



ST JOSEPH'S
CATHOLIC PRIMARY
SCHOOL

St Joseph's Catholic Primary School

Newsletter March 10th 2023

Within this newsletter:



ST JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

- A message from our Principal
- This week's Gospel
- Live Simply Award updates
- World Book Day information
- Gift's from God awards
- Dates for this half term
- PTA Updates
- PE timetable
- Clubs
- Attendance
- Vacancies
- Our new lunch menu
- Pupil Premium and Free School Meals
- Safeguarding
- Contact us

A message from our Principal



Dear parents,

Firstly I do apologise for the closure of the school site today. The decision was made due to concerns about the safety of our families and staff travelling to school in the heavy snow that was falling early this morning. The roads and pavements locally were becoming more unsafe from around 7am onwards. I do hope that you understand this decision, which is never taken lightly, felt that you were communicated with in plenty of time and that the remote learning provided by the teachers was supportive. I do also hope that the children enjoyed some time exploring and experiencing the snow!

I hope that the parent consultations for those who had booked for this week on Tuesday evening were beneficial. The teachers enjoyed sharing the progress of the children and I also hope that you enjoyed seeing a 'window into school life' with the Ancient Egyptian pop up museum in the entrance way, Irish dancing club taking place, our caterers offering samples and the opportunity to view your child's books and classroom. I will continue to explore methods of informing parents of their child's progress regularly throughout the year as I know this is so important for parents. Please continue to keep your eye on the school website curriculum page where you can see the topics, knowledge and skills being taught and how this is rooted in Gospel Values and Catholic Social Teachings. We look forward to welcoming more parents to consultations on Tuesday.

It was great to see so many parents joining Father Philip and Year 2 for their class Mass on Tuesday. I'm so pleased that you feel welcome to come into school and join collective worship with us - further demonstrating how we are committed to serving our community. You are always very welcome at school. Family Mass on a Saturday evening continues to grow from strength to strength - I would urge you to go along if you haven't been able to do so yet.

Our JPCSOs (Junior Police Community Support Officers) have now completed their training and will be supporting school life in a variety of ways. Their first task will be helping to marshal the 'Cafod Big Lent Walk' that begins on Monday afternoon. On that note, please do continue to support your child to be sponsored for this event supporting those in extreme poverty.

Next Friday we celebrate the Feast of Saint Joseph. There are some exciting and purposeful activities planned for the children which we are looking forward to sharing, and Father Philip will also be celebrating Mass for us all. I look forward to providing an update next week!

Have a great weekend

Mr A. Wilkes

Principal

Please come and join us at our school Mass!



