

St Joseph's Catholic Primary School



6/2/26

'Treat others the way you want to be treated'

Matthew 7:12

Dear Families,

This week our focus has been on Pupil Voice and Pupil Leadership. We've spent time with our School Council, Sports Council and Curriculum Ambassadors, exploring the areas they are keen to lead both within lessons and across wider school life.

Listening to the children speak so confidently about their learning—and share such thoughtful, creative ideas—has been truly inspiring. We are incredibly lucky to have such enthusiastic and motivated pupils who are eager to make a positive difference.

Next week is our final week before the half term break and it will be another busy exciting, fun filled week here in school!

Our Key Stage 2 children will be performing Peter Pan Jr at the Monmouth Savoy on Tuesday 10th February at 6:00pm. If you're able to join us, it promises to be a fantastic show.



We were delighted to have another fantastic turnout on Tuesday morning for our Mastering Number workshops with Reception parents. Thank you to everyone who joined us. These sessions play an important role in helping families understand how we teach early number skills, making it easier to reinforce learning through fun games and activities at home.







The School Council came together on Tuesday afternoon to plan and prepare lots of exciting initiatives for this term. Next **Friday 13th February** they will be making and selling fruit smoothies on the playground at breaktimes! They are busy creating posters to promote this event. It aims to promote our healthy eating regime here in school and raising money for some well needed new playground equipment, such as skipping ropes and footballs.

They are also looking forward to holding a toy sale in the playground later in the term– watch this space!



JOIN US
22ND FEB
2026

NEW DATE DUE TO
WATERLOGGED PITCHES!



MEET THE TEAM

We're looking for enthusiastic players in Years 2 & 3 to join our under 7 and under 8 tag rugby teams! No experience needed - just energy, commitment and a love for sport.

Come and join us for a **free open training session** to meet the team and the Coaches. Post training Pizza will be provided in the clubhouse!



Sunday 22nd February 2026



10.00 - 11.00



Ross RFC, HR9 7GQ

What3Words:

slamming.area.seriously



info@rossrugby.co.uk



<https://rossrugby.rfu.club>



A message from Miss Steiner...

We had a brilliant meeting with our Curriculum Ambassadors this week to talk about their progress in writing. The children shared how different approaches across the school—phonics, SPaG, Write Stuff and targeted interventions—help them build strong, accurate and engaging writing skills. They spoke especially highly of the way teachers model writing, giving them the confidence to tackle new techniques.

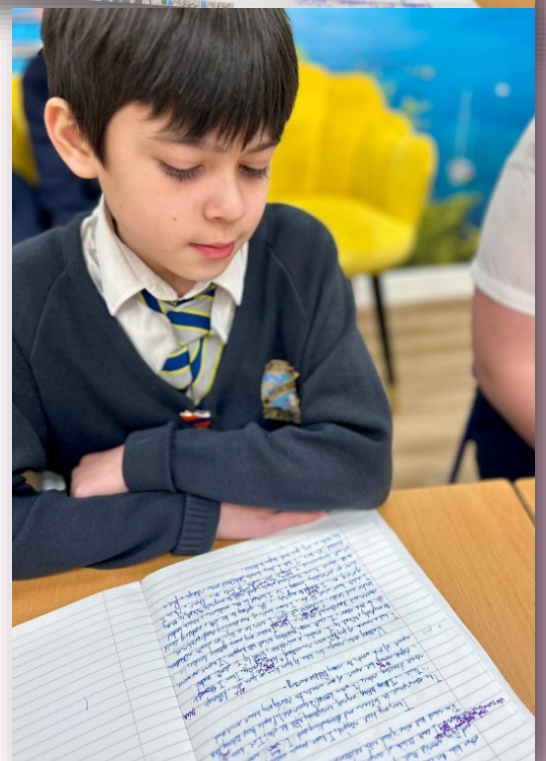
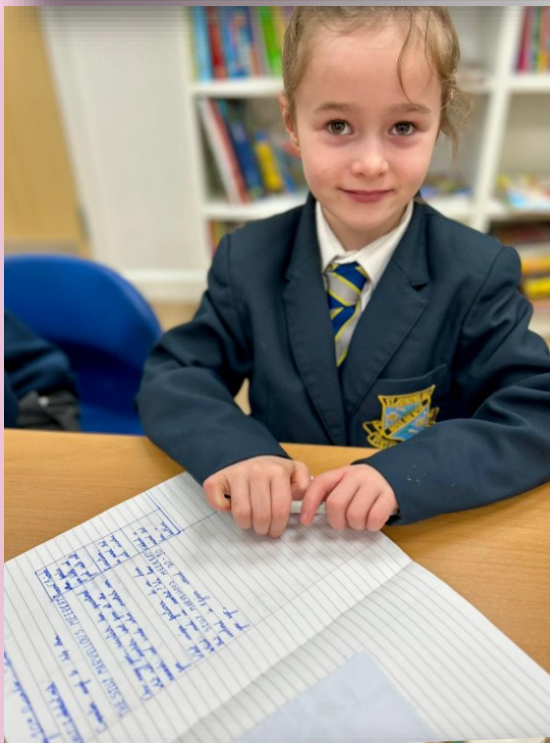
When asked what has helped them most, pupils mentioned phonics, repeated practice, teacher modelling, Fresh Start, Badger Sentence Writers, daily handwriting and learning key conjunctions. Their thoughtful responses showed just how reflective and motivated they are.

