



ST JOSEPH'S
CATHOLIC PRIMARY
SCHOOL

St Joseph's Catholic Primary School
Newsletter April 21st 2023

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ST JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

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A message from our Principal



Dear parents,

It has been great to see the children back in school this week after Easter and to hear some of the wonderful events and activities that they have taken part in during the break.

The weather has been as unpredictable as ever this week, so please do continue to send in your child with a coat for cold weather but also a pair of spare trainers (KS2) if we're able to access the field at lunchtime.

There will be lots of events coming up this term - I always find the summer term the busiest each year. So please do have a look at the diary dates but I will continue to add to them and ensure that parents have sufficient prior knowledge of any upcoming events so that you are able to plan accordingly.

Next week I will also have an update on the very exciting work that has taken place in our forest area at the back of school during Easter which the PTA have kindly funded. It looks fantastic and I cannot wait to share some photographs with you! We have lots of plans for this area of school including a greenhouse, vegetable patch, wild flower area, gardening club and also a place for children to learn more about nature and have a story read to them in the story telling area - how wonderful! A great way for our children to show care for our world and live in a simple and sustainable way. I will have more details next week.

There are further details below, but please do continue to visit the curriculum area of our school website to see how we are continuing to develop and adapt our curriculum and to see the new termly class overviews.

Could I also please take this opportunity to politely remind parents to park respectfully on the residential roads around school and take care to not 'block' residents' driveways - thank you for your co-operation in this matter.

On Sunday, we will hear in Luke's Gospel how the two disciples on the road to Emmaus did not recognise Jesus at first but later felt his love burning in their hearts- they knew that they had to share the Good news!

As our Emmaus motto states - 'Our Journey with Christ' We too are on this road with Jesus and through our school mission we are sharing the Good News.

*The latest newsletter from Ten:Ten is here for you to view and talk through with your child(ren) as we journey through Eastertide sharing the Good News. I hope that you find it a useful resource www.tentenresources.co.uk/prayers-for-home/parent-newsletter/

Have a great weekend

Mr A. Wilkes

Principal

Thank you for joining us at family Mass each Saturday at 5pm at OLAS, it is a great success!



1 - Instagram @STJOSEPHSCATHOLICPRIMARY

Twitter @StJoStourbridge

Children's liturgy – (Luke 24: 13-35)



What do you remember from the first gospel reading?

Two disciples are walking along, on their way to a place called Emmaus. Jesus was crucified two days before and the disciples are confused because the women have just come back from Jesus' tomb saying that it is empty.

Why was Jesus' tomb empty?

The two disciples meet another man along the road and they walk with him. Who do you think this was? But did the disciples recognise him?

The man explains the Scriptures to the disciples so that they can understand that Jesus is risen from the dead.

Do the disciples recognise him now?

Finally the disciples persuade the man to come and eat with them. What happens at the meal?

The man takes the bread, blesses it, breaks it and shares it with the disciples. Suddenly they realise who it is. Why do you think the disciples recognise Jesus now?

Can you think of another time that Jesus broke, blessed and shared the bread?

We are all made in the image of God and Jesus is in each and every person, but often we forget this. We do not take the time to recognise how important and special each person is.

But our eyes can be opened just like the disciples in this story. If we take the time to get to know others, to share food with them, perhaps we will come to see Christ in these people, our brothers and sisters, who are all part of God's family around the world.

How would you behave if you were eating with Jesus? What would you say? How would you treat him?

And so, if Christ is in each of us, how do you think we should treat each other? The same as we would treat Jesus?

It doesn't matter how different we are to someone else, whether someone is tall or short, has brown skin or white skin, is rich or poor, quiet or loud, Jesus is in us all. And so we are called to love one another as we love Jesus.

When you are eating this week, take the time to talk to the people you are with and to think about how Christ is in each and every one of us.

After the meal, the disciples rushed back to tell people what had happened. Let us also by our actions, show that we believe that Jesus is risen and is always with us.

We can do this by treating others as we would wish to be treated, by loving our neighbour as Jesus has asked us and by making the right choices in our lives.

What will you do to show that you believe in Jesus this week?