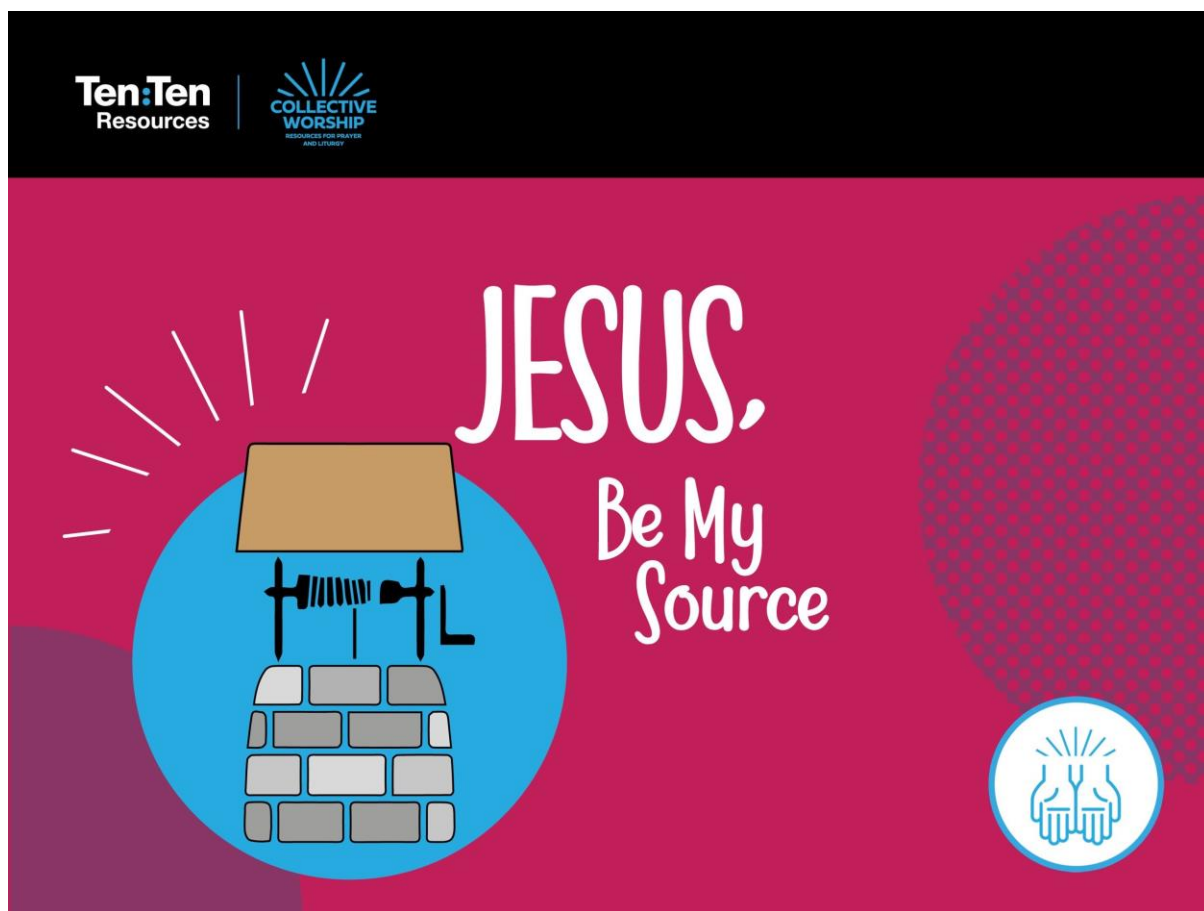
Where: Our Lady and All Saints Church

When: Saturday 18th March at 5pm.



1 - Instagram @STJOSEPHSCATHOLICPRIMARY

Twitter @StJoStourbridge



Jesus is thirsty and so he asks a Samaritan woman for a drink from the well.

The woman is surprised because normally Jews and Samaritans did not get along. It was also unusual at the time for a man to talk to a woman he did not know.

But even though it is unusual, Jesus talks to the woman anyway. Why do you think he does this?

Jesus is showing us that God loves everyone. No matter who they are, where they come from or the colour of their skin – man or woman, boy or girl, rich or poor.

Even though we are all different, we still need the same things to live. Can you think of what those things might be?

Just like Jesus in this story we all need water to drink. We need food to eat. A safe place to live, somewhere to learn and someone to look after us when we are sick.

Jesus shows the woman that he is Christ, the Son of God, by knowing all about her life even though he has never met her before.

How do you think this makes the woman feel?

God also knows everything there is to know about us. And God loves us. How does this make you feel?

Sometimes people forget that God loves us all and that we are part of one global family. They only see the differences between themselves and another group of people. This can lead to many problems.

What problems might we have when we only look at what's different between ourselves and someone else?

It can lead to people not being very nice to each other. Which can also mean that there are arguments and fighting.

Do you think this is how God wants us to treat each other? What do you think God wants us to do?

God asks us to love and care for all people no matter who they are because we are all part of one global family. To help each other when things are difficult and to work together to make the world a better place for everyone to live in.

So this week let's do what we can to help other people. Let's treat those who are different to us with kindness and respect. Let's share with others and try to live in peace.

What will you do this week to show that you care for others?

Jesus shows us that we should treat all people kindly, even if they are different to us. And so we ask for God's help as we pray:

We pray for the Church around the world: that she may follow Jesus' example and be welcoming to all, reaching out especially to those who are poor. Lord, hear us...

We pray for people who are treated badly because they are different: that they may find comfort in God's love for all people. Lord, hear us...

We pray for our parish, families and friends: that knowing we are all children of God we may respect and care for all people around the world and encourage others to do the same. Lord, hear us...

Closing prayer: Caring God, fill our hearts with love for all your people. Move us to treat all people with kindness and respect and to work to make the world a better place for everyone to live in. Amen.

Reflection adapted from Cafod children's liturgy

We are joining CAFOD's Big Lent Walk!