A big thank you to our Ambassadors for their insights, which help us ensure every child continues to grow as a writer and enjoy their learning.



Leadership in 
EDUCATION







Continents

On Wednesday afternoon, we enjoyed Year 2's brilliant class assembly all about the continents of the world. The children sang and danced with such confidence and shared their new learning about each continent and what makes it special. Well done, Year 2 — a truly fantastic performance!



SPORTS COUNCIL

A message from Mr Mason...

Sports Council came together this week to discuss how we can help children reach their daily 60 minutes of activity. They have created a competition called 'The Moveathon', which will take place during the half-term break.

Each child will be given an activity log to take home over half-term and try to document any physical activity they complete in the week to win 'Move Points'. The class with the highest total of Move Points will win a special active surprise. Thank you Sports Council for your fantastic ideas!

Move information will follow next week.





Welcome to our Nursery



A message from Mrs Lerego....

The Oakleaves have been doing lots of number activities this week - A numeral hunt on the field, decorating their age number using collage materials and playing lots of number games!

The Acorns loved making playdough this week - weighing and mixing the ingredients and they were very good at kneading the dough!

The Seedlings' rhyme of the week was '5 current buns.' They explored the current bun treasure basket and enjoyed singing the song and giving in their pennies.





A message from Year 3...

We are fundraising for the charity '1 Dog at a Time Rescue UK', as part of our Super Kind Award project. This charity helps to rehome stray dogs from Romania to the UK in order for them to have a loving family. Mr. Mason's rescue dogs Daphne and Doris will be joining us on a daily walk throughout March. Our aim is to cover the distance between the UK and Romania, which is 1600 miles as a class.

Please can you show your support for this fantastic charity by using the QR code below and donating. We are grateful for any contribution you can make, even if it is sharing the QR code with your friends and family.





***Calling all
Nursery and Reception Parents!***

Celebrate Mother's Day with us at our EYFS Afternoon Tea on Friday 13th March from 2pm in the Sports Hall. We warmly welcome mums, grandmas, aunties, carers and all special grown-ups of children in Nursery & Reception to join us for a lovely afternoon. Tickets are £5 per person, which includes delicious cakes, tea & coffee, plus heart-warming performances from the Acorns, Oakleaves and Reception children. Please book this with the office by Monday 9th March. We can't wait to celebrate with you!

**We Are So
Proud Of You**



Poppy in Year 3 has spent the last 2 weekends performing in the pantomime 'Puss in Boots' at Little Birch village hall. She was so brave and hardworking, doing 5 shows. She worked as a team with her friends to make sure they were all ready for their cues and they put on a great show. Poppy and the group helped raise over £800 for St Michael's Hospice. Well done Poppy our school family is super proud of you and your team!





A message from Mrs. Urding....

As we approach the holy season of Lent, our school family is getting ready for this special time of prayer, reflection, and kindness. Lent begins with Ash Wednesday, a day when Christians around the world receive ashes on their foreheads as a sign of repentance and a reminder that we are called to grow closer to God.

In school, we will be helping the children understand the meaning of Lent through age appropriate activities, class liturgies, and quiet moments of reflection. Together, we will focus on the three aspects of Lent, prayer, fasting and helping those in need encouraging the children to think about small sacrifices they can make, extra acts of kindness they can offer, and ways we can help those in need.