We look for Christ in all people we meet as we pray together:

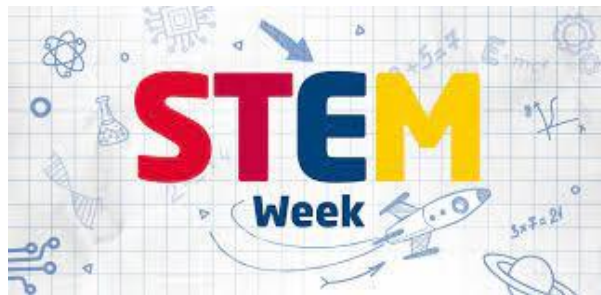
We pray for world leaders: that they may do all that they can to make sure everyone has enough. Lord, in your mercy...

We pray for the Church throughout the world: that it may look for Christ in all people and be a welcoming place for all. Lord, in your mercy...

We pray for our parish, family and friends: that we may see Christ in all people around the world. Lord, in your mercy...

Closing prayer: Living God, we look for you in all people. May we be inspired to treat each other with respect, sharing generously and reaching out to help those who are in need. Amen.

Reflection adapted from Cafod children's liturgy



2 - Calling all parents: Do you have a career that involves science, engineering, art or maths? Would you be interested in talking to the children about how you use these skills in your job? During our 'STEAM' week (5th-9th June), we would love for parents to come in and chat to the children about their jobs. Please don't worry if you are not available on these dates, you could always send us a video. If you are interested, please contact Mrs Freeman or Mrs Cangiano to find out more information. We can't wait to hear from you.

**Please note - due to the great feedback from parents so far who wish to talk to the children we have moved the date back a little to ensure that everyone who wishes to talk to the children will have the chance to inform us and the opportunity to do so.*

Curriculum



Have you seen the curriculum area on our school website? It is full of information about the progression of key knowledge and skills that our children learn throughout their time at school. Our curriculum is designed to ensure that the precise knowledge and skills are learnt and reinforced so

that the children develop a wide schema (web of knowledge) and are able to know more and remember more during their time at school and are prepared for their next stage in education.

Ofsted agreed that we are continuing to develop an ambitious curriculum so that in all areas the children are able to achieve well and use the techniques that they have been taught to tackle a variety of challenges. Our curriculum is rooted in the teachings of the Gospel and Catholic Social Teachings so we make links with the children's learning to areas such as caring for our world, the dignity of workers, developments for the common good and more.

To bring the curriculum to life, we also plan for educational visits and visitors that enrich learning further.

You can view your child's learning in all areas at the link below.

[St Joseph's Catholic Primary School Stourbridge - Curriculum Plans \(st-jo-st.dudley.sch.uk\)](http://st-jo-st.dudley.sch.uk)

We have completed CAFOD's Big Lent Walk!



Our school community joined with thousands of others to help fight extreme poverty.

We walked a total of 5 kilometres during the last two weeks. Well done everyone! Thank you for all of your sponsorship money - we raised a magnificent £2,597.87

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/



3 - Our Easter Gardens .

The children have used sustainable materials to represent the crucifixion and Resurrection in the form of an Easter garden. They are wonderful and displayed in the school entrance. We have had so many positive comments about them and I hope that you enjoyed supporting your child to make them. Each child received a special treat and two children were chosen as the winners of the competition and received an Easter egg and a book.

Lent fundraising updates



There are a number of fundraising activities that are taking place in school this Lent. Below is a brief update. Thank you so much for your donations. It has been wonderful to see our pupils leading the fundraising efforts, truly bearing witness to their faith!

The Cafod Big Lent Walk - £2,597.87 raised

Ups and Downs (A Down Syndrome charity) - £306.53 raised

The Year 2 cake sale towards our sponsored children in The Gambia - 313.50

Donation of food and Easter eggs towards the Stourbridge food bank

FAITH IN ACTION!

