



St Joseph's Catholic Primary School

Inspiring everyone to **REACH** through
Faith, Hope, and Love

Newsletter – Friday 12th December 2025

I can hardly believe we've reached the final newsletter of 2025! This autumn term has flown by, and what an incredible term it has been. Our amazing team has once again gone above and beyond, turning a challenging start into a truly successful and rewarding journey. I want to express my heartfelt thanks to every single member of the team for your dedication and commitment ensuring that everything we do is the very best it can be. You are the reason St Joseph's is such a wonderful school! I hope you all enjoy a magical Christmas filled with joy, laughter, and precious time with loved ones - you've earned every moment of your well-deserved break.

A special thank you to our new Reception parents for your incredible support - what a fantastic start your children have made to their school life! And to all our parents, thank you for everything you do. You are your children's first and most important educators, and with your partnership, we can offer them the rich, varied experiences that make St Joseph's so special. From learning to extra-curricular clubs, PTA events, helping with transport, reading, and crafting - you make it all possible, and we are deeply grateful.

Our wonderful PTA also deserves huge thanks for their tireless efforts in creating fun, memorable events that not only raise funds to enhance learning but also bring our community together.

With just one week to go, there's plenty of excitement ahead! Please check the Christmas Countdown section in this newsletter to ensure your children have everything they need to make these final activities truly special and to help you to arrive on time.

Year 5 Parents – Residential meeting

Final reminder that there will be a meeting at 3.30pm with Mrs Knight about the planned residential for next year. Please do join her if you are able – this year parents have a decision to make.

Wellie Boot Shed



The wellie shed is a bit overcrowded with wellies. This is where Year 3, 4 and 5 store their wellies. It is causing the children access issues. Lots of children seem to have more than one pair in school, which we don't have space to store.

At the end of this term we will be asking the children to take their wellies home with them, enabling us to clear out the shed.

Please do send them back in at the start of term – they will need their wellies to access the field at lunch time and for their outdoor learning.

LOOK WHO'S TALKING! 2026

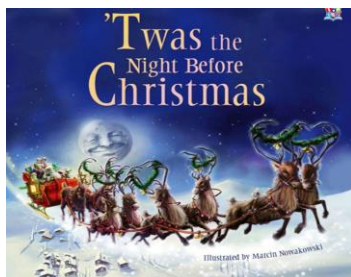
An Oracy Competition for Gloucestershire's Infant, Junior and Primary Schools

Look Whose Talking – just a reminder about the dates for the competition this year....

The date this year will be:

- ✓ **Friday 28th November 2025**
English homework was set for all classes.
- ✓ **Following two weeks (1st–12th December 2025)**
- ✓ Class teachers hold **class rounds** in their rooms.
→ Each class selects **one winner**.
- ✓ **Friday 9th January 2026**
The class winners stand up and speak to the school during the celebration assembly

Story Time at the Convent



The final story time at the convent this year took place this morning and of course it had to be Christmas Stories. Thank you to all of you who were able to join us. It has been lovely so many of you have been able to join us. The children have also enjoyed these mornings.

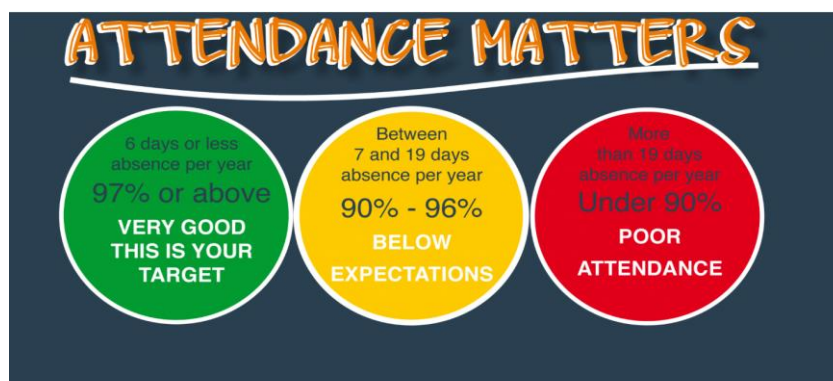
Born in a Barn

Our Reception and Key Stage 1 children entertained us all this week with their great performance of Born in a Barn. I am sure that many of you went from harvest songs to these ones over the last few weeks.