We will also discuss Shrove Tuesday, sometimes known as Pancake Day. Shrove Tuesday is a traditional time of preparation, when Christians would use up rich foods before the simple season of Lent began. We'll take this opportunity to teach the children about its meaning and how it connects to the journey we are about to begin.

As a school, we look forward to our 'Big Lent Walk' on the 20th March where together, we will be walking with faith, hope, and a renewed commitment to living out the love of Christ in our daily actions. We will take steps to raise money for those in need and raise awareness and support for others through our actions. It will be a wonderful opportunity for the children to unite in faith, kindness, and purpose as we continue our Lenten journey.





This week in Cooking Club, our young chefs got creative in the kitchen with two tasty and healthy recipes!

The children started by making some healthy oat flapjacks, packed with slow release energy and just the right amount of natural sweetness.

Next, the children made pinwheel pizzas. Using soft wraps and a variety of colourful toppings, they created their own mini pizza spirals. Well done everyone!



Dance Fit

with Tasha

Parents are invited to come along for the last 15 minutes of the club next week to watch the routines they have been working on!

Great work everybody!



LET'S
dance



**COMING
NEXT
WEEK**

St Joseph's
present



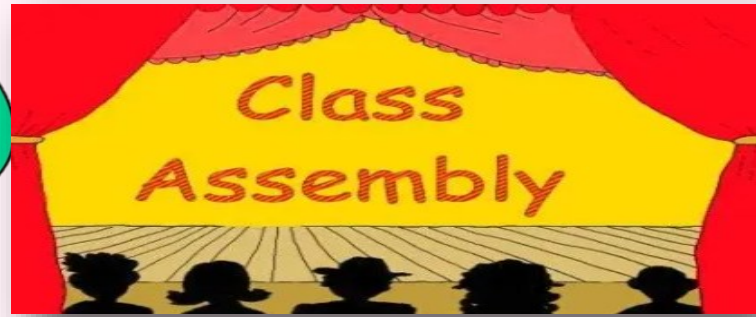
PETER PAN

Next Tuesday, 10th February at 6:00pm, our Key Stage 2 children will be taking to the stage at the Monmouth Savoy Theatre to perform Peter Pan Jr. They have worked incredibly hard in preparation for this production and are so excited to share their performance with you.

A huge thank you to all our families who have already purchased tickets to support our school community — we hope you enjoy the show. If you haven't yet bought tickets, there's still time. Please contact the school office.



Peter Pan JR.



Next Wednesday 11th February our Year 1 children will be performing their class assembly at 2:30pm in the school sports hall. We look forward to welcoming our year 1 parents to this event.



Our Valentine's Disco will take place next Thursday 12th February in the school sports hall.

Times:

- **Reception & Key Stage 1: 3:30pm – 4:30pm**
- **Key Stage 2: 5:00pm – 6:00pm**

Children may bring a change of clothes in a bag to change into after school. A snack box and drink will be provided for all children attending.

If you would like your child to take part, please email the school office to confirm their place. The cost will be £5.00, payable via Parent Pay

S M O O T H I E



Next Friday 13th February our School Council will be making and selling fresh fruit smoothies at break time. The smoothies will cost 50p each and all funds raised will go towards new playground equipment—skipping ropes, footballs and hula hoops!

Coming soon

Place2Be's

**CHILDREN'S
MENTAL HEALTH
WEEK**

**Monday 23rd — Friday 27th
February 2026!**

When we return after half term, we will be marking Children's Mental Health Week. Although this is a week later than the national dates, we feel it's a wonderful way to begin the new term with positivity and reflection.

This special week shines a spotlight on the importance of supporting children and young people's mental health and wellbeing. It encourages open conversations about feelings, emotions, and the ways we can care for ourselves and one another.

Throughout the week, children will take part in a variety of fun, thoughtful, and age appropriate activities designed to help them explore their emotions, build resilience, and develop healthy strategies for wellbeing.

These activities will be woven into everyday lessons and school life, giving pupils opportunities to talk, reflect, be creative, and support each other.

We believe that nurturing good mental health is just as vital as supporting physical health, and Children's Mental Health Week offers a meaningful chance to reinforce this message in a positive and supportive environment. We look forward to sharing this week with the children and helping them develop skills that will benefit their wellbeing now and in the future.

Thank you for your continued support.



GET READY



WORLD BOOK DAY 2026
IS ON THURSDAY 5TH
MARCH!