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	Faith	Annie
Year 1	Henry	Emme
Year 2	Lilah	Elisa
Year 3	Erin & Oscar	Josh
Year 4	Louis	Amelia
Year 5	Patrick	Matty

Diary Dates - Spring term



Please note the following diary dates for Spring

Monday May 1st Bank Holiday - school closed

*KS1 Assessments begin in May

Friday 5th May - King Charles III Coronation celebrations in school (parents are welcome to join us before the end of the day on the playground to join in the National Anthem, hear our Coronation songs and see the Coronation craft activity that we have completed) - details will follow shortly

Monday 8th May - Bank Holiday for the King's Coronation - school closed

Tuesday 9th May - Friday 12th May KS2 SATs week (Year 6)

Wednesday 14th June - Friday 26th May Year 5 residential at Alton Castle

Friday 26th May - End of half term

Monday 29th May - Friday 2nd June - Half term break

Monday June 5th - School opens for the second half of the summer term

Monday 5th June - Friday 9th June - STEAM Week in school

Wednesday 14th June - Friday 16th June - Year 6 residential at Pioneer Centre

Wednesday 21st June - Emmaus Year 5 sports event at Hagley Catholic High School

Friday 25th June - School closed for inset day Saturday

1st July - St Joseph's Summer Faye

Friday 21st July - Prize giving for Years Reception - Year 5 (9:10am)

Monday 24th July - Year 6 leavers' assembly and prize giving (9:10am)

Tuesday 25th July - Year 6 leavers' Mass (9:10am)

Tuesday 25th July - Final day of the summer term

***Further dates to be added (including all Masses for the summer term)**

PTA updates



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

A big update regarding the forest area will be available next week.

<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.

