St Joseph's Catholic Primary School

Inspiring everyone to REACH through
Faith, Hope, and Love

Newsletter – Friday 20th November 2026

It has been another busy and varied week at St Joseph's. Year 5 have been putting their STEM skills to the test, designing planes and rockets and exploring the science and engineering behind them. Across school, children have been learning about Sikhism, made especially meaningful by our visit from Nirmal Kaur, who helped us deepen our understanding of Sikh faith, traditions and daily life. Anti-Bullying Week has also challenged us to think about the part each of us can play when something is not right. Children have explored the importance of standing up for others, speaking out and having the courage to break the silence.

Known staff absences and changes over the next week
Next week, Mrs Knight will be supporting writing in the County on Thursday and her class will be taken by a supply teacher - Mrs Arnold. Mrs Hamlin will support Year 6 on Friday afternoon. Mrs Barron will take Reception on Wednesday, as Miss Read is out on training. Mrs Hannon will not be in on Friday, and Mrs Phillips will support Year 1. We know that children form close bonds with the adults most often in their rooms and can find their absence difficult. We also know some children need to be supported if routines change. Please support your child by letting them know if this change affects them.

Attendance
This week, our children have attended **596 full sessions** of school in four days! Every one of those sessions matters, and in a packed week many were truly memorable.
We welcome any child who wants to come to school, even if they are feeling under the weather, and can support their recovery with medication and the comfort of friends. There are some illnesses that cause parents particular concern, and NHS guidance is attached to this letter. If you feel your child would enjoy or benefit from being in school but are unsure if they should attend due to illness, please contact the office for clarification.

SEND Survey
We are proud to support every child here, and strive to work with other partners to make sure everyone gets the support they need. To help build SEND services further, Gloucestershire County Council have launched their SEND Survey 2027. Please help shape the future of the services we all need by responding via the QR code to the right.

Christmas at St Joseph's

Next Monday is a non-uniform day, with contributions to the PTA Christmas hamper raffle. We then have our first true Christmas event - the Advent Retreat on Thursday afternoon (which means no PE for Years 3 and 4). Parents/grandparents please join us for the Retreat which starts at 1.30pm.
Children are already working on the Nativity Production (led by Reception and Year 2) and the Key Stage 2 Carol Concert. Tickets for these will be availble soon. Our thanks to the family of Archie Reynolds (Year 3) for providing us with a hay bale for our stable.
The PTA are also working hard to make Christmas memorable.
A full list of Christmas events is attached to this letter

WEEK AHEAD

MONDAY

Whole School

Non-Uniform Day

Contribution to Christmas Hamper



TUESDAY



WEDNESDAY



Whole School

Afternoon Advent Retreat

THURSDAY

Year 6

10am Mass



FRIDAY

Years 3 and 4

NSSSP

National School Singing Project



CLUBS

DAY	LUNCHTIME	AFTER SCHOOL YEARS 1 AND 2	AFTER SCHOOL YEARS 3, 4, 5, 6	MUSIC LESSONS
MONDAY	D&D/Warhammer Painting	Cookery (Year 1)	Learning for Peace	Drums
TUESDAY	Boardgames	Kids with Bricks	With the Ball	Piano
WEDNESDAY	Choir	Stop Motion	Cross Country	Violin
THURSDAY	Football and Reading Club			Guitar
FRIDAY	Football or Disco			

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	UNIFORM	PE KIT
YEAR 3	UNIFORM	UNIFORM	UNIFORM	UNIFORM	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



Our Nativity Production is called ‘Children of the World’. Reception will form a Nativity scene, and Year 2 will lead the production. Other classes will support Reception and Year 2 with music and songs.