



St Joseph's Catholic Primary School

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

Newsletter – Friday 14th February 2025

It is half term already- the last 6 weeks have flown by and our children have been busy! We ended the term with a great event that has been organised by some of our Year 4 children. Ella, Bella, Julia, Joni, Amberlee and Ava asked if they could raise money for some of our global neighbours. They wanted to help those who are suffering still through no fault of their own. They specifically wanted to help people from the Ukraine and chose the charity Unicef. They have done all of the research themselves and this is completely their idea. I would like to thank all of the parents who have helped them by sending in cakes and also sending in your child/children with money to buy the cakes - what a lovely way to end the term. We don't know how much they have raised yet - left over cakes will be on sale in the playground after school tonight but we will let you know after half term. Well done girls – your little acts of kindness will make a big difference to others less fortunate than ourselves. If your child goes to OOSC you may have noticed that the staff have been hearing your child read while they are at the club. This is following on from a recommendation from the Mangotsfield English Hub. I would like to thank Marie and the team for being willing to support the children as recommended, enabling them to practise this vital skill with them after school.

Music Curriculum

Mrs Wheeler, the music teacher who is teaching our Year 4 class to play the violin this term is holding a performance **on Friday 28th March at 2.30pm**. If you would like to come and see your child play, then please let the Admin Team know so that we can have a chair ready for you. This will be the start of our celebration assembly, please feel free to stay and join us for the rest of our celebrating.



Tree planting for the Eco- committee



Our Eco-Committee spent a couple of hours planting trees at Tinkley Gate last Wednesday, where they spent the morning working with the National Trust planting pear trees - a total of 25 altogether! I would like to thank our Eco-Committee for being such great ambassadors for our school: Sidney, Hannah, Theo, Hebe, Austin, Lucy, Alfred, Charlie, Ruari, Jemima and Greg and to their parents too who joined in the fun; Mr Connolly, Mrs Shipton, Ms Pegler, Mrs Hitchings and Mrs Hitchen.

Here is what the National Trust had to say after the event.....

Dear Kat,

On behalf of my colleagues and I, I just want to say a big Thank You to you, your parents / carers and your enthusiastic Eco-Group members for the help planting the pear trees in the Orchard at Tinkley Gate this morning.

It was great to have all of your eager assistance in planting the trees, and we hope that you will come back to visit them throughout the seasons as we watch them grow. Myself and colleagues would also like to pass on how polite the children were, how good they were at working together and turn taking, and also their enthusiasm for the task.

Thank you again for all of your help this morning and do keep in touch,

With best wishes,

Laura

Tournaments 2025



Well done to the children who took part in the swimming gala last week. There were some great individual and team results. All of the children swam well, were the best they could be and represented our school so well. Thank you to Felix, Samuel, Maya, Marianna, Annabel, Marmaduke, Emilia and Thomas. Thanks once again goes to Miss Gardiner for taking the

children and to Mrs Wooldridge for once again supporting with transport.

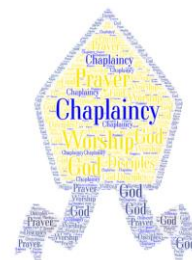
Last Saturday was the final cross county race of the season and definitely the coldest. But our children were there with fantastic attitudes determined to do their best - and they did! . There were some great individual performances – Edward won the senior boys race and Ella came 2nd in the junior girls race. All of our runners did so well – we are so proud of them all. It was lovely to see some of their friends coming to support too.

There was a change to the individual places this year with the top 3 bringing awarded. Congratulations to Edward and Ella who both came second overall for their age group. The teams did brilliantly too, the senior boys and senior girls, and all came 2nd out of the big schools and our junior girls came first - which meant we were placed 2nd overall – a great achievement.

I would like to thank Mr Amigoni, who has been training our runners and to Mrs Knight also who has supported the club. It has been lovely to watch the runners performances improve throughout the season. We are really grateful for the knowledge and time that you are able to commit to help our runners be so successful – thank you so much!

Chaplaincy News

Our Chaplaincy team were working with Mrs Blanche this week. She came to school to work with the team and support them with monitoring the prayer life of the school. They had a very productive morning and are now all prepared to monitor by themselves. She left really impressed with their knowledge, understanding and ability – this is all down to the fantastic job that Mrs Barron does in leading the team – thank you so much Mrs Barron!



Attendance Matters, Moments Count

When we talk about percentage of time that a child missed from school and we are talking about below 93% - 93% sounds like a positive number. But, the reality of 93% attendance means that your child has missed 2.5 weeks of school and has missed an incredible 100 lessons. And these are not the children considered to be persistently absent. Do you know what your child's attendance is? Have a look at the table below to see how much they are missing.....

Attendance Matters	
100%	0 days missed
99%	1 day missed is 8 lessons
98%	3 days missed is 24 lessons
97%	1 week missed is 40 lessons
94%	2 weeks missed is 80 lessons
92%	3 weeks missed is 120 lessons
90%	3.5 weeks missed is 140 lessons
89%	4 weeks missed is 160 lessons
88%	4.2 weeks missed is 176 lessons
87%	4.9 weeks missed is 192 lessons
86%	5.2 weeks missed is 208 lessons
85%	5.6 weeks missed is 224 lessons

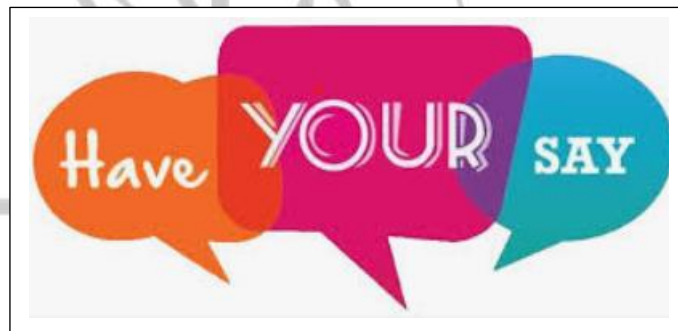
Reminder to parents to call the school to report their child's absence before 9am on the day of the absence and each subsequent day of absence, and advise when they are expected to return.

