



Friday 4th September 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to what promises to be an exciting and enriching final year at St Joseph's! I hope you have all had a restful and joyful summer. My name is Mrs Knight, and I am delighted to be your child's Year 6 teacher. Alongside me, we have Mrs Pickering, who will be supporting the class this year.

In St Martin's Class, we will strive to build a learning environment rooted in **faith, hope and love**, where children feel safe, confident, and motivated to do their best. We place great emphasis on **resilience, empathy**, and **aspiration**, encouraging all children to embrace challenges, support one another, and aim high. We have **high expectations** for every pupil, and together, we will work to ensure each child grows in **confidence** and reaches their full potential.

Our Learning This Term

This term, our theme is '**Planet Earth**'—a topic that will guide much of our learning across the curriculum. If your child would like to bring in any books, objects, or resources related to the topic, they are more than welcome! Please ensure any items from home are clearly named.

Reading

Reading is a key focus in Year 6, as it plays a vital role in preparing children for the demands of secondary school. At home, reading is a real passion of mine, and I strive to share that enthusiasm in the classroom. We have a fantastic and diverse selection of books available, and we hope to foster a genuine love of reading in every child.

I kindly ask that all children in **St Martin's Class** **read at least five times a week** with an adult at home, in addition to independent reading (e.g. before bed). Please record these reading sessions in your child's **yellow reading diary**, which will be checked every **Friday**. Children who meet this target will earn a **stamp towards their reading awards**, celebrating their consistency and dedication.

Our class novel for the term will be chosen by the children during the first week of school from a selection of fantastic books. This gives pupils the chance to have a voice in their learning and helps build excitement for reading. I can't wait to see which story they choose and to enjoy the reading journey together!

Homework

Homework will be set every **Friday** (via Microsoft Teams), and will include: a piece of English/grammar, maths, reading, or topic-based work. We no longer set weekly spellings but I will send out the Y3/4 and Y5/6 spelling lists for you to have a look at! All homework should be completed and returned by the following **Wednesday**. If your child needs a paper copy, please come and talk to me.

General Reminders

Water Bottles - Children should bring a **named water bottle** each day. As Year 6 pupils, they may keep this on their desk during lessons.

Pencil cases - In Year 6, children are welcome to bring a pencil case to school. As preparation for secondary school, they may wish to take responsibility for their own stationery and fill their pencil case sensibly. However, this is entirely optional, as all essential stationery will continue to be provided in school.

PE - This will take place on **Monday and Friday afternoons**. Children should come to school in their **PE kit**, which includes: House-colour T-shirt; Navy shorts; and Trainers. (Please ensure clothing has **no stripes or logos**).

In **Term 2**, PE will continue on Monday and Friday.

Please don't hesitate to get in touch if you have any questions, concerns, or would simply like a chat. I am usually available after school on the playground, or you can contact me via email (**FAO Mrs Knight**) through the school office: admin@st-josephs.gloucs.sch.uk

I truly believe that strong home-school partnerships lead to the best outcomes for children, and I am so looking forward to working with you all during this very special year.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support.

With warm regards,

Mrs Knight

Year 6 Teacher - **St Martin's Class**