

# St. Joseph's Weekly News

Friday 10<sup>th</sup> October 2025



Our School Values    Respect - Self-belief - Faith - Friendship - Resilience - Self-control - Perseverance - Aspiration

Hail, Mary, full of grace,  
the Lord is with thee,  
Blessed art thou amongst women  
and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.  
Holy Mary, Mother of God,  
pray for us sinners,  
now and at the hour of our death.  
Amen.

Dear Parents,

The autumn weather really is beginning to creep in now and the last of the summer warm days seem few and far between. Please ensure that your child brings in a coat and a jumper or cardigan as the mornings are chiller than what we have been previously used to.

*Have a lovely weekend Mrs Moseley*

## Buddy Assembly

What a pleasure it was to see Yr6 welcoming their buddies to St Joseph's School. As part of Year 6's wellbeing they have been spending time completing activities together such as painting, reading stories and outdoors playing.

As always it was an outstanding assembly with some really thoughtful words from Year 6 about their buddies.

Year 6 were awarded their buddy badges and Reception were awarded their Bibles, making both parents and teachers very proud.

## Black History Week

This week at St Joseph's we have been all celebrating Black History Month. We have taken our inspiration from this year's theme 'Standing firm in Power and Pride'.

Nursery read the story 'Coming to England'. They looked at hot and cold countries and what they would pack for their holidays if they were going somewhere hot or cold. They also listened to music for Trinidad.

Reception read the story 'Coming to England'. We learnt about how Floella dreamt of coming to England and how her dream of meeting the Queen one day finally came true. We learnt how Floella had to deal with the extreme differences from her home country of Trinidad to England. We looked at what we would have packed if we were travelling to a different country. We also read the story 'The Smeds and the Smoos'. We discussed how important it is to be different and unique. We, then decided to look at African patterns and coloured in some of our own.

Year 1 had the theme of Service and Sacrifice. To celebrate this we chose Walter Tull. Walter Tull was an extremely brave and caring man who wanted to change the world to make it a fairer place. He grew up in an orphanage with dreams of becoming a famous footballer, which he later achieved, becoming one of the first black professional footballers in Britain. He later gave up that dream to become the works first black officer leading soldiers during World War 1, overcoming adversity to protect the country that he loved. He died during the war but his legacy of bravery and sacrifice lives on today.

Year 2 learnt all about Malorie Blackman. We created fact files about her life and achievements and discovered how she became one of the UK's most inspiring authors. After learning about her determination and creativity, we wrote our own stories about how

she inspires us to write about our passions and to never give up on our dreams.

Year 3 learnt about the life of Malorie Blackman and answered comprehension questions about her for their homework. We will be reading some of Benjamin Zephaniah's poetry throughout the week and tomorrow we will be looking at the work of the artist Sir Frank Bowling. He is famous for his abstract work and poured paintings and we will be creating our own pieces of art in his style.

Year 4 spent time learning about the inspirational lives of Roy Hackett and Diane Abbott, exploring their incredible contributions and the positive impact they've had on society. The children created posters, fact files, and biographies to celebrate their achievements and to reflect on how their actions have helped shape a fair and more inclusive world.

Year 5 decided to study John Blanke, who was a trumpeter in the courts of Henry VII and Henry VIII, and remains the only Black Tudor for whom we have an identifiable image. While serving two kings, he was witness to some of the greatest moments in England's history and contributed to some of the greatest spectacles of the Tudor age. He has shaped the thoughts around Tudor history and showed resilience and strength by achieving the position he did.

Year 6 have been learning about the artist Stephen Wiltshire. He is one of Britain's artists. He struggled to speak as a child and art was something that gave him the confidence to speak.

## Drama for all workshop

This week KS1 took part in the Drama4All workshop with Lucy. Year 1 had to help Merlin the Wizard to retrieve his sword from Morgan La Fey. The children really enjoyed acting out and following the story. A wonderful time was had by all!

## GAA football sessions

We have been very lucky to receive coaching sessions from the Hertfordshire Gaelic Football Association; they have been visiting us weekly to teach us the skills needed to play Gaelic Football.

We learnt how to do a solo, a hand pass and a kick pass. We also learnt how to sidestep. The rules and scoring are very different to the football we normally play but we found it a lot of fun. It is a skilful and very fast paced game.

You can tell how much the children are enjoying it from the quotes below:

"Each week we have learnt a new skill and it's great to learn a new sport!" Hope.

"Gaelic football is good, but a bit confusing at the start as you can use your hands as well as your feet, but I am enjoying it!" George S.

ATTENDANCE  
AWARD  
Year 1 99.3%

HOUSE POINTS  
Luke

STARS OF  
THE WEEK

Nursery  
Joshua & Valentina

Reception  
Aliyar & Lara

Year 1  
Tatiana & Jayden

Year 2  
Oselene & Taylor

Year 3  
Maksim & Rory

Year 4  
Katia & Vanya

Year 5  
Emilia & Michelle

Year 6  
Sofia & Ladiela

LEARNER OF  
THE WEEK

Reception  
Sophia

Year 1  
Amelia

Year 2  
Elizabeth

Year 3  
Maksim

Year 4  
Jasmine

Year 5  
David

Year 6  
Maya

**At St. Joseph's we live, love and learn by the example of Jesus.**  
Aspiring for excellence for all, together as a catholic community.

### **PTA AGM**

The PTA Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the St. Joseph's School PTA, will take place on: Thursday 16th October 2025 at 8.50am, in the School Hall.

