

St Joseph's Catholic Primary School



13.2.26

'Treat others the way you want to be treated'

Matthew 7:12

Dear Families,

As we reach the end of another successful half term, we are all looking forward to a well deserved rest before beginning our Lenten journey when we return, in the lead up to Easter.

There is so much to look forward to in the coming months, so please do make a note of the key dates on your calendar.

On Tuesday evening, we held our KS2 performance of Peter Pan Jr at the Monmouth Savoy Theatre. It was a truly spectacular production, and every one of our children shone on stage — we were incredibly proud of them.

A big thank you to our incredible Miss Steiner for leading this event from start to finish; it was an amazing achievement and a wonderful memory for us all to treasure. Thank you also to all the staff who supported both backstage and front of house. Your hard work, enthusiasm, and dedication to St Joseph's are truly appreciated.

Thank you also to all our families and friends who came along to watch the performance.

COMMUNITY GARDEN

This week, Reception had a wonderful trip to the Community Gardens, where the children enjoyed exploring the natural environment and taking part in the stickman trail. They had great fun following the trail around the gardens, working together to spot different stickman characters hidden along the way. Inspired by what they found, the children then created their very own stickmen to take home, using sticks and natural materials they discovered. A big thank you to Kris for organising such a lovely morning for us. The children had a fantastic time exploring, creating, and learning outdoors!




**OUTDOOR
LEARNING**
The Extended Classroom

Reception have been learning about Lunar New Year, exploring how it is celebrated around the world and discovering some of the special traditions linked to the festival. They talked about family celebrations, decorations, and symbols of good luck. To finish their learning, the children enjoyed making their own colourful lanterns, showing great creativity and care. It was a wonderful way to celebrate and learn about this important cultural event.



Year 1 Assembly Wonderful Weather!

St Joseph's

On Wednesday afternoon, our Year 1 class delighted us with a wonderful assembly all about their current Geography topic—weather. They shared their new learning with confidence, guiding us through the four seasons and the different weather conditions experienced across the UK.

Their singing was spectacular, and everyone thoroughly enjoyed the performance.

A big thank you to Mrs Urding and Year 1 for such a lovely afternoon.



ST. JOSEPH'S PRESENTS

Fiddler on the Roof Jr!

AUDITIONS RE-OPENED!

Dear Parents,

I am re-opening the audition list for our production of

Fiddler on the Roof Jr!

Auditions will take place during the week beginning
Monday 23rd February.

If your child is not yet on the list but has decided
that they would like to audition, please email the
school office if you need the audition materials.

Tradition! Talent! Teamwork!

We look forward to seeing all of the wonderful students take part!



Welcome to our Nursery



A message from Mrs Lerego....

The Seedlings had fun making their Valentines cards - sponge painting onto the stencil heart.

The Acorns and Oakleaves have been learning about Chinese new year - watching a video and finding the hidden zodiac animals in the red spaghetti.

We have loved exploring our new valentines 'Florist' role play area and the Oakleaves had a real treat at Forest school on Thursday - roasting marshmallows on the fire!

Star of the week: Elsie for showing kindness and empathy to children settling in.





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.





The Year 3 fundraiser has been a great success, and both Edith and Daisy, alongside their families and friends, have played a huge part in making this happen.

Together, the two families have raised an incredible £180 for 1 Dog at a Time Rescue UK. This is a phenomenal amount that will go a long way in supporting the charity and the wonderful work they do.



SPORTS COUNCIL

The Move-athon is Here!

This half-term, the Sports Council and Mr Mason are challenging every class to earn as many 'Move Points' as possible!

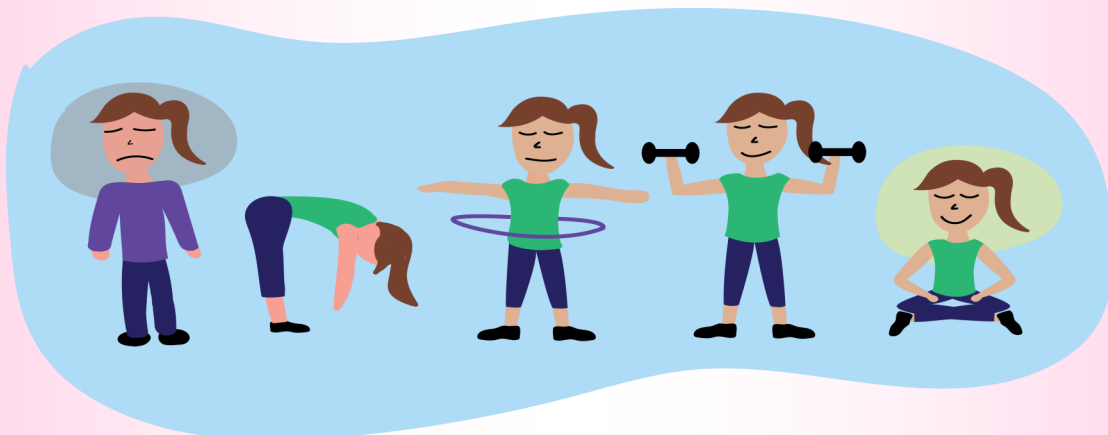
Each child will bring home an Activity Log to record their daily physical activity. Simply write down the type of activity completed and how long was spent being active. Points can be earned as follows:

- ☐ **Less than 30 minutes – 1 point**
- ☐ **30 minutes or more – 2 points**
- ☐ **60 minutes or more – 3 points**

Please remember to return completed Activity Logs to your class teacher after half-term. The Sports Council will collect and total the points, and the winning class will be announced in the first week back!

