



St Joseph's Catholic Primary School

Newsletter January 2023

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A message from our new Principal



Dear parents and carers - I hope that you have had a blessed Christmas with your families and I wish you all a very Happy and prosperous New Year.

I write to you with great pride this week as I start as the new Principal of St Joseph's Catholic Primary School. As a Parishioner and having previously worked within Stourbridge, I have been aware for many years that St Joseph's is a happy, caring and successful school that is at the heart of community.

From the short amount of time that I have been in role, it has been clear to see that everyone at St. Joseph's is dedicated to providing the best possible education and care to every single young person we serve. Christ is at the centre of all that takes place at St Joseph's Catholic Primary School and this will continue under my leadership as Principal.

I join St Joseph's with significant leadership experience having worked at school's within Stourbridge, Great Barr and most recently as Vice Principal at another Emmaus school - St Philip's Catholic Primary School in Smethwick. I have spent time meeting with Mr Carry to ensure a smooth transition which has been most helpful and it was also great to have time to meet with the staff during our recent Inset day. I look forward to working with our governors, Father Philip and you as parents to support our children on their educational and spiritual journey.

Father Philip celebrated a beautiful Mass for the Feast of the Epiphany today. I was so proud of the children for their thoughtful answers, their joyous singing and the reverence and respect shown throughout. We all enjoyed Father Philip's musical treat for us too!

Thank you for the warm welcome that I have received, especially from the wonderful children who have been very keen to get to know me. Thank you also for the great support that you provide to our school and your children.

I hope to meet and introduce myself to you soon - please do feel free to come and have a conversation with me when you see me around school.

Take care, and have a lovely weekend.

Mr. A Wilkes

Principal

Liturgical Year and Cycle: The Baptism of the Lord | Cycle A Key Scripture: Matthew 3: 13-17



John baptises Jesus in the river, and there is a voice from heaven that says something important. Whose voice do you think it is? What does God say?

Water is very important. It is used in baptism to show that we are starting a new life with God.

But there are many other ways that we use water every day. How many can you think of?

We all need water to live but many people around the world don't have clean water to drink. Or they have to travel a very long way to get any water at all. Can you imagine what that would be like?

What do you think we could do to help more people who do not have enough clean water?

Think about this during the weekend with your family.

Intercessions

Jesus offers us new life in the water of our baptism and so together we pray:

We pray for all people around the world: that they may have clean water to drink and not have to travel long distances to collect it. Lord, in your mercy... Hear our Prayer

We pray for world leaders: that they may make wise decisions so that all people around the world have clean water to drink. Lord, in your mercy... Hear our Prayer

We pray for our parish, families and friends: that the Holy Spirit may move us to do what we can to help others and to try to make the world a fairer place for all people. Lord, in your mercy... Hear our Prayer

Closing prayer: God of life, help us to act so that no one goes thirsty and all people around the world have enough water for all their needs. Amen.

Reflection taken from Cafod children's liturgy

Diary Dates - Spring term



*Please note - further dates will be added as they become available.

Saturday 7th January - Enrolment Mass for Year 3 Confessions - 5pm at Our Lady's & All Saints

Thursday 19th January - Year 6 Confirmation - 7pm at OLAS

Thursday 2nd February - Reception class Optical Screening

PE Timetable



Please take note of your child's PE days for this half term.