The AGM is an important opportunity for all parents and carers to hear about the work of the PTA over the past academic year, review financial statements, and elect the committee for the coming year. Your attendance and input are greatly valued as we continue to support our school community.

#### **Agenda Includes:**

- Welcome and introductions
- Appreciation
- Co-Chairs' report on the past year
- Treasurer's financial report
- Election of committee members
- Plans and priorities for the year ahead
- Open floor for questions and suggestions

All parents and carers are automatically members of the PTA and are encouraged to attend.

If you are interested in joining the committee, please contact the school office or a member of the PTA Team by Tuesday 14th October 2025.

### **St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School - Open Afternoon**

St Joseph's Catholic Primary School will be holding an Open Afternoon on **Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> October 2025** at 2.00pm-3.00pm for all prospective new parents who will be applying for a Reception school or Nursery place to start in September 2026.

There will be an opportunity to view the school in action and to meet with the Headteacher and the Foundation/Early Years Teams

### **Reception - September 2026**

Reception applications commence on Monday 3rd November 2025 and close on Thursday 15th January 2026.

Supplementary Information Forms and supporting documentation should be submitted to the school office from Monday 3rd November 2025.

As well as completing and submitting the Supplementary Information Form to the school office, you must also apply for a school place online.

The online application process for Under 11s (Reception) can be found on the following website [www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/admissions)

**Reception 2026 applies to children born between 1st September 2021 and 31st August 2022.**

### **Nursery - September 2026**

Nursery applications should be made via the school only and will commence on Monday 3rd November 2025 and close on Thursday 15th January 2026.

Supplementary Application forms and supporting documentation should be submitted to the school office from Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2025.

**Nursery applies to children born between 1st September 2022 and 31st August 2023**

Please Note: We are a 30 hours childcare provider, and welcome applications from children of all faiths to our Nursery.

### **Parking**

Parents/visitors to our school are kindly reminded:

- Be considerate of road markings and neighbours when parking near our school.
- do not park or stop on yellow lines or zigzags.
- do not ignore road markings.
- do not park over driveways.
- do not cause increased danger for road users.
- do not be abusive or rude to the local residents or other members of the community.

### **Scooters**

Please be reminded that scooters and bikes are not to be ridden on school premises.

Please disembark at the school gate e gate and walk/wheel the scooter/bike from the school gate and leave them in the designated bike/scooter area next to the library.

As always, we thank you for your continued support.

### **Autumn Term 1**

Week	Date-Week beginning	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
1	1 <sup>st</sup> September 2025			INSET	SCHOOL OPENS	
2	8 <sup>th</sup> September 2025				Beginning of term mass	
3	15 <sup>th</sup> September 2025	Meet the teacher KS1 3pm	Meet the teacher KS2 3pm			PTA EVENT Non-Uniform Day £1.00 per child
4	22 <sup>nd</sup> September 2025					YEAR 6 PRAYER SERVICE
5	29 <sup>th</sup> September 2025					St Francis of Assisi Feast Day Celebrations
6	6 <sup>th</sup> October 2025 BLACK HISTORY WEEK					BUDDY ASSEMBLY 1
7	13 <sup>th</sup> October 2025 ART WEEK					BUDDY ASSEMBLY 2
8	20 <sup>th</sup> October 2025		Nursery & Reception (Sept 2026) Open Afternoon 2pm		Spanish Day	
<b>Half term –Monday 27<sup>th</sup> October –Friday 31<sup>st</sup> October 2025</b>						

## REMINDERS!

1. Please remember those healthy items for packed lunches.
2. Please remember your child should be wearing their house badge every day to school. Additional badges can be purchased from the school office for 30p
3. Children are NOT to ride Bikes and Scooters whilst on school premises. This is still happening and can cause accidents so parents please be mindful – if this continues then bikes and scooters will be banned!
4. Children are NOT to play on the Adventure Trail or in the access road outside the Royal Avenue gate, as this vehicular gate is in constant use.
5. Please be considerate to our neighbours when parking near the school site.

St Joseph's is a 'NUT-FREE' Zone!

## A Healthy Packed Lunch

### Suggestions for food to include in a healthy packed lunch

- **At least** one portion of fruit or vegetable every day.
- Meat, fish or other source of non-dairy protein (e.g. lentils, beans, soya or hummus), every day
- Oily fish such as pilchards, salmon or tuna
- A starchy food such as bread, pasta, rice noodles, potatoes or other type of cereal every day.
- Dairy food such as milk, cheese, yoghurt, fromage frais or custard.
- Cereal bars rather than cakes or biscuits
- Seeds, crackers and cheese, vegetables or bread sticks with a dip

### Drinks

- No drinks are to be brought into school – water is provided.
- Water bottles are to be brought on school trips – NO other drink.

### FUN FRIDAY

Suggestions for food to include **ON A FUN FRIDAY** in a healthy packed lunch.

- Snacks such as crisps
- Chocolate coated biscuits or wafers **or**
- Small cake e.g. fairy cakes, cake bars, muffins **or**
- Small pudding pot e.g. chocolate mousse)

### **Foods that should not be brought into school (These are foods that we have already asked not to be brought into school)**

- Confectionery such as chocolate bars.
- Sweets
- Nuts or nut products (although they can be healthy there is a very serious risk to other children with allergies).
- Fizzy drinks or any soft drinks.

# NUT FREE SCHOOL



# THANK YOU