EYFS requests

We would like to thank all of the parents for their generosity to the requests when we have asked for donations for the reception class - the enhancements that your kindness has made to our young learners environment has to be seen to be believed.

As the environment is developing there are a few other things that Mrs Daly is looking for ...just in case you are having a clear out over half term! If anyone is able to donate:
Fairy, elf and woodland small world items
Battery/solar powered fairy lights

And if anyone has a tractor tyre that they don't need – please do let Mrs Daly know!



Have your say

I would like to have an open forum with parents to discuss some areas of school life and gain your view. It would be good to consider what you think we do well and what we could do to improve things for the children. Whilst I understand that there will be different points of view it would be good to give you the opportunity to share them and for us to listen to them – I am sure there will be ideas that we have not thought about! There are specific areas that I would like to discuss and I am sure that there will be things that you would like to discuss too. I was thinking that the meetings could be held at 9am just after drop off or 2.15pm just before school pick up. If you would like to come along, please email the Admin Team letting them know which time works best for you and if you have anything you would like to be added to the agenda. Please register your interest by Friday 28th February so that we can set a date.

PTA

Thank you to all of the parents who came along to the PTA AGM last week either in person or on the screen! I would also like to thank the parents who stood again to the elected roles: Jo Smee - Chair, Sam Brittain – Treasurer and Gemma Wilkins - Secretary. Without these key roles, the committee could not run. We are so grateful for the time that you commit to raising money to support the school – everything that you do enhances the experience that all of the children get at St Joseph's.

If anyone has any great ideas and would like to get involved, then please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Dates for your Diary

28 th February	School disco
17 th March	Non-uniform day in exchange for a gift for the Easter Raffle
6 th April	Easter Event
19 th May	Quiz at the Fox, Coaley



Internet Safety Talk for Parents

I would like to thank Miss Drury for arranging for Laura Davies, DIU Cyber Support Officer, to come and speak to parents. Thank you if you were able to attend. When we do the surveys in school with our children, the thing that concerns us the most is that children talk about that they are often online unsupervised and that many, even KS1 children, have communicated with people online that they don't know.

We hope that you found the information that Laura shared helpful and as promised she sent some helpful links – please see below. If there is anything further that you feel we can help with, please do speak to Miss Drury, she is always open to suggestions.

Online Safety

- www.internetmatters.org
- www.getsafeonline.org
- www.ineqe.com
- www.reportharmfulcontent.com
- www.thinkuknow.co.uk
- www.ceop.police.uk/safety-centre/

Action Fraud

- www.actionfraud.police.uk

Cyber Career Framework

- www.cybersecuritycouncil.org.uk/careers-and-learning/cyber-career-framework

National Cyber Security Centre

- www.ncsc.gov.uk



LET US PRAY



Mass Schedule

Mass begins at 10am

Thursday 27th February – Year 2
1.30pm – Lent Retreat - all welcome
Wednesday 5th March - Ash
Wednesday Mass
Thursday 13th March – Year 1
Wednesday 19th March – St Joseph's
Feast Day – whole school Mass

Thursday 27th March – Year 6 and
Reception
Thursday 3rd April – Year 5
Thursday 10th April – Year 4
Friday 11th April – Stations of the Cross
– All welcome



[Prayer and Liturgy: Loving Jesus – Ten Ten Resources](#)

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 written by Year 3

Heavenly Father,

Please help us to be loving and
compassionate to others,
Thank you for the Fruits of the Spirit
that we show every day,
We will show our gratitude to our
school through our faith in you,
We promise to be kind and faithful in
you always,
Amen





I would like to thank the staff and children for all of their hard work over the last 6 weeks and you, our parents for your support. I hope that you, your family and friends have a good rest and a lovely time together. We look forward to welcoming you back for Spring Term 2.

Dates
for your



Spring Term 2

WB 24th - Week of Awe and Wonder

Monday 24th - Y6 and EYFS heights, weights and vision screening

Friday 28th - Topic letters and Welcome letters to parents

Friday 28th - Y4 In the Net internet safety event at Nailsworth Primary School at 1.30pm

March

Scholastic Book Fayre this week

Tuesday 4th - Lent retreat

Thursday 6th - World Book Day

W/B 10th - Science Week

Tuesday 18th - Parents Evening 3.30pm-6.30pm

Wednesday 19th - St Joseph's Day - whole school Mass 9.30am

Wednesday 19th - Parents Evening 3.30pm-6.30pm

April

Friday 4th April - Y6 PCSO online relationships talk

Friday 4th April - Y3 class trip

Thursday 10th - House singing Competition

Friday 11th - Stations of the Cross

Friday 11th - End of Term 1.30pm

A prayer of hope

God, our loving Father,
in this Jubilee Year,
you remind us of our call to love creation.
Help us to work together
to replant, repair, and renew.

Guide us on our journey as pilgrims of hope.

Jesus, our light,
In this Jubilee Year,
you remind us of our call to love
our neighbours
and to set free those who suffer.
Help us to treat everyone with dignity;
to be fair, forgiving and kind.

Guide us on our journey as pilgrims of hope.

Holy Spirit, our inspiration,
in this Jubilee Year, you remind us of our
call to grow in faith and love.
Help us to hear you in scripture, to see
Jesus in others,
and to be united as God's global family.

Guide us on our journey as pilgrims of hope.

Amen

*Written in
collaboration with Missio.*