Reception Class - Friday

Year 1 - Wednesday & Friday

Year 2 - Monday & Tuesday

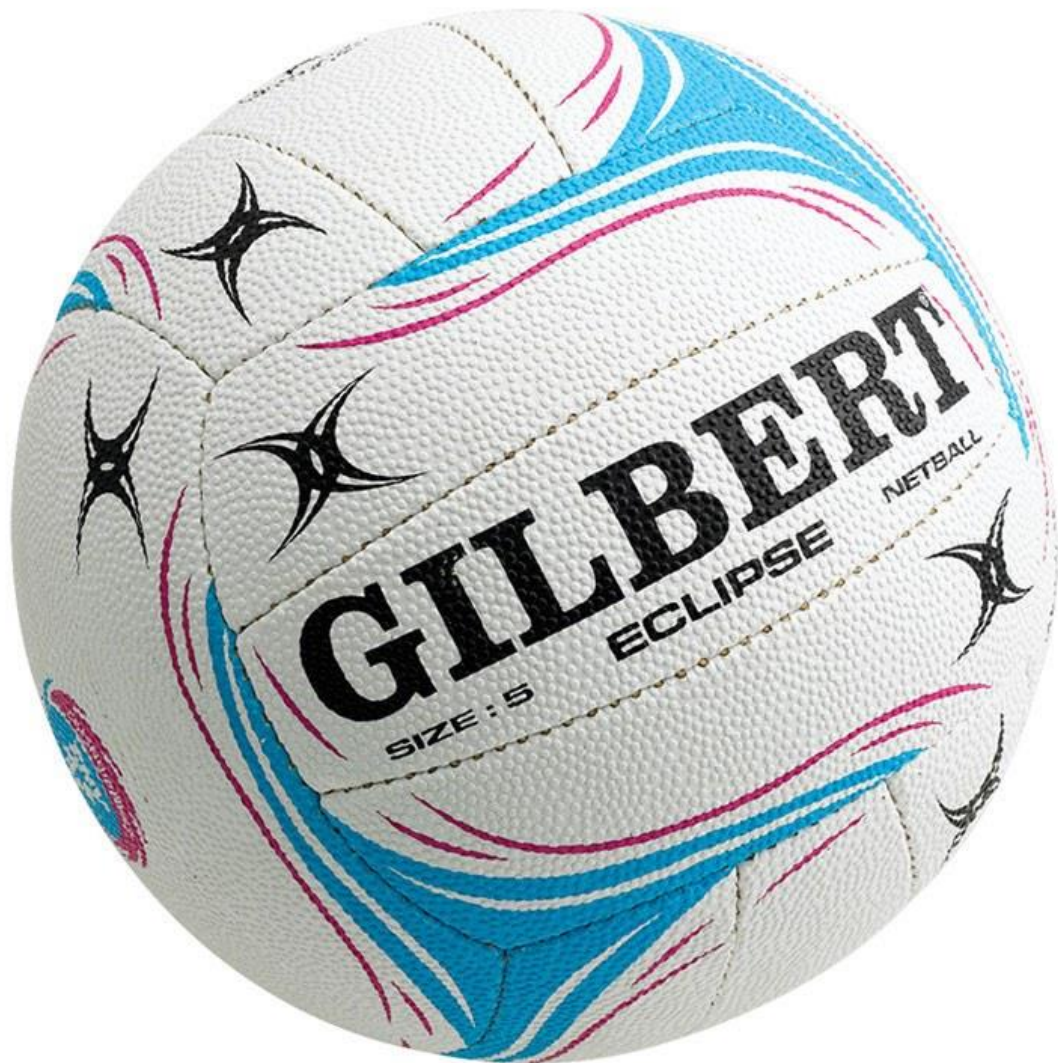
Year 3 - Thursday & Friday

Year 4 - Thursday (Swim) & Friday

Year 5 - Tuesday & Thursday

Year 6 - Tuesday & Wednesday

Clubs



Clubs

Lunchtime Clubs:

Tuesday - Cross country training - Years 4/5 & 6

Thursday - Football training with Mr Wilkes - Years 4/5 & 6

If your child is interested in joining any of our Before & After school clubs, please contact the school office for more details.

Monday 8am - Dodgeball

Tuesday 8am - KS2 Gymnastics

Wednesday 8am - KS2 Multi-skills

Thursday 8am - KS1 Gymnastics

Friday 8am - Archery Club

Tuesday & Wednesday 3.15-4.30pm - Irish Dancing

Thursday 3.14-4.15 - Year 5&6 Netball

Friday 3.15-4.45pm - Years 1-4 Football

Our new caterers and lunch menu



The children have been delighted with our new lunch menu at school. Parents can continue to order their children's meals through ParentPay. Meals can be pre-ordered daily or weekly. Please remember to order before 8am. Pupils in Reception & KS1 are entitled to Universal Free School Meals. Dinners for KS2 pupils are £2.30 per day.

Pri1 Portrait Weekly October 2022 (deli line- No Meat Friday)

WEEK 1

Allergy information available on request

31st Oct, 21st Nov, 12th Dec, 2nd Jan, 23rd Jan, 13th Feb, 6th Mar, 27th Mar

DAY	MEAL 1	MEAL 2	MEAL 3	MEAL 4	MEAL 5	DESSERT
MONDAY	Macaroni Cheese (v)	Vegetable Pilaf (v)	Jacket Potato with Baked Beans, Cheese, Tuna Mayo or Coleslaw	Deli Option with Ham, Tuna Mayo, Egg Mayo or Cheese	Hot Seasonal Vegetables	Apple Shortbread Fruit/Yoghurt
TUESDAY	Chicken and Vegetable Stew with a Filo Twist and Mashed Potatoes	Vegetarian Cottage Pie (v)	Pasta with Tomato Sauce and Cheese	Deli Option with Ham, Tuna Mayo, Egg Mayo or Cheese	Hot Seasonal Vegetables	Autumn Fruit Crumble with Custard Fruit/Yoghurt
WEDNESDAY	Roast of the Day with Roast Potatoes and Gravy	BBQ Quorn Fillet with Roast Potatoes and Gravy (v)	Jacket Potato with Baked Beans, Cheese, Tuna Mayo or Coleslaw	Deli Option with Ham, Tuna Mayo, Egg Mayo or Cheese	Hot Seasonal Vegetables	Ruby Chocolate Cake Fruit/Yoghurt
THURSDAY	Meat Pizza	Veggie Pizza (v)	Pasta with Tomato Sauce and Cheese	Deli Option with Ham, Tuna Mayo, Egg Mayo or Cheese	Hot Seasonal Vegetables	Fruit Jelly Fruit/Yoghurt
FRIDAY	Fish of the Day and Chips	Veggie Plait and Chips (v)	Jacket Potato with Baked Beans, Cheese, Tuna Mayo or Coleslaw	Deli Option with Tuna Mayo, Egg Mayo or Cheese	Hot Seasonal Vegetables	Fruit with Custard Fruit/Yoghurt