Our school community will join thousands of others to help fight extreme poverty.

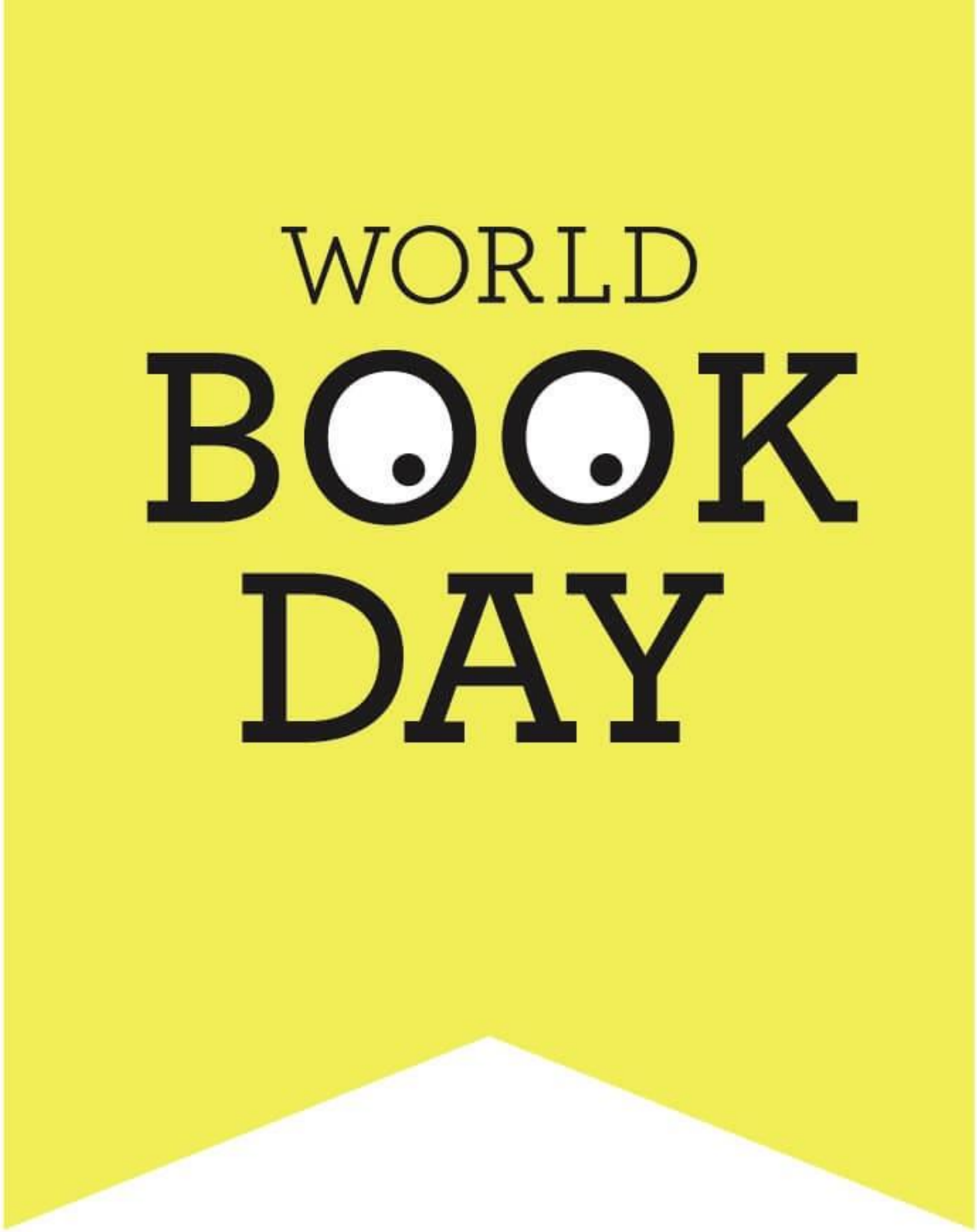
We will be walking a Kilometre a day during the week commencing Monday 13th March. All children have received a letter with information and a sponsorship form.

By continuing to put Catholic Social Teaching into action, we are showing our commitment to living simply, sustainably and in solidarity with the poor and creating a legacy for the future.

CAFOD is an international development charity and the official aid agency of the Catholic Church in England and Wales.

