



Friday 5<sup>th</sup> September 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to St Joseph's - I hope you all had a lovely and restful summer break.

I cannot wait to get to know your children better and begin our learning together as we head into the Autumn term. We have enjoyed a fantastic first week together, and I am looking forward to seeing the children settle in further as we progress through the next few weeks. We will be focusing on developing our **confidence** and setting **high expectations** for ourselves as we begin our journey into Year 2.

A notable change in Year 2 this year is our class name; we have transitioned from St Peter to **St Theresa of Kolkata**! This is an exciting development for us, as St Theresa links strongly to our History learning later in the year, in which we will learn about the never forgotten nurses of the Crimean war.

This term, our overarching theme will be '**Planet Earth**'. This links in beautifully with our Science learning, in which we will be focusing on living things and their habitats. Furthermore, our Outdoor Learning topic will encourage us to explore our outdoor environment as we hunt for mini-beasts. We will also be using nature as our inspiration for our art work this term, combining our creativity and drawing skills to produce a colourful piece at the end of the unit. Please do take a look at the attached topic web for full details of our learning this term.

A few important things to note:

#### Reading Books

Firstly, thank you for taking the time to read with your children over the summer - it really does provide them with invaluable opportunities to develop their love for reading. We will continue to read with your child as much as we can in school. Your child's reading diary has now been returned to them - please do record your reading sessions inside, so that we can continue awarding reading points. For every 5 reads at home in 1 week, your child will be awarded 1 reading point.

Every week, your child will take home 2 books. These will be changed on your child's Group Reading day. We are so lucky to have such a wide variety of books to provide the children with. To ensure that our collection of books remains bountiful, we ask that you please ensure your child returns both books on their reading day so that they can choose new ones to take home.

#### Homework

Homework and spellings will be set on a Friday, and it will be due in on the following Wednesday. Across the term, it will be Maths and English alternated, with one RE-focused task before the end of term. All homework will reflect what we have been learning in our lessons, and spellings will focus on words that we practise in our Phonics lessons. Your child will be bringing home a book in which they can complete their homework.

As for last year, I will be setting homework on TEAMS. Please kindly note that if homework is not submitted by the due date, it *may not* be marked. If you have trouble accessing your child's account, please do let [admin@st-josephs.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:admin@st-josephs.gloucs.sch.uk) know.

Spellings will be set every week. Please **do not** practise them in your child's green spelling book; these are for their test only.

#### PE

This term, the children will have their PE lessons on Wednesdays and Fridays. Please make sure your child arrives in their school PE kit on these days so that they can make the most of their PE time. Items of clothing and waterproofs should be clearly named at **all** times - even socks!

Items of clothing which are not named and that the children cannot identify will go into the lost property.

#### Readers

At St Joseph's, we are passionate about providing the children with as many reading opportunities as possible; it is the most important skill they will learn! While we would love to read with each child, every day, this is just not possible. We warmly welcome volunteer readers throughout the school year to help boost these opportunities for the children, and we are so grateful for all those who give their time each week. If this is something you would like to help with, please do catch me on the playground or contact the Admin email directly: [admin@st-josephs.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:admin@st-josephs.gloucs.sch.uk).

#### **A few additional points:**

- Please ensure your child comes to school with a coat each day - the weather is getting slowly, but surely, colder!
- Please provide your child with a water bottle each day.
- Please ensure that your child comes to school with their wellies at the start of each term.
- Please make sure that your child brings their reading diary to school each day.
- Please ensure your child returns their reading books to school on their reading day so that we can keep on top of reading points. We are unable to swap books until they are returned.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to ask; I am available in the playground most evenings after school. I am looking forward to seeing your children grow throughout their time in Year 2!

Yours sincerely

*R.White*

Miss Rebecca White  
Year 2 Teacher