Fresh seasonal salad and bread available daily. Fresh fruit and yoghurt available daily as an alternative to the dessert of the day.



WEEK 2

Allergy information available on request

7th Nov, 28th Nov, 19th Dec, 9th Jan, 30th Jan, 20th Feb, 13th Mar

MONDAY	Veggie Lasagne (v)	5 Bean Chilli Nachos (v)	Jacket Potato with Baked Beans, Cheese, Tuna Mayo or Coleslaw	Deli Option with Ham, Tuna Mayo, Egg Mayo or Cheese	Hot Seasonal Vegetables	Apple Cinnamon Loaf Fruit/Yoghurt
TUESDAY	Pork Sausage with Mashed Potatoes and Gravy	Vegan Sausage with Mashed Potatoes and Gravy (v)	Pasta with Tomato Sauce and Cheese	Deli Option with Ham, Tuna Mayo, Egg Mayo or Cheese	Hot Seasonal Vegetables	Fruit Jelly Fruit/Yoghurt
WEDNESDAY	Roast of the Day with Roast Potatoes and Gravy	Vegetable Wellington with Roast Potatoes and Gravy (v)	Jacket Potato with Baked Beans, Cheese, Tuna Mayo or Coleslaw	Deli Option with Ham, Tuna Mayo, Egg Mayo or Cheese	Hot Seasonal Vegetables	Autumnal Iced Cake Fruit/Yoghurt
THURSDAY	Chicken Korma with Brown Rice	Vegetable Frittata with Salad (v)	Pasta with Tomato Sauce and Cheese	Deli Option with Ham, Tuna Mayo, Egg Mayo or Cheese	Hot Seasonal Vegetables	Cookie Fruit/Yoghurt
FRIDAY	Fish of the Day and Chips	Cheese and Tomato Pizza with Chips (v)	Jacket Potato with Baked Beans, Cheese, Tuna Mayo or Coleslaw	Deli Option with Tuna Mayo, Egg Mayo or Cheese	Hot Seasonal Vegetables	Fruit with Custard Fruit/Yoghurt



Fresh seasonal salad and bread available daily. Fresh fruit and yoghurt available daily as an alternative to the dessert of the day.

Allergy information available on request

WEEK 3

Fresh seasonal salad and bread available daily. Fresh fruit and yoghurt available daily as an alternative to the dessert of the day.

14th Nov, 5th Dec, 26th Dec, 16th Jan, 6th Feb, 27th Feb, 20th Mar

MONDAY	Vegan Sausage Roll with Wedges (v)	Sweet and Sour Veggie Noodles with Edamame (v)	Jacket Potato with Baked Beans, Cheese, Tuna Mayo or Coleslaw	Deli Option with Ham, Tuna Mayo, Egg Mayo or Cheese	Hot Seasonal Vegetables	Raspberry and Coconut Flapjack Fruit/Yoghurt
TUESDAY	Beef Bolognese with Pasta	Veggie Biryani (v)	Pasta with Tomato Sauce and Cheese	Deli Option with Ham, Tuna Mayo, Egg Mayo or Cheese	Hot Seasonal Vegetables	Sticky Toffee Pudding with Custard Fruit/Yoghurt
WEDNESDAY	Roast of the Day with New Potatoes and Gravy	Vegan Quorn Fillet with New Potatoes and Gravy (v)	Jacket Potato with Baked Beans, Cheese, Tuna Mayo or Coleslaw	Deli Option with Ham, Tuna Mayo, Egg Mayo or Cheese	Hot Seasonal Vegetables	Jelly Fruit/Yoghurt
THURSDAY	Mild Beef Chilli Nachos with Brown Rice	Cheesy Baked Mediterranean Gnocchi (v)	Pasta with Tomato Sauce and Cheese	Deli Option with Ham, Tuna Mayo, Egg Mayo or Cheese	Hot Seasonal Vegetables	Chocolate Crispy Cake Fruit/Yoghurt
FRIDAY	Fish of the Day and Chips	Cheese Toastie and Chips (v)	Jacket Potato with Baked Beans, Cheese, Salmon Mayo or Coleslaw	Deli Option with Tuna Mayo, Egg Mayo or Cheese	Hot Seasonal Vegetables	Fruit with Custard Fruit/Yoghurt



FOODSMART
FOR BODY AND BRAIN

AiP
ALLIANCE - PARTNERSHIP

Attendance



Congratulations to Year 2, Year 5 and Year 6 who have achieved the highest attendance this week. You will receive an extra play time!