Further details at cafod.org.uk/walk/

World Book Day 2023



WORLD
BOOK
DAY

Dear parents,

As part of our drive to maintain, promote and engage pupil interest in reading, last Friday we celebrated WORLD BOOK DAY!

Thank you for all of the donations towards the book swap which a huge success.

Please keep your eye on our social media channels for further updates on how the day was spent sharing a love of reading.

Gifts from God



The following children have been awarded certificates in our Gifts from God assembly this afternoon and will be invited to 'Brew with Mr W' on Tuesday afternoon to discuss their achievements. Well done children for your hard work and commitment to our school values.

| Year Group | Gospel Values | Good Work |
|-----------------|---------------|-----------|
| Reception Class | | |
| Year 1 | | |
| Year 2 | | |
| Year 3 | | |
| Year 4 | | |
| Year 5 | | |
| Year 6 | | |

Due to the closure of the school site today, the next Gifts from God Assembly is next week.

Diary Dates - Spring term



Please note the following diary dates for Spring

Tuesday 7th March and Tuesday 14th March - parents' evening 3:30 - 5:30pm (Please sign up using Arbor. Our school caterers will also be available in the hall for tasting sessions)

Monday 13th March - Big Lent Walk begins. 1km per day walk on each day this week to raise money for Cafod

Wednesday 15th March - Year 5 supporting with Parish senior lunches

Wednesday 15th March - Year 1 Mass (parents welcome) 2:10pm

Friday 17th March - St Joseph's Feast Day celebrations in school * Note date changed

Friday 17th March - Whole School Mass (parents welcome) 2:00pm * Note time changed

Saturday 18th March - St Joseph's leading Mass at OLAS 5:00pm

Wednesday 29th March - end of KS1 assessment information evening for parents (3:30pm)

Thursday 30th March - end of KS2 assessment information evening for parents (3:30pm)

Thursday 30th March - Micro artist Graham Short is visiting St Joseph's with his latest creation 'The Lord's prayer on the eye of a needle'

Friday 31st March - Whole School Mass (parents welcome) 9:10am

Friday 31st March - End of spring term

*Further dates to be added

PTA updates



We are very lucky to benefit from such an active and passionate PTA - thank you for your ongoing support to our school!

<https://bearbookshop.co.uk/shop>



WE NOW HAVE A WISHLIST OF BOOKS HELD BY BEAR BOOK SHOP. THE LIST FEATURES TITLES OUR TEACHERS WOULD **LOVE** TO ADD TO THEIR BOOKSHELVES!

IF YOU ARE ABLE TO CONSIDER PURCHASING A BOOK FOR OUR SCHOOL COLLECTION, PLEASE CLICK THE LINK BELOW.

Mothers Day

GIFT SHOP

We'd love to invite you to take part in this years Mother's Day Gift Shop to help our little ones treat someone special!

To help us stock the shop, please provide a small gift, brand new or re-gifted, to be brought into school by Wednesday 15th March, along with a preloved giftbag.

You can then purchase a 'Gift Voucher' for £2 via Parent Pay which your child can exchange in our shop for a gift they think you'll love... and we'll even help them wrap it!

Wishing you all a wonderful Mother's Day... You deserve it!