PE Timetable



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

Reception Class - Monday

Year 1 - Tuesday & Friday

Year 2 - Monday & Tuesday

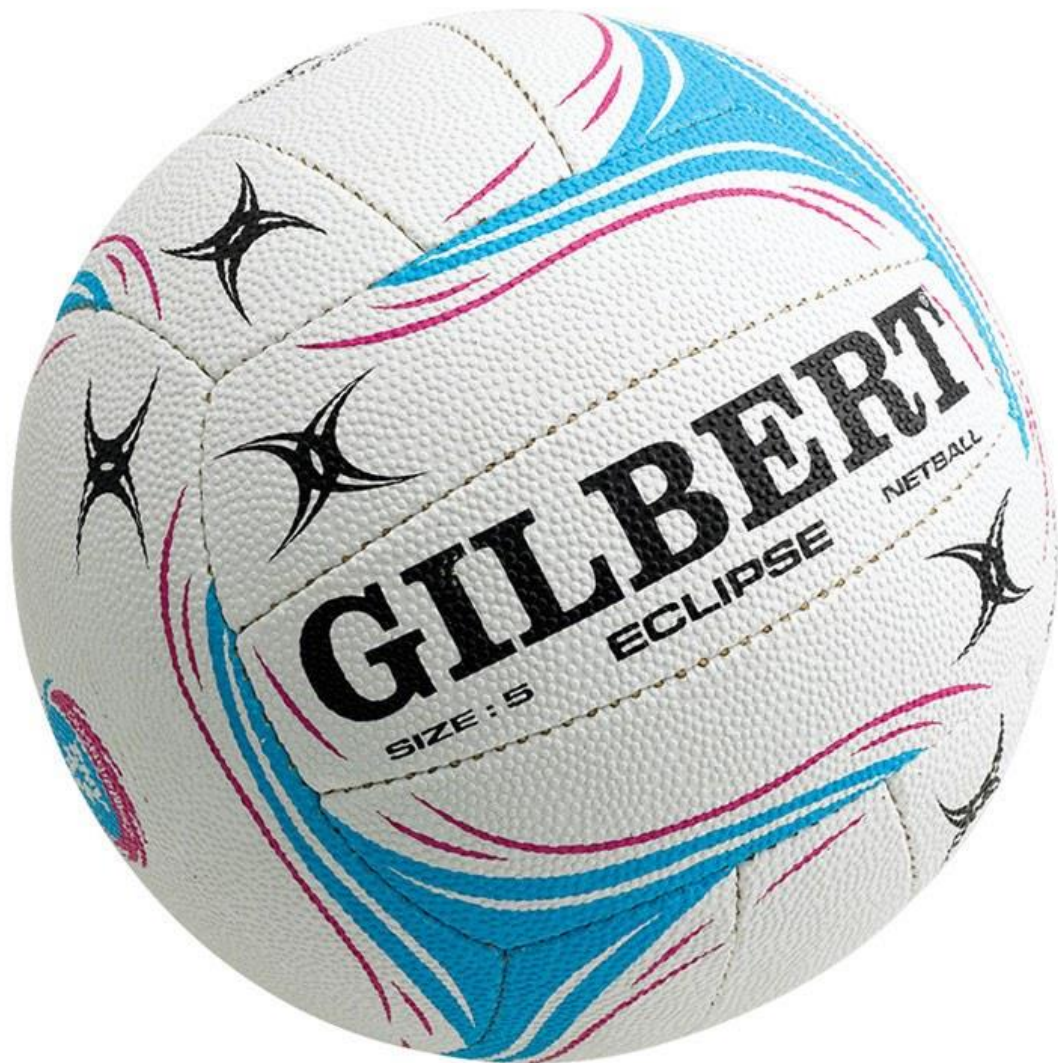
Year 3 - Tuesday & Friday

Year 4 - Tuesday & Thursday (Swim)

Year 5 - Wednesday & Thursday

Year 6 - Monday & Wednesday

Clubs



Lunchtime Clubs:

Monday - KS2 Choir (Mrs Cangiano)

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

Tuesday - Y6 leading 'Mindfulness group'

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

Friday - KS1 Choir (Mrs Cangiano)

****A lunchtime gardening club is to soon begin. Please contact the school office if you would like for your child to be included in this club!***

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 (spaces)

Wednesday 8am - KS2 Multi-skills

Thursday 8am - KS1 Gymnastics(spaces)

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.

School Menu - Summer term



WEEK 1

Allergy information available on request

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Main				
Veggie Wholemeal Pizza (v)	Mild Beef Chilli con Carne with Brown Rice	Braised Chicken with New Potatoes	Pork Sausage Pasta Bake	Fish Fingers and Chips
Vegetarian				
Chickpea and Spinach Curry with Rice (v)	Lentil Cottage Pie (v)	Cheese and Potato Pasty (v)	BBQ Vegan Meatball Wrap (v)	Veggie Nuggets and Chips (v)
3rd Options				
Jacket Potato with Baked Beans, Cheese, Tuna Mayo or Coleslaw	Pasta with Lentil Tomato Sauce	Jacket Potato with Baked Beans, Cheese, Tuna Mayo or Coleslaw	Pasta with Lentil Tomato Sauce	Jacket Potato with Baked Beans, Cheese, Tuna Mayo or Coleslaw
Deli				
Baguette with Ham, Tuna Mayo, Egg Mayo or Cheese	Baguette with Ham, Tuna Mayo, Egg Mayo or Cheese	Baguette with Ham, Tuna Mayo, Egg Mayo or Cheese	Baguette with Ham, Tuna Mayo, Egg Mayo or Cheese	Baguette with Tuna Mayo, Egg Mayo or Cheese
Vegetables				
Hot Seasonal Vegetables	Hot Seasonal Vegetables	Hot Seasonal Vegetables	Hot Seasonal Vegetables	Hot Seasonal Vegetables
Lemon Drizzle Cake	Fruit Jelly	Mousse	Vegan Ginger Cake	Fruit Turnover
Fruit/Yoghurt	Fruit/Yoghurt	Fruit/Yoghurt	Fruit/Yoghurt	Fruit/Yoghurt

