



St Joseph's Catholic Primary School

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

Newsletter – Friday 18th September 2026

Some more new firsts

The school year continues to deliver new firsts. Tuesday saw the first assembly led by our new house captains, who spoke on the theme of leadership and inspired others across school to offer to serve as leaders. We have now formed an eco-committee, school council, chaplaincy team, reading ambassadors group and digital leaders group. I would like to thank all the children who volunteered to make our school a better place by leading within it.

Nut Free School

We have adults and children in our community who are allergic to nuts, and allergies can develop over time without children being fully aware. We are equipped with and trained to use epi-pens if needed, but please do not send your child to school with nuts or nut-based products as it endangers others.

PTA

The PTA have worked hard to produce a full and varied program of events for the year, from fun runs and slime workshops to Christmas wreath making. Please see the diary dates for further information. They also maintain supplies of pre-loved school uniform - if you need anything please ask. I would like to thank them for the many ways they enrich our school life.

School Uniform

Our school uniform branded items list is now compliant with legislation. It was necessary to act quickly to ensure this was the case by September and our branded requirement is now settled. There is now an opportunity to consult more widely about suppliers, quality and means of purchasing uniform. We will aim to have sample uniform selections ready for a Parent's Forum on 15th October.

Bateman's are providing us with improved quality knitwear samples, and with a sample hoodie with a larger neck opening. They are very open to understanding our needs better.

Bateman's are currently selling white polo shirts with the school badge reduced to £3.50.

These remain uniform for this year.

Mrs Carr

Mrs Carr will be out of school on Tuesday and Wednesday as her mother is being made a Canon of Colchester Cathedral. We wish her and her family the best as they celebrate this remarkable achievement.

Diary Dates

A full list of confirmed and likely events for the year is sent as a separate attachment with this newsletter, and is available at: [St Joseph's Catholic Primary School \(Nympsfield\) - Term Dates and Dates for Diary](#)

Attendance

It was really pleasing to see some children who had missed the early days of school back in school and thriving. Thank you for supporting them in overcoming illness or worry. 9/10 of our children have been in school consistently and been able to take part fully in school life. The fact that so many of our children are in school every day is admirable, and allows us to progress the curriculum for all and build the relationships that sustain school. We work hard to make sure children who have been absent or ill rejoin our community quickly. It is, however, easier for them if absences are kept to the minimum needed for serious illness.



WEEK AHEAD



TUESDAY		THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Reception Parents Phonics Evening 6.30pm 	Year 1 Parents Phonics Evening 7.15pm 	All Classes Mass 9.30am 	All Classes European Languages Day

If your child is new to our school, even if they have older brothers or sisters here, we would encourage you to attend the EYFS Phonics evening to understand how we teach reading, the evidence behind our approach, and how you can support your child. Y1 parents are invited to attend at 7.15pm. Please let the office know if you are attending.

If you wish to join us for whole school Mass on Thursday morning, please let the office know.

On Friday we will sample some European languages to celebrate European Languages Day. If you speak a European language other than English at home and would be willing to share some words and speak a little about your linguistic roots on Friday morning, please let your child's class teacher know.

Change to PE Schedule – Years 3 and 4 will do PE on Thursday

We have updated the PE schedule so that every child can get their full entitlement of PE, whatever the weather. All children continue to receive a minimum of two full hours of PE, including one hour with a specialist teacher.



PE KIT DAYS

Wear your PE kit on the days shown below.
On other days, wear your school uniform.



YEAR GROUP	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
YEAR 6	PE KIT	UNIFORM	UNIFORM	UNIFORM	PE KIT
YEAR 5	PE KIT	UNIFORM	UNIFORM	UNIFORM	PE KIT
YEAR 4	UNIFORM	UNIFORM	UNIFORM	PE KIT	PE KIT
YEAR 3	UNIFORM	UNIFORM	UNIFORM	PE KIT	PE KIT
YEAR 2	UNIFORM	PE KIT	UNIFORM	UNIFORM	PE KIT
YEAR 1	UNIFORM	PE KIT	UNIFORM	UNIFORM	PE KIT
RECEPTION	UNIFORM	UNIFORM	PE KIT	UNIFORM	PE KIT



MASS IN SCHOOL



Thursday 17th September

Year 6

Holy Cross



Thursday 24th September

Whole School

New Year



Thursday 1st October

**Whole School
in School**

**St Therese
of Lisieux**



Thursday 8th October

Year 5

Rosary



Thursday 15th October

Year 2

**Feeding
the 5000**



Thursday 22nd October

Year 4

**Season of
Creation**



We are very grateful to Father Philip for offering us a Eucharistic service every week in the Church, and for theming his homily to a topic relevant to the life of the school.

We attend in year groups, except for whole school celebrations. Children may attend outside their year group for significant spiritual reasons, and for Holy Days of Obligation as they prepare for First Holy Communion. Children not in communion with the Catholic Church may receive a blessing.

Parents of all faiths and none are welcome to join the Mass and celebration, and a blessing is offered to those not in communion with the Catholic Church. Please let the office know if you wish to attend.

All are welcome.