

St. Joseph's Weekly News

Friday 18th October 2024



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

Thought of the week

'If we entrust ourselves to the Lord, we can overcome all of the obstacles that impede us from following Him on the path of life. To entrust oneself to the Lord, He will give us strength; he will give us salvation; he will accompany us on our journey.' Pope Francis

Dear Parents,

I hope you've had a good week. Mine certainly has been! Yesterday I attended the football match with our year 5 and 6 team against Longlands and it was an absolute privilege to see such talented and supportive players, showing excellent skills, team work and of course impeccable behaviour. The score was phenomenal 20-0 to us. *'As a captain I think we played exceptionally well and worked together. Our Coach supported us and brought out the best in us. All the boys played well. From goal keeper to striker, we all played 110%'*. Sean Team Captain. A special thank you to Mr Omera, who gave up his time both on Wednesday and Thursday to support us. Without his knowledge we couldn't have attended as believe it or not football really isn't my strength.

Have a lovely weekend Mrs O'Connor

Subject of the week – Maths

Our maths curriculum is currently in full swing, and we are excited to highlight the fantastic learning experiences taking place throughout the school. We are really excited to share with you the children's learning so far this academic year during parent consultations.

Maths Day

We are thrilled to share that our Maths Day on Wednesday was a great success! It was a lovely opportunity to visit classrooms and observe the engaging activities centred around the themes of time and money. Students were fully immersed in their learning, showcasing their problem-solving skills through interactive games!

Year 5 Wedding

As part of our RE topic on Life Choices Year 5 are learning about the Sacrament of Marriage.

We invited Father John to officiate in a ceremony to help us understand how we can live out our commitment to love and service through marriage. Janessa and Ethan volunteered to be the bride and groom and Father John took them through each stage of the service and explained it to the congregation of children. We had a best man in charge of the rings (which are a symbol of love and fidelity) and there were four bridesmaids, two flower girls and a maid of honour who supported the bride. As the bride and groom walked down at the end of the ceremony, the congregation sang 'My God Loves Me' and brought to an end a very lovely service. Afterwards the class discussed the ceremony and its importance and shared their own experiences of weddings'.

Year 2 Prayer service

On Thursday year 2 took part in their first prayer service of the academic year. Our class focus was on 'Creation and Covenant' We have been thinking about our wonderful creation and how God's is at the centre of all we do. The children created beautiful images to depict their interpretation of the creation scripture based on Genesis, as well the special covenant that God gave Noah. Well done to all the children for taking part, and of course for all the families and parents who came to support us

Year 6 Prayer service

This week Year 6 had their prayer service this week which was themed around Loving as that is the RE topic they have just finished. During the service, we listened to the parable of the Prodigal Son which is a good reminder of God's unconditional love and endless forgiveness. It was a lovely, prayerful and thoughtful service with some beautiful singing.

Parking

As a school it is our priority to educate and to keep children safe on our premises. Dealing with constant parking issues takes time away from our first priority. Parking is a constant issue that every parent driving too and from our school has a responsibility for. Please could you ensure;

1. You Drive carefully in our surrounding areas.
2. Park as stated in the highway code, not blocking drive ways, not parking in disabled bays if you are not disabled, not parking on yellow lines or zig zags.

Lates and attendance

Gates close at 8.50am prompt, therefore that is the expectation. While I understand at times there are extenuating circumstances, these are not daily. More than 2 lates a week and you will receive a monitoring letter. More than 4 lates a half term and you will receive the same. Attendance, please read our updated policy as holidays and trips are unauthorised and as the number of unauthorised days increase there are greater resulting consequences.

SEA Visit

On Thursday we had our termly SEA visit, it was a really positive experience and our advisor was very positive about many aspects of our school including positive attitudes and behaviour, our environments, our learning experiences and our staff. We focused on our Maths learning on this visit and we got to see lots of excellent practice in place, well done everyone! On the whole, a really great outcome and one which is very much worth celebrating.

Black History Month

A reminder that we will be celebrating Black History month during the week of 21st October, our key figures we will be focusing on are,

Floella Benjamin, Henry Box Brown, Laurie Cunningham, Septimius Severus, Dennis Morris and Eunice Olumide, John Blake and Walter Tull.

Please check the parent mail, and if you would like to join us for a story time session to tell your own story or narrative, please come and sign up in the office!!

Parent Consultations

Parent Consultations will take place on Wednesday 23rd October 2024 from 3.30 – 8.30pm in the school hall. Full details regarding this and how to book appointments has been sent on Parentmail.

ATTENDANCE AWARD

Year 5 100%

HOUSE POINTS

Luke

STARS OF THE WEEK

Nursery
Oliver & Alexander

Reception
Dominic & Amelia

Year 1
Elsa & Asaiah

Year 2
Bella & Maksim

Year 3
Sara & Vinny

Year 4
Tadiwa & Messi

Year 5
Acacia & Fareedah

Year 6
Sophie & Saoirse

WRITER OF THE WEEK

Year 1
Oseyemere

Year 2
Kelechi

Year 3
Kore

Year 4
Olivia S

Year 5
Yaman

Year 6
Sara

Class Charity Day

Today each class fundraised for their class charity, many thanks to all our families for supporting these wonderful events. Full details can be found in class news on the website.

PTA AGM

Our PTA team 2023-2024 would like to extend our heartfelt thanks for the support you have shown.

Being part of the PTA has been a rewarding experience, but it is now time for a new team to take over for the 2024-2025 school year.

We will be holding our AGM in the coming weeks but in the meantime, if you are interested in joining the PTA, please contact the school office or reach out to the current PTA team. Your help and commitment will ensure that we can continue to organize exciting events and foster a strong sense of community for our students.

Thank you for your continued support.

St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School - Open Afternoon

We will be holding an Open Afternoon on Tuesday 22nd October 2024 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 2025.

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

Supplementary Information Forms will be available to collect on this afternoon please note completed forms and supporting documentation cannot be submitted to the school office until Monday 4th November 2024.

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 will be available to collect on this afternoon. please note completed forms and supporting documentation cannot be submitted to the school office until Monday 4th November 2024.

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 1

Week	Date-Week beginning	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
1	2 nd September	INSET	INSET	School Open	Beginning of term mass Meet the teacher 3.15/20pm	
2	9 th September	Topic Launch				
3	16 th September					Buddy Assembly 1
4	23 rd September		Whole school retreat		Governor morning	Buddy Assembly 2
5	30 th September	Forest school week				St Francis Feast day
6	7 th October		School safer internet day		Year 5 Prayer service	Spanish day
7	14 th October		Year 6 Prayer service	Maths day	Year 2 prayer service	Class charity day
8	21 st October	Black history week Art week	N and R open afternoon and tour 2pm	Parent consultations	Year 4 Prayer service	School coffee morning
Half term –Monday 28 th October –Friday 1 st November 2024						

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