Thank you all for your support in learning lines, providing costumes and coming to watch – the children, as you could tell, thoroughly enjoyed it and they learn so much from the experience. I would like to thank all of the staff involved; it is so much work to get the children to work so well together to deliver a nativity at this standard. Thank you all for your commitment in supporting the children to be the best that they can be!



Attendance



Sporting News



Despite the terrible forecast – cross country went ahead last Saturday. It was windy, the ground was very wet and slippery and there were definitely spots of rain in the air but our runners were there – determined to do their very best. Congratulations to all of our runners for doing such a great job. They went out looking clean and came back splattered in mud! Thank you to Mr Amigoni and Mrs Knight for being there to support the team and to all of the parents who brought them along for the race.

Due to the cancellation of the race last time, the next 2 race dates are:

Saturday 17th January

Saturday 7th February

PTA News

The hampers have been made - thank you so much Mrs Wand, who once again has made them look amazing. Tickets are on sale now – you have to be in it to win it – don't miss out, get yours today.

Christmas breakfast



Hopefully, you have signed your child up for the Christmas Breakfast. The menu choices have been made by the children. Just a reminder:

8.15am - Breakfast with Santa in the Hall – for children who have signed up

8.40am start for the children who are not coming to Breakfast with Santa, they come into school as normal.

Rotary Shoebox Scheme

"Spreading a Little Happiness"

Thank you all once again for your support with the Rotary Shoe box scheme. The children have enjoyed working together in a small groups during some of their REACH activities to plan and make up a shoe box, a small act that will make a big difference to those who are less fortunate than ourselves. We will let you know how many boxes we have collected in the next newsletter.

For more information about the boxes please go to [Rotary Shoebox Scheme – Sending boxes of gifts to Eastern Europe](#)

Staffing update

We are delighted that Mrs Guoite will be back with us for a couple of days next week, returning fully in January. And, I would like to thank and congratulate Mrs Beaven, who has completed extensive training and will be taking on the role of our Senior Mental Health Lead. Her role, in this area, will involve working closely with class teachers and children to ensure that they all remain happy and healthy.

LET US PRAY



Mass Schedule

Mass begins at 10am

Parents are warmly welcome to join their child's class when it is their turn to go to Mass. Please let the admin team know if you are able to come.

Tuesday 16th December 6.30pm KS2 Carol Concert

Thursday 18th December – Christingle Service – all welcome

9.00am - KS1

10am – KS2 – all welcome

2.00pm Community Carol Concert at the Convent – please let the Admin Team know if you are able to come for planning purposes.



[December 2025](#)

Just a reminder that you are able to access and see the focus for our Liturgies through the Ten Ten monthly Parent Newsletter.

This week's prayer is from Reception



Dear God

Thank you for all the animals, I love them so much. They are so cute and furry.

Fearne

Thank you for the safe journey for Mary and Joseph to Bethelam. Zadie

Thank you for finding a home for all of us.

Rosie

God you told Mary she would have a baby.

Thank you for the truth. Thank you for letting Mary and Joseph be in the stable.

Noah

Amen

Just as a reminder for the final week of term

Tuesday 16th December

Christingles will be made in classes – children need to bring in **an orange** (about the size of a tennis ball) – not satsuma/easy peeler/clementine please

6.30pm – Key Stage 2 Carol Concert in St Joseph's Church

Preparation for the film work begins. There will be 2 vans parked in the pub car park. Parking for school events can continue as normal.

Wednesday 17th December

9.00am – Piano Christmas concert – Parents of children who will be performing have been invited. Parents who are attending the concert will be able to park as they normally would when attending this event.

10.30am – The choir will be performing at The Steppes/Moreton Hill residential care homes. Parents who are supporting with transport will be able to use half of the pub car park.

Christmas Lunch – children are welcome to wear a Christmas hat, thank you to the PTA once again for providing crackers for all of the children.