Attendance for the whole school for this week is 97.81%.

Here is the attendance for this week for each class:

Year R: 96.57%

Year 1: 94.44%

Year 2: 100%

Year 3: 98.89%

Year 4: 94.58%

Year 5: 100%

Year 6: 100%

Please make sure your child is in school every day unless ill. Remember illnesses such as colds can be managed well with Calpol and although children can feel unwell first thing in a morning they do tend to brighten up during the day. We will always contact you if we are concerned that your child has become unwell throughout the day.

If there is no reason provided for your child's absence an unauthorised code is marked in the register. This will impact your child's overall attendance. Please contact school before 8.55am where possible and leave a message . If we are not aware of why your child is not in school we will try and contact you, if we are unable to contact the parent/carer we may call one of the other contacts on your child's records.

Please try to be as punctual as possible, we have noticed a small number of children are arriving late to school. If your child arrives after the close of the registration period (9.05am) this again is recorded as an unauthorised absence on the register and will affect your child's overall attendance figure. If your child arrives at school after 8.55am they MUST be accompanied by a parent/carer for signing in purposes.

In line with Government guidance all pupils who test positive for COVID-19 are recorded as ill in the register.

Pupil Premium and Free School Meals



If your child is eligible for 'free school meals' and you register them for this, we'll receive extra funding called 'pupil premium'. We use this extra money to improve the educational provision and resources at the school.

What is pupil premium funding?

Pupil premium funding from the government is given to schools to help pupils reach their full potential, regardless of their background or financial situation. It's provided for pupils who:

- Are registered for free school meals
- Have been registered for free school meals at any point in the past 6 years
- Are, or have been, in care
- Have parents in the armed forces at St Joseph's Catholic Primary School,

We get an extra [£1,385 (for primary schools) / £985 (for secondary schools) – these figures are for the 2022/2023 financial year] for every eligible pupil who is registered for free school meals. This extra money could make a real difference to the quality of education we offer.

For example, we've previously used pupil premium funding for:

- Educational provision/resources
- Academic interventions
- Wellbeing and self-esteem building interventions

Is my child eligible for free school meals?

Your child might be eligible if you access:

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance or Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guaranteed element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on
- Universal Credit, provided you have an annual net earned income not exceeding £7,400 (£616.67 per month)

Universal infant free school meals

Currently, pupils in reception, year 1 and year 2 are entitled to a free school meal thanks to a different government funding scheme known as universal infant free school meals (UIFSM). You shouldn't confuse UIFSM with free schools meals and the pupil premium.

If your child is in reception, year 1 or year 2 and is eligible for free school meals according to the criteria above, you should still register because we'll receive the extra pupil premium funding.

Does my child have to eat the free school meals?

No. Pupils who are registered for free school meals don't have to eat them. If you're eligible but you want your child to have packed lunches you should still register because the school will receive the funding which can support your child in other ways.

How do I register?

You only need to register once at the school.

To register, please go to www.dudley.gov.uk/resident/your-council/council-tax-and-benefits/benefits/free-school-meals

If you need further information, you can contact the Free School Meals Teams by:

Telephone - 01384 814988

Email - freeschoolmeals.benefits@dudley.gov.uk

More information

For more information about pupil premium go to our website, which contains details of how the pupil premium has been spent in the past academic year and how it will be spent this year.

Safeguarding



You can reach out to Mr Wilkes, Mrs McCole or Mrs Riley or any member of staff in school.

St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School

The Designated Safeguarding Leads (DSLs) for this school are:



Designated Safeguarding Lead

Mr A. Wilkes



Designated Safeguarding Lead

Mrs J. McCole



Designated Safeguarding Lead

Mrs M Riley

Contact us



Mr Wilkes and Mrs McCole are available at the start and the end of the school day and can usually be contacted by telephone throughout the school day or a meeting arranged with a senior member of staff.

You will always receive a warm welcome at St Joseph's!

If you have any concerns or worries, no matter how small, please let us know so we can do everything we can to make things better and resolve your concerns. Never hesitate to get in touch. Thank you, as always, for your support.

Telephone-01384 431980

Email - info_stjosephs@emmausmac.com