

ST JOSEPH'S

CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

St Joseph's Catholic Primary School

Newsletter April 26th 2024

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A message from our Principal



Dear parents and families,

Despite the cooler weather this week it has been lovely for the sun to also appear enabling the children to spend more time on the field at lunchtime and to visit our forest area in school. Let's hope the brighter weather is here to remain!

It has been a very busy week in school with the children deepening their understanding of fundamental British Values and a celebration for St George's day. In addition to this, new signage has been installed in the entrance area and in the school hall - really brightening up our environment and creating a focus for us in time for us to celebrate the Feast day of our school Patron Saint, St Joseph, next Wednesday.

Thank you to those who have taken the time to complete the Catholic Life, RE and Prayer parent survey that was sent out earlier this week. Your views are very important to us as we continue to move school forward. The link is here and I'd be very appreciative if you took 10 minutes to complete the survey over the weekend Thank you.

https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=yzpMTB1gnUK8UBkrjXrTK2A-1ki-yT5BlqJCY5RKfq1UN1U3R0xKUzZJUEpUNk4zQTdYR0xSTldNOS4u

Finally, all parents in Reception to Year 5 will have received a letter this afternoon regarding Mrs Riley's Reading Café that will take place on Thursday 9th May at 3:30pm in the school hall. This will be a great opportunity to read with your child, hear about some top tips to use when reading with your child at home and resolve any issues that you may be experiencing with the Boom reader recording log. If you're able to join us, please return the reply slip as soon as you can!

Polite reminders:

Please could I ask that parents log into Arbor and ensure that all consents are up to date and completed.

Ensure that the school life app notifications are 'on' to alert you to school messages that are regularly sent.

Please make sure email addresses are up to date with school as predominantly this is how information is sent out to parents.

Have a great weekend.

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:

April TEN:TEN Newsletter The April 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

We are holding our first whole school art show on **Thursday 16th May from 3.30 -4.30** and are looking for some help! Could you support us in any way? We are looking for:

- 1. Volunteers on the afternoon of 16th May to set up our show in the hall
- 2. Display/exhibition boards (that we can borrow or buy cheaply)
- 3. Materials with which to make display boards (wooden batons, chicken wire, hinges and screws)
- 4. Handy people to make display boards

Please get in touch with Mrs Cangiano through the school office if you can help in any way. Thank you so much for your support.

Polite request for community members with skills! Dear parents, there are a number of ambitious projects in school that we wish to begin,

and wondered if any members of our community would be interested in offering some of their skills towards the benefit of our school community? For example, we're looking for painters, joiners, carpenters, videographers and green fingered members of the local community to come forward and see if they could help. If this sounds like something that you feel you might be able to support with, please do give the school office a call. Thank you.

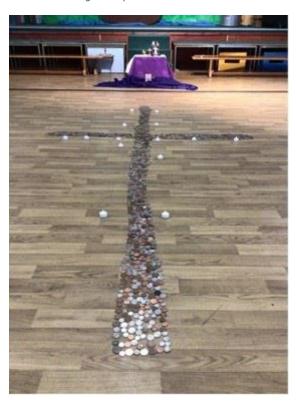


Catholic Social Teaching





2 - 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.



 ${\it 3-Our\ beautiful\ cross\ of\ coins\ raising\ money\ for\ Father\ Hudson's}.$





