



St Joseph's Catholic Primary School

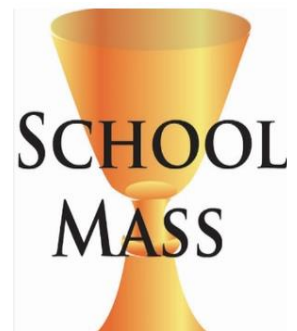
Inspiring everyone to **REACH** through
Faith, Hope, and Love

Newsletter – Friday 27th September 2024

We are at the end of September already and the rain has begun! What a shame that the PTA fun run had to be cancelled, we all know how much the children enjoyed it last summer. The last two weeks have been exceptionally challenging for everyone here at St Joseph's, as you are aware we have been having issues with our internet and server. I am so grateful to all of the staff who, despite the challenges, have worked incredibly hard to ensure that there has been no disruption to the children's learning. Teaching may have looked a little different at times, but the content and progression of skills was absolutely taught. As you are aware, the SLT email address has been out of action for 2 weeks, as has the admin at times. Thank you all for your patience and understanding we know that communication has been tricky at times but staff have all been available on the playground at the end of the day. Thank you for your support and understanding. We appear to be at the end of this disruption now and are all looking forward to returning to normal next week. I will update you specifically about communication early next week.

New Year's Mass

Yesterday we celebrated returning to school with our New Year's Mass. We were joined by Charlotte Blanche, our CEO, and we could not be more proud of our children. We had issues with the music that were unexpected but the children sang on beautifully unaccompanied – something that we think we should do more often. Mrs Blanche was really impressed by their 'excellent behaviour'. I would like to thank the Year 6 readers; Theo, Grace, Tansy, Bert, Sydney, Annabel, Alice and Samuel for volunteering to read and for reading so well. And to our reception team - our new reception children were so impressive, they sat watching and listening throughout the service - what an excellent start they have made to school to be able to achieve this already, what great guidance and learning they are enjoying. Also to all of the staff and their contribution in ensuring that this important celebration went ahead.



THANK YOU
so much

EYFS

We would like to thank all of the parents who have sent in generous donations for our new reception class. There have been some incredibly generous donations, Sylvanian's, mega blocks, a stunning Noah's ark (which was being greatly enjoyed this morning when I was in the classroom) to name a few.

The team are still looking for Duplo or any nature based books, also specifically do you have a copy of Rosie's Walk, Whatever Next, On the Way Home and Goodnight Moon? If

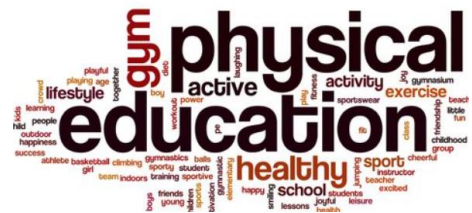
you are looking to clear out, these items will be gratefully received and used to support the children's learning.

Smart and Ready to Learn

Thank you so much for your support in making sure that your child is in the correct school uniform. The children have returned to school looking very smart. Just a reminder that last year was a transition period between grey and navy hoodies – this year it is navy hoodies please – no logos. Also PE short should be navy with no stripes - thank you.

PE

Thank you to all of the parents who are helping with the Year 6 swimming and for supporting us to ensure that the correct safety measures are in place. You are also saving the parents a lot of money.



Reception Parents Phonics Evening



Thank you to all of our reception parents who came to the phonics evening on Tuesday. It was lovely to see you and give you the opportunity to ask any questions that you might have. By supporting your children, as we discussed in these very early stages of their reading, you give them such a great advantage. Working together we can support your children to **'be the best that they can be'**.

For parents that were not able to make the evening, the Powerpoint will be on the class blog on the school website next week. If you have any questions, please do catch Mrs Daly at the end of the school day.

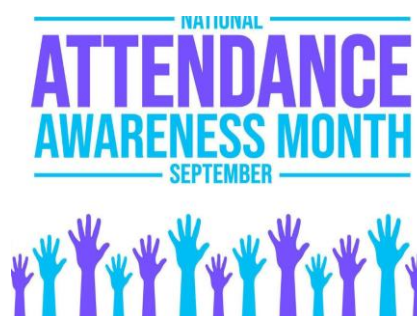
Attendance

The attendance policy has been updated and ratified by the governors. With the lack of internet, the admin team are on catch up and will get it to you soon.

Just to clarify, the guidelines are statutory (required) and come from the DfE (Department for Education).

Miss Gardiner is our attendance office and she will ask you to fill out forms and for evidence of absences eg, dentist

appointments, holiday booking confirmations, hospital appointments etc. This is so that when we are monitored, we have supporting evidence of absence. Thank you for your support and co-operation with this matter. Once you have read the updated policy, should you have any questions, please don't hesitate to ask Miss Gardiner or myself.





School Council 2024-25

I would like to say, how impressed I am with some of our Year 6 children, who ran for House Captain, were unsuccessful and then came back the following week to run for a position on the School Council. This demonstrated true resilience and should be commended. This is a really important role, the children on the Council represent their class and share their ideas and thoughts of things that need to be improved. So, our School Council this year are:

| | |
|-----------|---------------------|
| Chair | Alice |
| Co-chair | Kacper |
| Secretary | Olivia |
| Y6 Reps | Annabel and Theo |
| Y5 Reps | Millie and Edward |
| Y4 Reps | Amberlee and Callum |
| Y3 Reps | Edith and Henry |
| Y2 Reps | Poppy and Joseph |
| Y1 Reps | Mila and Thomas |

Children from reception will join the Council after Christmas. I would like to thank Mrs Jenkins for coming in last Friday, her day off, to present her new Council with their badges.