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

17th Apr, 8th May, 29th May, 19th Jun, 10th Jul, 4th Sep, 25th Sep, 16th Oct



WEEK 2

Allergy information available on request

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Main				
Macaroni Cheese (v)	Butter Chicken Curry with Brown Rice	Roast Chicken with Roast Potatoes and Gravy	Beef Bolognese with Pasta	Fish Fingers and Chips
Vegetarian				
Sweet Potato and Bean Chilli with Jacket Wedges (v)	Veggie Enchilada (v)	Vegan Sausage with Roast Potatoes and Gravy (v)	Roasted Vegetable and Mozzarella Tray Bake with Rice (v)	Onion Bhaji with Chutney and Chips (v)
3rd Options				
Jacket Potato with Baked Beans, Cheese, Tuna Mayo or Coleslaw	Pasta with Lentil Tomato Sauce	Jacket Potato with Baked Beans, Cheese, Tuna Mayo or Coleslaw	Pasta with Lentil Tomato Sauce	Jacket Potato with Baked Beans, Cheese, Tuna Mayo or Coleslaw
Deli				
Wrap with Ham, Tuna Mayo, Egg Mayo or Cheese	Wrap with Ham, Tuna Mayo, Egg Mayo or Cheese	Wrap with Ham, Tuna Mayo, Egg Mayo or Cheese	Wrap with Ham, Tuna Mayo, Egg Mayo or Cheese	Wrap with Tuna Mayo, Egg Mayo or Cheese
Vegetables				
Hot Seasonal Vegetables	Hot Seasonal Vegetables	Hot Seasonal Vegetables	Hot Seasonal Vegetables	Hot Seasonal Vegetables
Summer Cake	Fruit Jelly	Fruit Flapjack	Vegan Chocolate Kale Brownie	Fruit Mousse
Fruit/Yoghurt	Fruit/Yoghurt	Fruit/Yoghurt	Fruit/Yoghurt	Fruit/Yoghurt

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

24th Apr, 15th May, 5th Jun, 26th Jun, 17th Jul, 11th Sep, 2nd Oct, 23rd Oct



Allergy information available on request

1st May, 22nd May, 12th Jun, 3rd Jul, 24th Jul, 18th Sep, 9th Oct

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Main				
Cheese and Bean Slice with Wedges (v)	Chicken, Leek and Sweetcorn Pasta	Pork Meatball and Tomato Bake with New Potatoes	BBQ Chicken with Rice	Fish Fingers and Chips
Vegetarian				
Roasted Tomato and Basil Pasta (v)	Veggie Biryani (v)	Vegan Sausage with New Potatoes and Gravy (v)	Broccoli and Cauliflower Cheese Rice Bake (v)	Samosa and Chips (v)
3rd Options				
Jacket Potato with Baked Beans, Cheese, Tuna Mayo or Coleslaw	Pasta with Lentil Tomato Sauce	Jacket Potato with Baked Beans, Cheese, Tuna Mayo or Coleslaw	Pasta with Lentil Tomato Sauce	Jacket Potato with Baked Beans, Cheese, Salmon Mayo or Coleslaw
Deli				
Sandwich with Ham, Tuna Mayo, Egg Mayo or Cheese	Sandwich with Ham, Tuna Mayo, Egg Mayo or Cheese	Sandwich with Ham, Tuna Mayo, Egg Mayo or Cheese	Sandwich with Ham, Tuna Mayo, Egg Mayo or Cheese	Sandwich with Tuna Mayo, Egg Mayo or Cheese
Vegetables				
Hot Seasonal Vegetables	Hot Seasonal Vegetables	Hot Seasonal Vegetables	Hot Seasonal Vegetables	Hot Seasonal Vegetables
Fruit Shortbread	Iced Carrot Cake	Jelly	Vegan Summer Loaf	Fruit Cheesecake
Fruit/Yoghurt	Fruit/Yoghurt	Fruit/Yoghurt	Fruit/Yoghurt	Fruit/Yoghurt

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



Attendance



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

Attendance for the whole school for this week is 96.18%.

Here is the attendance for this week for each class:

Year R: 95.9%

Year 1: 96%

Year 2: 96.7%

Year 3: 95%

Year 4: 95%

Year 5: 99.3%

Year 6: 95.3%

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

Dudley Early Help Strategy





4 - National Online Safety

This week we have emailed you with information on how to sign up for resources, courses and webinars around online safety using the National Online Safety platform. I will shortly add suggested resources to your parent 'watch list' which I believe will be of great support to us all as we keep our children safe in an ever changing environment online. Please do sign up to this fantastic resource which we also use regularly in school. All schools within Emmaus have been provided with this opportunity to support online safety of our children.

Within school, we are able to see which courses that you have completed, but not any other details. Please ensure that you select the 'parent/carer' user group when you sign up.



5 - 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