



Friday 2nd May 2025

Dear Parents and Carers

I hope you all had a wonderful Easter break and enjoyed some quality time with those close to you. As we return to school, I am excited to welcome the children back and embark on a term filled with new adventures. Both myself and Mrs Jenkins have already been impressed with the fresh energy and enthusiasm the pupils have brought into the classroom – we are clearly getting ourselves ready for Year 4! We have lots of exciting activities and lessons planned, and I look forward to seeing the children engage, grow, and flourish in their learning.

This term, our theme is "We Are Scientists", where pupils will be encouraged to think critically, ask big questions, and explore the world around them through practical investigations. They will develop **resilience** as they test their ideas during our shadow experiment, learn from mistakes, and refine their understanding—just like real scientists.

In Geography, our "European Investigation" will take us to Greece, where pupils will gain an appreciation for different cultures, histories, and traditions. Through this, we will foster **empathy**, helping children to understand and respect global diversity and examine our Catholic Social Teaching value of **Solidarity** (we love our neighbours near and far).

In Maths, our focus on time will challenge pupils to develop their problem-solving skills and use logical thinking with **confidence**. This topic is often a tricky one – so feel free to support children with reading an analogue clock at home. Our English lessons will centre around Adventure Stories, encouraging pupils to use their imaginations and aspire to be creative storytellers, expressing their ideas with enthusiasm and using ambitious and descriptive vocabulary.

We are especially looking forward to our Geography fieldwork study, where pupils will explore the outdoors, observing and investigating the world around them. This will be an opportunity to embrace **high expectations** in their learning outdoors, apply classroom knowledge to real-life situations, and work collaboratively. We aim to investigate the amount of daisies on the field – and will be sure to keep you updated with the results!

In Religious Education, we will continue to grow in our **faith** by reflecting on The Road to Emmaus, exploring themes of perseverance and discovery. Pupils will learn how moments of understanding and guidance help us through challenges, building their **resilience** and strengthening their spiritual journey.

Things to remember:

- Please continue to read with your child at least 5 times a week, consistently reading these with your children really does help enable them to **be the best they can be**.
- PE kit, please can children come to school in their **PE kit** on **Thursdays** and **Fridays**.
- Homework – this will continue to be set on a Friday and due in on a Wednesday.
- Please ensure your child continues to bring a named water bottle in each day. This is so important as it is getting warmer.
- Please supply your child with everything they will need for the heat of the summer (hats/sun cream). We will be spending lots of time enjoying the sun, so it is important they are prepared.

Thank you for your continued support. If you have any questions or would like to discuss anything further, please don't hesitate to reach out. You can find me on the playground or email FAO Miss Drury via admin@st-josephs.gloucs.sch.uk.

We look forward to a fantastic term (and short) term ahead as we approach the end of your child(ren)'s time in Year 3!

Regards
Miss Emily Drury