

St. Joseph's Weekly News

Friday 22nd November 2024



Our School Value

Respect - Self-belief - Faith - Friendship - Resilience - Self-control - Perseverance - Aspiration

Our Lady on the Annunciation: O Virgin Mother of God, whence the Light Eternal hath dawned to dawn upon us: regard, we pray thee, the pleading of thy humble servants, that by thy holy intercessions we may merit to obtain the mansions eternal. Amen

Dear Parents,

I hope this week has been a good one. Certainly a calmer one for us and one with a lot more sleep. The Christmas songs have started so it is getting closer. Please keep checking for updates regarding our events.

Have a lovely weekend. Mrs O'Connor

Subject of the week - Geography in action!

This half term the children are being taught Geography and they are well into their Geography learning. Last week's homework was homework based on your child's topic. Thank you to all those that produced some lovely pieces to celebrate their learning of geography.

What is being taught in Geography in St Josephs?

EYFS – Children have been exploring maps through discussion, storytelling, games and creative activity.

Children will also be using the senses to explore and describe the natural world around them while outside; understanding the effect of the changing seasons.

Year 1 – What is it like here?

Children will be locating where they live on an aerial photograph and recognising features within a local context. Creating maps using classroom objects before drawing simple maps of the school grounds.

Following simple routes around the school grounds and carrying out an enquiry as to how their playground can be improved. Some lessons also involve fieldwork.

Year 2 – Would you prefer to live in a hot or cold place?

Children will be introduced to the basic concept of climate zones and mapping out hot and cold places globally. Looking at features in the North and South Poles and Kenya. Comparing weather and features in the local area. Learning the four compass points. Learning the names and locating the continents of our world.

Year 3 - Why do people live near volcanoes?

Children will learn that the Earth is constructed in layers, and the crust is divided into tectonic plates. They study the formation and distribution of mountains, volcanoes and earthquakes and use Mount Etna to identify how human interaction shapes a volcanic landscape.

Year 4 - Where does our food come from?

Children will be looking at the distribution of the world's biomes and mapping food imports from around the world; learning about trading fairly, focusing on Côte d'Ivoire and cocoa beans; exploring where the food for the children's school dinners comes from and the argument of 'local versus global'.

Year 5 - What is life like in the Alps?

Children will be considering the climate of mountain ranges and why people choose to visit the Alps; focusing on Innsbruck and looking at the human and physical features that attract tourists; investigating tourism in the local area and mapping recreational land use; presenting findings to compare the Alps to the children's own locality.

Year 6 - Why does population change?

Children will be investigating why certain parts of the world are more populated than others; exploring birth and death rates; discussing social, economic and environmental push and pull factors; learning about the population in Britain and its impacts.

Please ask your children about their Geography lessons? What have they enjoyed learning and why?

Parliament week

This week was Parliament week in school, and what an eventful week it has been!

Our Parliament representative had an opportunity to present their own 'Bill's in class and have a debate for and against their Bill. They had to give reasons for their Bill and what the impact of the Bill would be. We had some really interesting bills such as School Mascots, creating Christmas Cards, no school during the week (not sure this one would work!!). We have watched to see how Parliament works and what the Houses of Lords and Houses of Commons looks like.

Onsie upon a time day

We are delighted to share that our 'Onsie Upon a Time Day' has been a tremendous success! The children embraced the spirit of comfort, proudly showcasing their favourite cosy outfits throughout the day. In a wonderful afternoon activity, they paired up with another year group to share the joy of reading. It was lovely to witness the children exchanging a diverse range of books, demonstrating their enthusiasm and love for stories.

ATTENDANCE
AWARD
Year 6 99%

HOUSE
POINTS
Luke

STARS OF THE WEEK

Nursery
Aliyar & Loic

Reception
Kalani & Princess
Faith

Year 1
Israel & Zeynep

Year 2
Myra & Yusef

Year 3
Vanya & Lula

Year 4
Rafa & George S

Year 5
Joyce & Alexies

Year 6
Keila & Mode

WRITER OF THE WEEK

Year 1
Leonor

Year 2
Sofia

Year 3
Deandra

Year 4
Emelia

Year 5
Ladiela

Year 6
Sienna R

Road Safety

This week has been Road Safety Week so our KS1 and KS2 assemblies were themed around this. It is essential that children are aware of their surroundings and how to keep themselves safe but even more so at this time of year when mornings and afternoons are darker and it's harder to see pedestrians. Through our assemblies, children have learned the phrase "Stop, Look, Listen, Think" and have talked about different scenarios and how to keep safe. Please continue to reinforce this with your children as they are travelling to and from school.

Parent voice committee

We currently have vacancies in years 2,3,4,5,6 – if anyone would like to join our parent voice please inform the office. Once we have more class volunteers we will set the first date, hopefully by the end of November

Chexs Fundraiser – Thank You!

On behalf of CHEXS we held a Non-uniform day on Friday 15th November. We are pleased to inform you that our school raised an AMAZING **£163.42** for CHEXS.

Thank you for all of your support, It is very much appreciated.

The Catholic Children's Society - Christmas Gift Appeal

This year, our Trust will be supporting The Catholic Children's Society - Christmas Gift Appeal.

The Catholic Children's Society (CCS) works to help local families and children in need.

Alongside CCS, this year, we kindly ask for your support to help thousands of local families and children, who are facing a Christmas without presents, food or basic essentials.

As a school we can help them receive the special gift of Christmas joy, so please donate what you can by Monday 4th December, our Christmas Donation Box will be in the entrance of the school office.

Please note, we can only accept unwrapped brand new gifts.

Thank you again for your kindness, generosity and continued support

St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School – Admissions Nursery and Reception 2025

All prospective new parents who will be applying for a Reception school or Nursery place to start in September 2025.

Supplementary Information Forms are available to collect from the school office.

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) commence on Friday 1st November 2024 and close on Wednesday 15th January 2025 on the following website www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/admissions

Reception 2025 applies to children born between 1st September 2020 and 31st August 2021.

Nursery applications should be made via the school only and will commence on Friday 1st November 2024 and close on Wednesday 15th January 2025.

Supplementary Application forms are available to collect from the school office.

Nursery applies to children born between 1st September 2021 and 31st August 2022

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

Information update

1. Friday morning parent /pupil library sessions have re started – all are welcome

Curriculum information

All year group curriculum information is on our website

Autumn Term 2

Week	Date-Week beginning	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
1	4 th November			Topic Sharing/Celebration	Year 3 Prayer service	PTA AGM
2	11 th November	Remembrance service 9.10am -Chaplaincy led Anti-Bully week			Year 1 Prayer service	
3	18 th November					Onsie upon a time day
4	25 th November	School coffee morning	Stem day			
5	2 nd December	Advent Assembly		PTA Disco		
6	9 th December	DT week				PTA Christmas Jumper day & Santa Grotto
7	16 th December			Year 1 and 2 Nativity – To school 9.30am to parents 2pm	N&R Sing a long 9am Talent show 10am Christmas Party pm	Last day of term Christmas Carol Service 2pm Church
Christmas Holiday –Monday 23 rd December -3 rd January						

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