Staffing Update

As you know, Mrs Staples will be going on maternity leave soon. We are looking for a TA to replace her while she is on maternity leave with the possibility of joining the team in a more permanent position. If you know anyone who you think might be interested in this role, then please do let them know that the vacancy is being advertised.



Log Trail

The children at St Joseph's are so incredibly lucky to have the use of a new and high quality log trail on our grounds. It was installed in May 2022 after a great deal of work from the School Council and PTA. It was funded by an incredibly generous donation from the OOSC, monies raised by the PTA, and donations from the school governors and Pre-School. The equipment has an annual safety check and is regularly checked by our SBM who is responsible for Health and Safety.

When in school the children have a set of rules that they follow. They were introduced by the School Council to keep the children safe. All children know them, are expected to follow them, and are reminded about them at the start of the year. Our reception children are currently being taught how to play on the equipment safely.

At 3.20pm, when the teachers send the children to their parents at the end of the school day, the children become their responsibility. It is lovely to see so many children enjoying extra time on the log trail after school, however, we often see behaviour on the equipment that we would not see during school time.

Following on from a couple of incidents that have happened after school, the School Council will be reviewing the rules as one of their first jobs, updating the children and then they will send them to you all so that you can see what is expected of the children during school time. It would be great if while supervising your child/children on the equipment after school that you could remind them that the rules still apply.

Read with Me



We are so lucky to be working with Read with Me. They are a local charity who support reading in primary schools. All of their volunteers are trained not only to listen but to check for comprehension. During Health Week last term, as one of our activities, we joined in their sponsored fun run, raising money to train more volunteers. I can't thank the families enough that supported this event. You managed to raise an incredible £915. Please see below the message from the Read with Me Team.

Linda and the team at Read With Me would like to thank the parents, carers, grandparents, friends, and families of all the children who took part in our Team 10k event back in July. Together, your sponsorship raised an outstanding £915 to help fund continued one-to-one reading support at St Joseph's. If you or anyone you know could spare an hour or two to help children improve their literacy skills, please get in touch by emailing volunteer@readwithme.org.uk or visiting www.readwithme.org.uk/for-volunteers/ to find out more.

PTA News



The next exciting event coming up is the annual fireworks.

Saturday 2nd November – save the date!

We are delighted that Becky Maltby and her family, even though the girls left St Joseph's last year, are still happy to support this event.

Tickets are on sale now – reserve yours by emailing the PTA at [pta@st-](mailto:pta@st-josephs.gloucs.sch.uk)

[josephs.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:pta@st-josephs.gloucs.sch.uk) - let your friends and family know. Whilst this is obviously not as big an event as Dursley, it has a more family feel and is none the less a really impressive fire work display.

Saturday 2nd November – PTA Firework Display



LET US PRAY



Mass Schedule

Mass begins at 10am

Thursday 3rd October – Year 4
Thursday 10th October – Year 3
Wednesday 16th October Harvest Liturgy
All welcome
9.15 – KS1, 10am - KS2
Thursday 17th October – Year 2
Thursday 24th October – Year 1
October Half Term
Thursday 7th November – R
Monday 11th November – Remembrance
Service 10.30am – all welcome
Thursday 14th November – Year 6
Thursday 28th November – Year 4

Thursday 21st November – Year 5
Thursday 28th 1.30pm – Advent Retreat-
all welcome
Thursday 5th December – Year 3
Tuesday 10th December 11am – KS1
Nativity
Wednesday 11th December – KS1
Nativity
Thursday 12th December – Year 2
Tuesday 17th December 6.30pm KS2
Carol Concert
Thursday 19th December – Christingle
Service – all welcome
9.00 – KS1 9.45 – KS2



<https://new.express.adobe.com/webpage/xSuH1pKU5eIB3/>

Just a reminder that you are able to access and see the focus for our Liturgies through the Ten Ten monthly Parent Newsletter.

This week's prayer was written by:

Elio in Reception

Dear God,

Thank you for the world we live in.
God and Jesus, thank you for love.
Thank you for your love for our families,
friends and pets.

Amen.

Elio



Dates for your



September

w/c 30th - Little Ways Week

October

Tuesday 1st - Parents Evening 3.30pm-6.30pm

Wednesday 2nd - Parents Evening 3.30pm-6.30pm

Thursday 3rd - School photos

Monday 7th - PTA quiz at The Fox, Coaley 6.30pm for 7.00pm start

Wednesday 16th Harvest Liturgy (KS1 9.15am) (KS2 10.00am)

WB 21st - Week of Awe and Wonder

WB 21st - Y6 Residential Week

Friday 25th October - Half Term

November

Saturday 2nd - PTA firework night

Thursday 7th - KS2 Stroud Book Festival

Friday 8th - KS1 Stroud Book Festival

Friday 8th - Topic letters and Welcome letters to parents

Friday 8th - Commissioning of the Chaplaincy Team

Monday 11th - Remembrance Day (10.30am)

WB 11th - Anti bullying week - choose Respect

Thursday 14th - Whole school flu immunisation (more details to follow)

Friday 22nd - PTA Disco

Wednesday 27th - Writing moderation with LWCET

Thursday 28th - Advent Retreat

December

Tuesday 10th - KS1 dress rehearsal (11.00am)

Wednesday 11th - 9.30am KS1 Nativity

Thursday 12th - 2.00pm KS1 Nativity

Tuesday 17th - pantomime day

6.30pm - KS2 Carol Concert

Wednesday 18th - School Christmas Dinner

Thursday 19th - 9am KS1 9.45 KS2 Christingle

Friday 20th - Christmas Jumper day for Save the Children charity

Friday 20th - Christmas Breakfast

Assembly 9.30am Hamper raffle

Friday 20th - Key Stage parties in the morning

Friday 20th - 1.30pm end of term

Friday 20th End of term 1.30pm