Children making Christingles in classes

2.00pm – Pantomime at school

Preparation for the film work 8.00am – 6.00pm. Half of the pub carpark will be in use by the preparation team – vans and cars will be parked. The village hall and Paddocks 4 Paws will be available for additional parking spaces – please ensure you allow additional time at school drop off and collection

Thursday 18th December

9.00am KS1 Christingle 10.00am KS2 Christingle in St Joseph's Church – all parents/grandparents welcome to join us

Parents joining us for the Christingle can park at the village hall, Paddocks 4 Paws or on the street in the village (except for the coned off areas). Any car left on the street in the village will need to have left by midday.

2.00pm Community Carols at the convent – all parents welcome to join us
For parents who are able to join us for this event, please park in Paddocks 4 Paws.

Filming work will be taking place. The crew will begin to arrive from 9am. Traffic management will be in operation from 9.30am. There will be no parking in the pub car park and the street outside the car park and the pub opposite will be coned off. There is parking at the village hall and Paddocks 4 Paws at all times.

During the day when traffic management is in place, if a parent needs to gain access to school (eg to collect an ill child) access will be granted as long as it is safe to do so – however please expect delays or rerouting if you arrive while filming is taking place.

For school collection – please arrive no earlier than 3pm, collect your child and leave as quickly as you can – by 3.30pm when possible.

For parents collecting from OOSC – please park in Paddocks 4 Paws or village hall.

Please allow additional time when dropping off and collecting your child/children at school and then leave as quickly as you can.

Friday 19th December

Christmas Jumper Day – donations online to Save the Children

8.15am - Breakfast with Santa in the Hall – for children who have signed up

8.40am start for the children who are not coming to Breakfast with Santa

PTA Christmas raffle

Christmas Parties in classrooms - children bring a plate of snacks for themselves.

1.30pm - End of the Autumn Term ☺

Filming work will be taking place. The crew will begin to arrive from 9am. Traffic management will be in operation from 9.30am. There will be no parking in the pub car park and the street outside the car park and the pub opposite will be coned off. There is parking at the village hall and Paddocks 4 Paws at all times.

During the day when traffic management is in place, if a parent needs to gain access to school (eg to collect an ill child) access will be granted as long as it is safe to do so – however please expect delays or rerouting if you arrive while filming is taking place. The filming should be in the pub by 1.30pm enabling parents to collect their children – please allow for a longer walk from the village hall/ Paddocks 4 Paws.

For parents collecting from OOSC – please park in Paddocks 4 Paws or village hall.

Please allow additional time when dropping off and collecting your child/children at school and then leave as quickly as you can.



*Wishing you a wonderful Christmas
and a safe and restful holiday break*

*Best wishes from
All of the Staff at St Joseph's*

Dates for your



Spring Term 1 - January 2026

Monday 5th - INSET day

Monday 12th - Teacher led clubs start

Saturday 17th - Cross country race

Wednesday 21st - Y5 and Y6 K'nex
Challenge 1-3pm

February 2026

Friday 6th - PTA disco

Saturday 7th - Last cross country race
and prize giving

Monday 9th - Children's Mental Health
Week

Tuesday 10th - Safer Internet Day

Tuesday 10th and Wednesday 11th -
Parents Evening

Thursday 12th - Lent Retreat

Friday 13th Feb - Half Term ☺

Spring Term 2 - February 2026

WB 23rd Feb - Awe and Wonder week

Monday 23rd - PTA non-uniform for
Easter hampers

Thursday 26th - Parent Forum 9am - all
welcome

March 2026

Tuesday 3rd - In the Net - internet
safety play for Y4 - we are hosting
starts at 10am

Thursday 5th - World Book Day

WB 9th - Science Week

Monday 16th - last week of teacher led
clubs

Thursday 19th - St Joseph's Feast Day
Mass 9.30am

Sunday 22nd - PTA Easter event

Thursday 26th - House Singing
Competition

Friday 27th - Stations of the Cross
9.30am

Friday 27th - End of Term 1.30pm ☺