4 - Instagram @STJOSEPHSCATHOLICPRIMARY

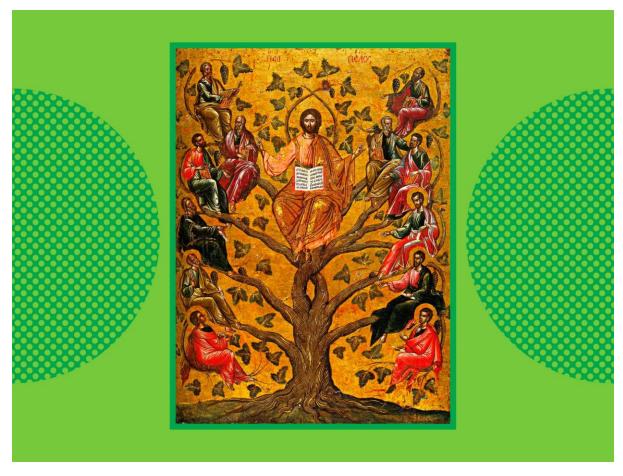
Twitter @StJoStourbridge

Our Lady and All Saints Church welcomes you! **Mass Times** - **Saturday 5pm, Sunday 8:30am and 11:00am.** Latest newsletter April scripture reflection <u>OLAS-SCRIPTURE-COMMENTARIES-APRIL-</u> 2024.pdf



Children's liturgy - 5th Week of Easter | Cycle B

John 15:1-8



Jesus is teaching his disciples. He calls himself the "true vine". Do you know what a vine is?

What grows on a vine? Grapes grow on vines.

Jesus calls us his branches because he supports us, like a tree trunk supports its branches. And he wants us to bear fruit for him.

What do you think this means? Do you think he wants us to grow grapes?!

What Jesus means is that he wants us to stay close to him and follow his teachings. This means being the best we can be, loving each other, and loving the beautiful world he has given us.

But this world is changing. Because the planet has been treated badly, our climate is heating up. And the hotter it gets, the more we see big weather disasters like storms or droughts – when there is no rain and everything dries up like the vine we heard about in today's gospel.

Everyone is affected, but the poorest people suffer the most.

We all have a part to play to protect our world, so that it stays a beautiful place for us all to live in safely.

There are many ways that we can show love for our neighbour and care for our world. Can you think of some, so that you will be like the strong, healthy branches on the vine that Jesus talks about

We know that Jesus is the true vine always supporting us, his branches. Let us keep this in mind as we pray together.

We pray for the Church throughout the world: that it may follow Christ's example and show love and welcome to all people. Lord, in your mercy...

We pray for all those who have been badly affected by the changing climate; may we always show care for our planet and not damage it any more. Lord, in your mercy...

We pray for our parish, family and friends: that we may be moved to show love for our neighbours, both here and around the world. Lord, in your mercy...

Closing prayer:

Closing prayer: Generous God, support us in all that we do as a vine supports its branches, and help us to support and share with others around the world. Amen

Reflection adapted from Cafod children's liturgy

The Wednesday Word- <u>Growing - 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	Nellie	Lily C
Year 1	Charlie A & Alistair	Charlie T
Year 2	Fionn	Izzy
Year 3	Peony	Georgina
Year 4	Eliza	Albert
Year 5	Jack & Amelia	Lloyd
Year 6	Bella & Daisy	Matty

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.





5 - Gardening club - coming soon!

Attendance



Congratulations to **Reception & Year 2** who have achieved the highest attendance this week. You will receive an extra play time!

Attendance for the whole school for this week is 98.26%.

Here is the attendance for this week for each class:

Year R: 98.9%

Year 1: 99.3%

Year 2: 95%

Year 3: 97.7%

Year 4: 99%

Year 5: 95.3%

Year 6: 95.7%

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.

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>

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

Rosary Group each Wednesday lunchtime in May

Wednesday 1st May - St Joseph's Day and Mass - 2:20pm (parents welcome)

Wednesday 8th May -Year 2 Stay & Pray 9.10am (Year 2 parents welcome)

Whole School Mass - 2:20pm (parents welcome)

Thursday 9th May - Parents reading information evening - Reception to Year 5 (3:30pm)

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)

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)

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.

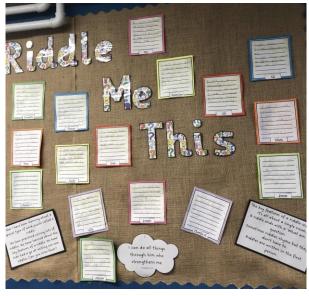
<u>St Joseph's Catholic Primary School Stourbridge - Curriculum Plans (st-jo-st.dudley.sch.uk)</u>



















6 - St George's Day!





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







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)



8 - 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.



9 - 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