



St Joseph's Catholic Primary School

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

Newsletter – Friday 13th September 2024

WELCOME BACK!

Welcome back to all our school families and a warm welcome to all of our new families. We have several new families across the school as well as in reception.

Where did the summer go? It certainly seems to have flown by. I hope that you all had a lovely time despite some interesting 'summer weather'.

Our children have come back to school, full of smiles and energy ready to learn. Our new reception children are settling in so well, staying for lunches this week and are learning all about how much fun it is to be in reception. Thank you to all of the staff who have worked so hard over the summer to get their classrooms ready for the start of the new school year.

Thank you

On behalf of the staff, I would like to thank you all for your kind end of term gifts and cards that you sent in at the end of the summer term. We are very grateful for your generosity and appreciation.

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.

- ✓ Please label all of your child's belongings so that if they get lost, we can return them
- ✓ The only jewellery allowed in school is one set of small stud earrings
- ✓ School shoes must be worn – no trainers
- ✓ Hair should be shoulder length or longer should be kept off the face by tying back. This is for your child's safety and to keep head lice to a minimum.
- ✓ The uniform policy also states that hair styles should be plain, a completely shaved head would be deemed unsuitable as would partially shaved heads, tramlines/designs. Hair should be no shorter than a no.2. No oversized bows or unnatural colours.

Thank you for your co-operation with this; helping us to hold high expectations and take pride in our appearance. If on the odd occasion your child is not in their school uniform, please let the Admin Team know, then staff will not try to catch you on the playground after school.

Need help with school uniform? The PTA organise quality second hand uniform for items with a logo. If this is something that interests you email them at pta@st-josephs.gloucs.sch.uk.

PE and Health and Safety

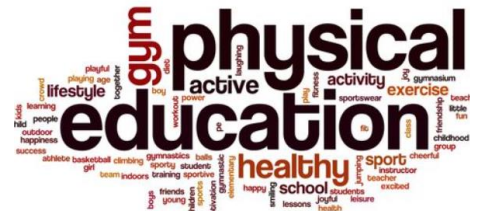
PE plans 2024-25

We have exciting changes to the PE curriculum this year.

David Needham from Forest Green Rovers will be supporting the delivery of PE on a Friday, Ali Dixon will be supporting the teaching of gymnastics and Georgie Arkell will be supporting the delivery of dance. Your child/children will have 2 time tabled PE slots this year and class teachers will let you know which days they are at the start of a big term.

Swimming will also continue this year but for key stage 2 children only. Thank you to all of the parents who have offered to help, enabling us plenty of time to ensure that the correct safety measures are in place.

Just a reminder, if your child wears a small pair of studs, they must be removed for PE lessons. Please try to remind your child to remove them at home on a PE day to avoid any losses and upset. If your child has recently had piercings that they are unable to remove for PE, they will need to be taped. Please email the Admin Team to advise them that this is the case and when they are able to be removed.



Reception Parents Phonics Evening



Reading is the most important skill that we teach our children and by working together with a consistent approach to this, we can ensure that our children are able to acquire this skill and become confident and competent learners. On **Tuesday 24th September**, we will be holding a meeting for our new reception parents at **6.30pm** to share how we teach phonics and ways that you can support your child at home to make sure they get off to a flying start. Please email the Admin Team to let us know if you will be joining us.

THANK YOU!

I would like to say a huge thank you to Mark Barron, who has spent much time over the summer doing a whole host of important maintenance jobs across the school. We really appreciate your time, skills and support.



Music Opportunities at St Joseph's



The children at St Joseph's are so lucky to have the opportunity to take individual music lessons in such a wide range of instruments, should they wish to. We offer piano, singing, violin, guitar and new for September 2024 – electric drums!

The year will end with a concert celebrating all of the children's hard work throughout the year. The concert date is set for **Wednesday 16th July 2025**. Lots of our children are enjoying their lessons, if you would like your child to start to learn an instrument, please contact the Admin Team, let them know the instrument and they will put you in touch with the right teacher.



Attendance

I am sure that you have seen the letter that I sent out at the start of the week about attendance and the changes to the DfE's statutory guidance. We will continue to track children's attendance as we did last year and are in the process of updating the policy. Once ratified by our governors next week, we will share this with you.

Please see the links below for information about when you should keep your child off school.

<https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/626669cb8fa8f523b7221b98/UKHSA-should-I-keep-my_child_off_school_guidance-A3-poster.pdf

House Captains 2024-25

New academic year, new House Captains. The Year 6's have been busy this week, they have delivered their speeches, put up their posters and campaigned in an attempt to secure their position as the leader of their House. We were so impressed with all of the speeches - congratulations to all of the Year 6 children who wrote and delivered their speeches with such confidence to the rest of the school.

The children have voted and this year's House Captains will be;

Hawkes – Charlotte and Sidney

Kestrels – Maya and Felix

Eagles – Grace and Rory

Falcons – Tansy and Samuel

Well done to all and good luck in leading your House this year!

Staffing Update

Our new staff have settled in well, we would like to welcome Miss Keightley, Miss Read and Mrs Frankcom to our School family. The teachers will be on the playground until 3.30pm, please do go and introduce yourself to your child's new class teacher.

Communication



Communication between home and school is vitally important – keeping us informed about your child helps us to adapt, observe and most importantly enables us to meet their needs. In most cases, the class teacher is the person that you need to speak to. Whilst they are not available at the start of the school day, they will be on the playground at the end of the day until 3.30pm (unless they are on a course/PPA) please do catch them then to speak to about your child.

If there is something more pressing at the beginning of the school day that the class teacher should know about then please call or email the Admin Team who will be able to pass a message on. Our updated communication policy will be sent out soon!

LET US PRAY



Mass Schedule

Mass begins at 10am

Thursday 19th September - Year 5
Thursday 26th September – Whole
School Mass
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
9.00am – KS1 9.45am – KS2



<https://new.express.adobe.com/webpage/xSuH1pKU5elB3/>

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 Alice

Dear God,
We must thank you for your love and care,
We are sorry for taking your love for granted,
And ask for forgiveness as we have used too much,
Our world is dying and it needs us to fix it,
Please give us the power to rebuild the love and trust we broke,
The world is in need of your guidance,
Please continue spreading your love as you once did,
Help those who are close-minded to see your light as we do,
Blessed be to God,
Amen



PTA News



I would like to thank the PTA for all of their hard work and for the contributions that they make to improving the learning for the children at St Joseph's. At the end of the summer term new tables and chairs arrived for the Year 4 and 5 classrooms, these were funded by the PTA. The children are so excited- what a difference it makes to their learning environments – thank you all! They have also supported with resources to improve the environment of the EYFS classroom over the summer – what a transformation the additional resources have made to the role play and maths area. What a great new start for our new reception children. Thank you for the difference that you make 😊



We have been asked by the County to let you know about Families in partnership- this is a newsletter which includes information and articles from teams within Education, Health, Care and the voluntary sector and well as parents' feedback to the Local Area Partnership. Please see the link below if this is something that you would be interested in. Families in partnership newsletter August 2024 | Gloucestershire County Council

Dates for your



Monday 16th - Clubs begin

Tuesday 24th - Phonics Evening (EYFS)
6.30pm

Thursday 26th - 9.30am New School Year
Mass

Thursday 26th - European Languages Day

Friday 27th PTA Fun run/obstacle course
straight after school

Monday 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

Autumn Term 2

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 LW CET

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