



Friday 5th September 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School! What an exciting start to our academic term we have already had, with the children exploring their new classroom environment, sharing their summer adventures with **confidence**, and being **aspirational** with their learning. We are all enjoying show and tell with the Teddy Bear's passports, it is lovely to hear your children share their summer adventures.

Mrs Piper, Mrs Barron (on Wednesdays) and myself, are so excited to be the first part of your child(ren)'s school journey in St. Peter's class where we seek to provide a safe, happy and engaging learning environment to see your child(ren) thrive and **REACH** in all they do.

This term, our topic **Marvellous Me!**, will focus on your child; recognising what makes them special and unique whilst developing their **empathy** and **confidence** through growing friendships, helping them settle into their new school family and routines. Please do look at the St Peter's Class Blog for weekly updates on what we are getting up in our learning.

To help your child(ren) navigate this transition to school here at St. Joseph's, they will be allocated a Year 6 buddy, where we plan for the children to read together, eat lunches together and create crafts and present assemblies together. This has proven very beneficial over the years, and we are excited to be continuing this again.

We love sharing what your child(ren)'s learning and achievements from home at school. Please do use the **WOW! vouchers** in the books bags when they have something to share or celebrate, this may be learning and mastering a new skill, like holding a pencil in the correct tripod grip, zipping up their coat or perhaps trying some new foods, or attending a new club.

Creativity, reading and being outside are some of my favourite things, and I hope these are things your child will love in our classroom environment too. Talking together and reading together are some of the best ways you can support your child's learning journey through Reception and beyond. A separate letter about our reading here at St. Joseph's will follow, but if you share a love of reading perhaps you would consider coming in as one of our **Mystery Readers** where you can come and read a book to the class. The children really enjoy this surprise visit, and you are welcome to bring your own book or choose from our collection. If this is something you can join us for, please see me at pick up to sign up to the rota (Thursdays at 2:50pm).

Things to remember:

- Name everything! Children are in and out throughout the day, and so may remove jumpers, cardigans and coats, please do ensure all clothing items are labelled so they are correctly reunited with the owners!
- Water bottles - please ensure children have their water bottles (named) with them each day, children should have water in these bottles – no juice or squash.
- Waterproofs and wellies - we are lucky to be able to access our outdoor learning environment throughout the day so having waterproofs and wellies readily available throughout the term is essential.
- PE kit, please can children come to school in their **PE kit** on **Wednesdays** and **Fridays**.
- Homework – this is a book to be completed termly, in line with the dates indicated in the booklets, this matches the learning taking place in school.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to speak to me at collection at the end of the day or email me via admin@st-josephs.gloucs.sch.uk

Mrs Daly