charlie, Freddie & Gabriella
Year 6	Sam & Annie	Matty & Murray

PE and School Sport



Updates:

Year 5 and Year 6 boys football

The boys who have been allocated a place will bring a letter home with them today. Thank you to Mr Sargent for volunteering to lead this club! We are hoping to secure some friendly fixtures before the end of term.

Girls' football final:

This will take place at Dudley College on Tuesday 11th June. Parents are welcome to come and watch. I will send out more details in the coming weeks.

Badminton:

The KS2 children are enjoying taking part in Badminton at lunchtimes - perhaps you may wish to play this with your child at home too!

Play leaders:

Our youth play leaders will begin their games at lunchtime with KS1 next week - well done play leaders for organising such exciting activities in school.

Garden Club- This will begin initially for children in Year 5 and Year 1, with other children getting the opportunity to join throughout the year. Here are some of the reception children planting strawberries. If you would like any more information or to donate packets of seedsplease speak to Miss Biniek or Mrs Bailey.





6 - Gardening club - coming soon!

Attendance



Congratulations to **Year 4** who have achieved the highest attendance this week. You will receive an extra play time!

Attendance for the whole school for this week is 97.75%.

Here is the attendance for this week for each class:

Year R: 97.2%

Year 1: 98.3%

Year 2: 98.8%

Year 3: 99.6%

Year 4: 100%

Year 5: 94.2%

Year 6: 96.3%

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.

Diary Dates 2023-24



^{*}Please note all term dates are available on the calendar section of the school website

<u>St Joseph's Catholic Primary School Stourbridge - Calendar (st-jo-st.dudley.sch.uk)</u> - **Next years term** dates are available on the school website including INSET days

Dudley term dates - 2024/25 <u>St Joseph's Catholic Primary School Stourbridge - Dudley Term Dates</u> <u>2023-24 and 2024-25 (st-jo-st.dudley.sch.uk)</u>

Rosary Group each Wednesday lunchtime in May

Monday 13th-Thursday 16th May - Y6 SATs week

Wednesday 15th May - Year 1 stay and pray - 9:10am (Year 1 parents welcome)

Wednesday 15th May - Year 6 serving senior Parish lunches - 1pm

Thursday 16th May School art show - 3:30pm (information to follow)

Wednesday 22nd May - Whole School May procession - 2:20pm

Wednesday 22nd May - Friday 24th May Year 5 Alton Castle retreat residential

Thursday 23rd May - Reception class fairytale ball

Friday 24th May - school closes for the end of the first half of the summer term

Monday 3rd June - school reopens for the second half of the summer term 2

Monday 3rd June - Year 3 trip to Bishops Wood

Wednesday 5th June-Friday 7th June - Year 6 Whitemoor Lakes

Wednesday 5th June - Year 5 class Mass - 2:30pm (Year 5 parents welcome)

Monday 10th June - STEAM week (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Maths)

Monday 10th June - Reception class trip to Bodenham Arboretum

Wednesday 19th June - Year 1 and Year 4 Warwick Castle trip

Wednesday 19th June - Reception stay and pray - 9:10am (Reception parents welcome)

Wednesday 19th June - Year 6 serving senior parish lunches - 1pm

Wednesday 19th June - Year 6 class Mass (Year 6 parents welcome)

Monday 24th June - National sports week

Sports days to take place on Tuesday 25th June. KS1 9:15-10:30am, KS2 11:00-12:30pm

Thursday 27th June - Y6, Y1 and Reception smoothie making

Thursday 27th June - 5:30pm new Reception parents (September 2024) induction evening

Friday 28th June - Catholic Social Teaching sharing assembly - - 2:30pm (parents welcome)

Saturday July 6th at 12:00pm - Year 4 Holy Communion at Our Lady and All Saints Church

Tuesday 9th July - Year 2 West Midlands Safari Park visit

Wednesday 10th July - Whole School Mass - 2:20pm (parents welcome)

Saturday 13th July - PTA Summer Fayre 12.00-3.00pm

Wednesday 17th July - Year 6 serving senior parish lunches

Thursday 18th July - Leavers' assembly and Prize giving

Friday 19th July - school closes for the summer holidays

Monday 22nd July - School closed for children (Inset day)

INSET DAYS 2024/25

Monday 2nd September (1)

Tuesday 3rd September (2)

Friday 4th October (3)

Friday 14th February (4)

Monday 21st July (5)

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>



















7 - St George's Day!







PTA updates- Please scroll through the images below for a host of updates from our wonderful PTA.







8 - Thank you to the PTA for purchasing the new outdoor classroom in our Reception outdoor area. The children absolutely love using it!

Dates for your diary

PTA Plant Sale - Our annual PTA plant sale will be on Monday morning before school. On offer will be courgette plants, pumpkin plants and 2 varieties of tomato. Prices start at 50p. Cash only please. All proceeds will support St Joseph's Gardening Club.

PTA Summer Fayre - Saturday 13th July - 12.00-3.00pm

PE Timetable - Summer 1st half term



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

(Please remember Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 that PE kits remain in school and are sent home at half term)

Reception Class - Monday - bikeability

Year 1 - Tuesday & Thursday

Year 2 - Monday & Tuesday

Year 3 - Tuesday & Friday (swimming)

Year 4 - Tuesday & Friday

Year 5 - Monday & Wednesday

Year 6 - Wednesday & Friday

Clubs



Lunchtime Clubs:

Monday - Craft Club

Tuesday - Badminton - Years 3/4/5 & 6 (all welcome to join in!)

Wednesday - Y6 leading 'Mindfulness group'

Wednesday - Y5/Y6 boys and girls football training on the field. Please bring change of kit and trainers

Thursday - Key Stage 1 Choir (Mrs Cangiano)

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

Tuesday 3:15-4:30pm - Year 5 and Year 6 boys football

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

Thursday 8am - KS1 Gymnastics (RB)

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 school lunch menu



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 menu









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.

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)



9 - National Online Safety

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. I have resent the sign up letter to all parents today.

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. https://nationalcollege.com/enrol/st-joseph-s-catholic-primary-school-8 There are lots of resources, guides and webinars to support you to keep your child safe online.



10 - 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