



St. Joseph's Weekly News

Friday 9th January 2026

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

New Year Wishes

As we step into 2026, I want to extend my warmest wishes to each of you. I hope you all had a delightful and festive Christmas, filled with joy and laughter. May this new year bring you hope, love, and God's blessings in abundance. Let's embrace the opportunities ahead with open hearts and a spirit of togetherness. Here's to a wonderful year filled with happiness and success for everyone!

INSET DAY: A Celebration of Growth and Collaboration

On Monday 5th January we shared our INSET day. This was a wonderful opportunity for all staff within our trust to come together for a day of training. It was a fantastic chance to share best practices and enhance our skills, ensuring we continue to grow as educators. This did not only allow us to develop professionally but also serves as a moment to celebrate our achievements and successes as an academy trust. A heartfelt thank you to all the staff who attended our training day; your commitment to improvement and collaboration truly makes a difference in our community.

Epiphany Mass:

On Tuesday we celebrated our Epiphany mass in school. The Epiphany Mass is a special occasion where we come together to celebrate the arrival of the Magi, who journeyed to worship Jesus, the light of the world. During this warm gathering, we reflect on the precious gifts they offered—gold, frankincense, and myrrh—and consider how we can share our own unique gifts in today's world. As we strive to create peace, joy, and hope, let us remember that each of us has something valuable to contribute. This Mass invites us to embrace our roles in spreading light and love in our communities.

Year 4 Prayer Service:

The Year 4 had a thoughtful and reflective prayer service on the theme of Epiphany. The children spoke confidently and thoughtfully about the different gifts they can bring to others through kindness, generosity and care. They reminded us that, just like the star that guided the Wise Men, we can all be a light to guide and support others in our everyday lives.

New Year Prayer

" Heavenly Father, as this new year begins, I come before You with a humble heart. I ask You to guide my steps, shape my thoughts, and guard my spirit. Let this powerful prayer for new year draw me closer to Your will. When the path is unclear, lead me with Your wisdom.



ATTENDANCE
AWARD
Nursery 98.8%

HOUSE POINTS
Mark

STARS OF THE WEEK

Nursery
Anne-Marie & Raihaan

Reception
Grace & Loic

Year 1
Lena & Emmanuel

Year 2
Tabi-Mercy & Zeynep

Year 3
Dogan & Kaius

Year 4
Poyraz & Vanya

Year 5
Maxwell & Olivia S

Year 6
Aisha & Sofia

LEARNER OF THE WEEK

Nursery
Jude

Reception
Malyk

Year 1
Maryam

Year 2
Sofia

Year 3
Alexander

Year 4
Beatrice

Year 5
Messi

Year 6
Emanuel



Reception - September 2026

Reception applications commenced on Monday 3rd November 2025 and will 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

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 commenced 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 3rd 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 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.

Spring Term 1

Week	Date-Week beginning	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
1	5 th January 2026	INSET DAY	SCHOOL OPENS EPIPHANY MASS 2PM		YEAR 4 PRAYER SERVICE	
2	12 th January 2026					LUNA NEW YEAR ASSEMBLY
3	19 th January 2026					PTA NON- UNIFORM DAY
4	26 th January 2026 ART WEEK				YEAR 3 PRAYER SERVICE	
5	2 nd February 2026					YEAR 4 ASSEMBLY
6	9 th February 2026		SAFER INTERNET DAY	PTA NON-UNIFORM DAY AND VALENTINES DISCO		YEAR 2 PRAYER SERVICE
Half term -16 th February -20 th February 2026						

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