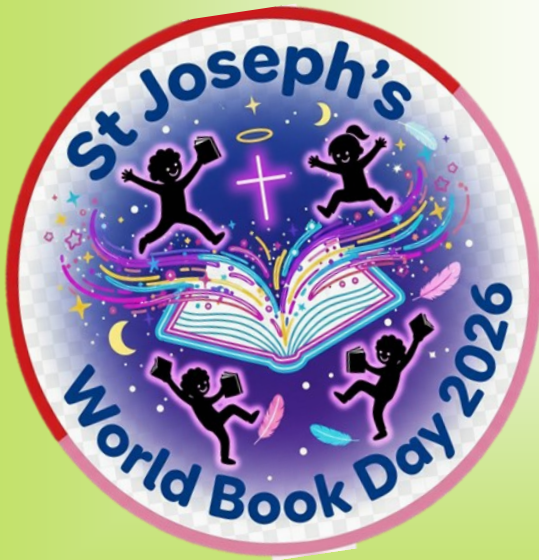
We are so excited to be celebrating this annual event here in school. On this day everyone is invited to come to school dressed as their favourite book character. We have so many exciting activities planned for this special day!

Here's one example of what we have planned ... a letter home will follow with lots more information.

On this day, all children are invited to take part in our

BOOK DAY BAKE OFF!

Children can decorate either one large cake or a batch of cupcakes on the theme of a particular book - there will be a prize for the winner and all cake entries will then be sold on a stall at the end of the school day.



LONDON 

London Residential for Year 4 families on **Thursday 5th March at 3:30pm in the Year 4 classroom.** We look forward to welcoming you and sharing the final details of this exciting adventure.

We will be holding a parent information meeting about our



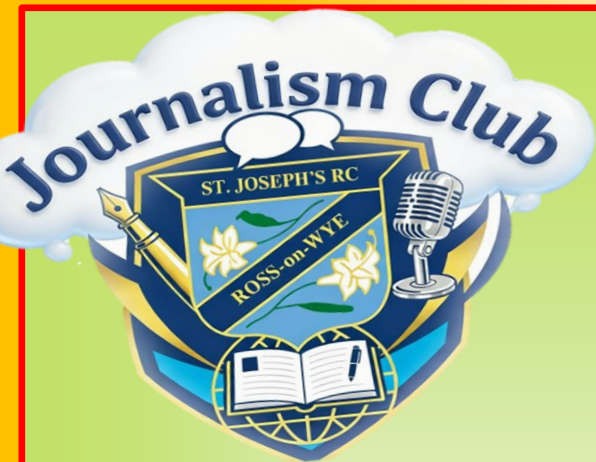
SPRING TERM

Tuesday 10th February	Peter Pan Jr @ The Monmouth Savoy Theatre 6:00pm
Wednesday 11th February	Year 1 Assembly
Thursday 12th February	Valentines Disco
Monday 16th – Friday 20th February	Half Term
Monday 23rd—Friday 27th February	Children’s Mental Health Week
Wednesday 5th March	Parent meeting @ 3:30pm- Year 4 Residential
Thursday 6th March	World Book Day
Wednesday 11th March	Reception Assembly
Thursday 12th March	Year 6 SATS Information meeting for parents @ 3:45pm
Tuesday 17th March	Parents Evening
Wednesday 18th March	Parents Evening
Tuesday 17th March	St Patrick’s Day
Wednesday 18th March	Year 5 Assembly
Thursday 19th March	St Joseph’s Feast Day— whole school Mass
Friday 20th March	Big Lent Walk
Monday 23rd March	Whole school Art Week
Monday 23rd March	County Primary Football Tournament— Hereford
Thursday 26th March	Year 3 Easter Performance @ 2:00pm
Friday 27th March	FSJ Bounceathon End of Spring Term



This week in Art Club, the children explored repeating patterns by designing and making their own stampers. Using old cardboard tubes and double-sided tape, they added foam shapes before rolling the stampers through ink and across receipt-roll paper. The process encouraged creativity, experimentation, and problem-solving, with fantastic patterned results. The children were fully engaged throughout, and best of all, the activity was proudly sustainable!





In journalism club this week, we have focused on the topic of 'mental health' in the lead up to 'Mental Health Week' next week..

St Joseph's School will be taking part in this special event during the week of the **23rd February**, with a range of activities focusing on looking after our mental health.