XXX TEAM PTA XXX

<https://sway.office.com/S5myYNaqYfcrWg3J#content=9waNTJZw5HGIPQ>

PE Timetable



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

Reception Class - Friday

Year 1 - Tuesday & Friday

Year 2 - Monday & Tuesday

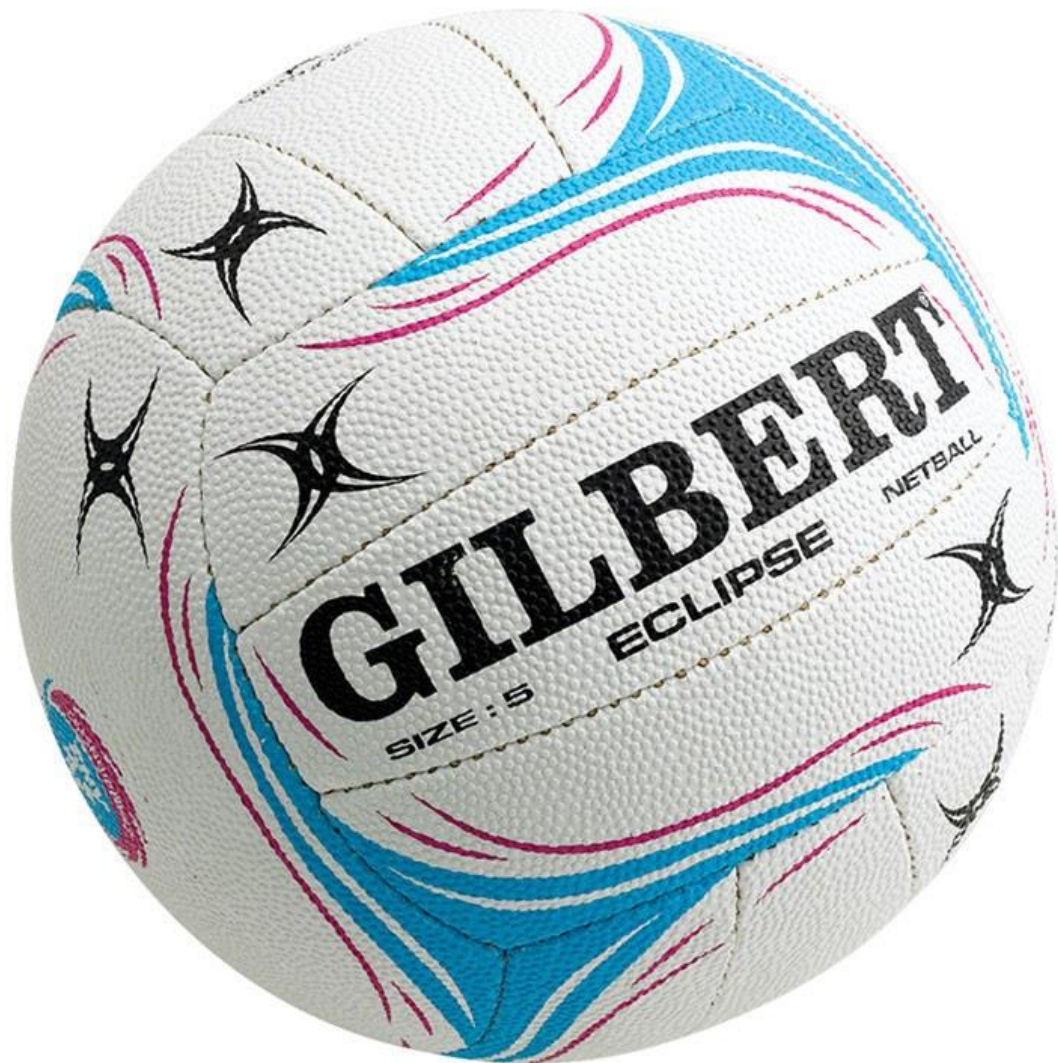
Year 3 - Thursday & Friday

Year 4 - Thursday (Swim) & Friday

Year 5 - Wednesday & Thursday

Year 6 - Monday & Wednesday

Clubs



Lunchtime Clubs:

Monday - KS2 Choir (Mrs Cangiano)

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

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

Friday - KS1 Choir (Mrs Cangiano)

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

Thursday 3.15-4.15 - Year 5&6 Netball

Friday 8am - Archery Club

Friday 3.15-4.45pm - Years 1-4 Football

Tuesday & Wednesday 3.15-4.30pm - Irish Dancing

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 on the new School Food United app, details were emailed out to all parents on Monday 27th February. 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

| | | | | | | |
|------------------|--|--|---|---|-------------------------|--|
| 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 3 who have achieved the highest attendance this week. You will receive an extra play time!

There have been a number of illnesses across school this week that have impacted on our whole school attendance - I hope that everyone is now feeling much better.

Attendance for the whole school for this week is 95.1%.

Here is the attendance for this week for each class:

Year R: 89.7%

Year 1: 95%

Year 2: 98.3%

Year 3: 98.7%

Year 4: 94.8%

Year 5: 90.7%

Year 6: 98.2%

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.

Lunchtime Supervisor Vacancy

We have a vacancy for a Lunchtime Supervisor - Monday to Friday 12.00pm-1.20pm term time only.

If you are interested or know of anyone who would be interested please contact the school office for more details.

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



3 - Please scan for our Instagram page.

Twitter @StJoStourbridge

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