Abi, Year 5, has researched this important area and reports the following:

HEALTHY FOOD, HEALTHY MIND, HEALTHY EDUCATION

'Children's emotional, social and physical wellbeing affects how we think, feel and act.

Poor mental health may include: persistent sadness, anxiety, extreme mood swings, withdraw from activities and major changes in eating or sleeping habits. It directly impacts our overall physical health, emotions, behaviors and quality of life.

To help my mental health I do swimming, football, drama and I like singing and dancing. I also try to make sure I get my 5 a day'.

Bella, Year 3, advises, 'try to eat healthily every day, for example, eat 5 pieces of fruit or vegetables. We can support people by encouraging them by saying not to always eat chocolate! My mental health is helped by doing gymnastics, football and swimming because they make me strong and fit'.

Oliviia says, 'mental health is a person's emotional and mental wellbeing. To help my mental health I eat only healthy food, and I only eat unhealthy food on special occasions'.

Finally, Olcan adds, 'the symptoms of low mental health are: a lack of focus, feeling alone, feeling excessive hopelessness, a poor attitude, low energy, stomach aches and headaches. I protect my mental health by reading and doing the things I enjoy.'



We are really looking forward to celebrating, 'Mental Health Week' at St Joseph's School, and sharing with you all the important ways we can look after ourselves.

Reported by: Abi, Bella, Oliviia, Olcan and Miss Sprawson





Reception have been busy designing and making their own book-marks as part of their DT learning this term. The children have developed their fine motor skills through weaving and threading activities, before applying these skills to sewing. Sewing is a tricky skill that requires great concentration and perseverance, and the children have shown fantastic focus and determination. They should be very proud of the amazing bookmarks they have created!



ST JOSEPH'S PRIMARY SCHOOL



HALF TERM HOLIDAY

16TH TO 20TH FEBRUARY

Club

 admin@st-josephs.hereford.sch.uk

 01989 564655

Our half-term holiday club will be running from Monday 16th to Friday 20th February, and we have lots of exciting activities planned throughout the week.

Places are filling up quickly, so if you would like your child to attend, please email the school office to book a place.

We look forward to welcoming you!

CAN YOU HELP?



Help us to raise free funds as you shop online

Sign up

JOHN LEWIS

Booking.com

Argos

ebay

M&S

TESCO

JUST EAT

8,000+ online brands

The FSJ have signed up to a great website called Easyfundraising to help raise money for The Friends of St. Joseph's - simply by shopping online.

Easyfundraising turns your everyday online shopping into FREE donations when you use them to shop with over 8,000 retailers such as Morrisons, Sainsburys, Asda, Tesco, Argos, eBay, John Lewis & Partners, Argos, ASOS and Booking.com and lots more.

You can also raise money when shopping in store by linking your credit/debit card to your account.

Retailers then make a small donation to say 'thank you' and Easyfundraising gives those free funds to the FSJ.

Please register using this link – just click sign up -

https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/support-a-good-cause/step-1/?char=413876&invite=27VJ8X&referral-campaign=s2s&utm_campaign=web-referral

Plus, once you've raised your first donation, Easyfundraising will give The Friends of St. Joseph's a £1 bonus donation!

There's no catch or hidden charges and The Friends of St. Joseph's will be really grateful for your donations.

Parent Voice



Our next Parent Voice meeting will take place on Thursday 26th February at 2:00pm. If you would like to add any items to our agenda please contact your parent voice representative or email the school admin team.

We look forward to sharing the outcomes of our meeting with families.



We will be holding our Spring term Parents' Evenings on **Tuesday 17th and Wednesday 18th March 2026.**

You will receive an email when we return after the half term break inviting you to book your appointment via our online booking system.

On these days we have also invited our catering company to attend and so they can share with families some new dishes we are hoping to add to our school lunch menus in the summer term.

We look forward to welcoming you then.

WYE	78.75%
AMAZON	89%
DANUBE	97.3%
TIBER	96.47%
THAMES	93.57%
AVON	90.42%
SEINE	96.52%

Pot of Gold



Winners



We will be holding a SATs information afternoon for all of our Year 6 parents on **Thursday 12th March at 3:45pm.**

Please can all parents try to attend this meeting so that we can talk you through how the SATs week will run, what the children can expect, and how you can support them at home in the lead up to the tests.

Many thanks

Pot of Gold



Winners

Enjoy your weekend

God Bless

Mrs Francis

have a lovely Weekend