The class with the most Move Points will enjoy a special active reward with the Sports Council.

Good luck, Movers – let's get active!





Today our School Council members did a brilliant job making fresh fruit smoothies with Mr. Smith to sell at break time. Every member of the team worked fantastically, and their hard work paid off with plenty of happy customers. It was a wonderful way to end the week and a great boost to our healthy eating initiative too!



Dance Fit

with Tasha

The children did a great job this week showcasing their new routines to their families! Great work everyone and we look forward to starting again after half term!



St Joseph's
present



PETER PAN

On Tuesday evening, our Key Stage 2 children lit up the stage at the Monmouth Savoy with their incredible performance of Peter Pan Jr. From the very first moment to the final bow, the show was nothing short of magical. Their hard work and dedication over the past six months shone through in every scene, and each and every one of them was a true superstar. We couldn't be prouder of what they achieved.

A heartfelt thank you goes to Miss Steiner, whose tireless commitment and countless hours behind the scenes make these wonderful productions possible.





Off to Neverland!













Both Key Stage 1 and 2 enjoyed dancing the afternoon away on Thursday at their Valentines Disco—organized by our wonderful FSJ! Everyone had a fabulous time and it was a great way to end another great half term!









Coming Soon

Place2Be's

**CHILDREN'S
MENTAL HEALTH
WEEK**

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

What's
the
plan?

When we return after the half term break we will be holding 'Children's Mental Health Week' at St. Joseph's!

We have lots of wonderful activities planned for the week...

On **MONDAY**, all of the children will be working in their classes to produce their own contributions towards a whole school display. This display will focus on the fact that we all have our own special, safe spaces but that we all belong in the town of Ross-on-Wye.

On **TUESDAY**, we will have a wonderful carousel of wellbeing activities! The children will move around the classroom throughout the day, spending time with each teacher and focusing on a different element of positive mental health and wellbeing. In the Reception classroom, children can enjoy a pamper spa; in the Year 1 classroom, children will get to play with calming sensory playdough; in the Year 2 classroom, children will take part in a special music-based activity; in the Year 3 classroom, children will join in with a fabulous dance session; in the Year 4 classroom, children will relax with some yoga; in the Year 5 classroom, children will enjoy a quiet, rhythmic craft activity and in the Year 6 classroom, the children will get to try out some mindfulness art.

On **WEDNESDAY** and **FRIDAY**, children will work with their class teachers to focus on their own bespoke Self Care Plans.

On **THURSDAY**, each of the classes will be visited by the wonderful Miss Sarah and have the opportunity to create a beautiful piece of very special art.

It promises to be a wonderful week, designed carefully to help our children to know and recognise all the many things that they can do to support good mental health and wellbeing, now and throughout their lives.





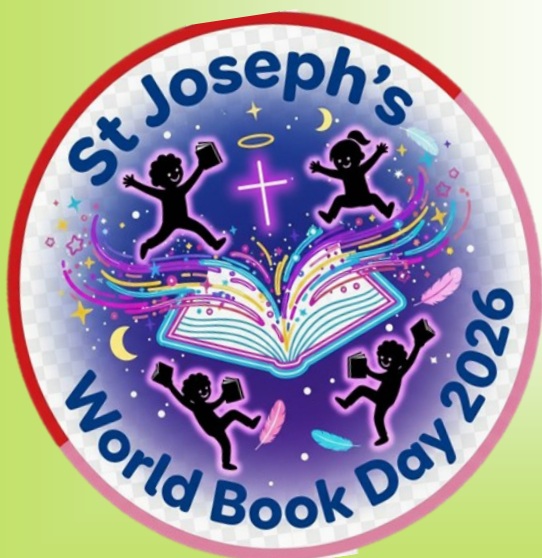
On Friday 27th February, our KS2 children will be taking part in the Young Voices schools' choir event. They have shown great enthusiasm and have worked extremely hard in preparation for this occasion. We look forward to hearing all about their experience and celebrating this special event with them.

**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.

Coming Soon



Calling all **EYFS** 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 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.



We will be holding a parent information meeting about our 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.



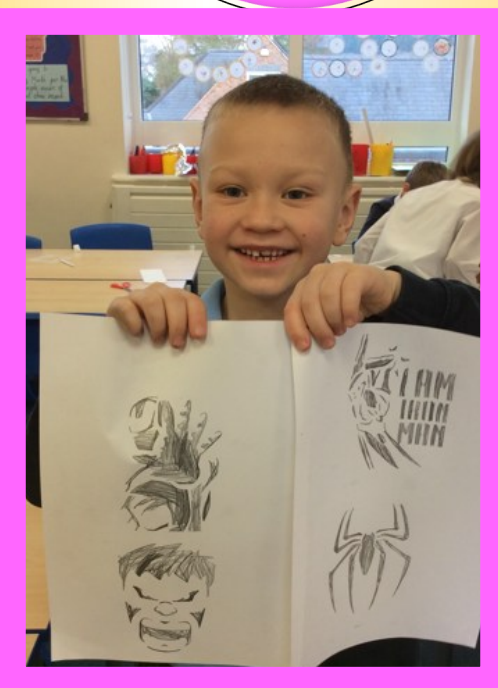
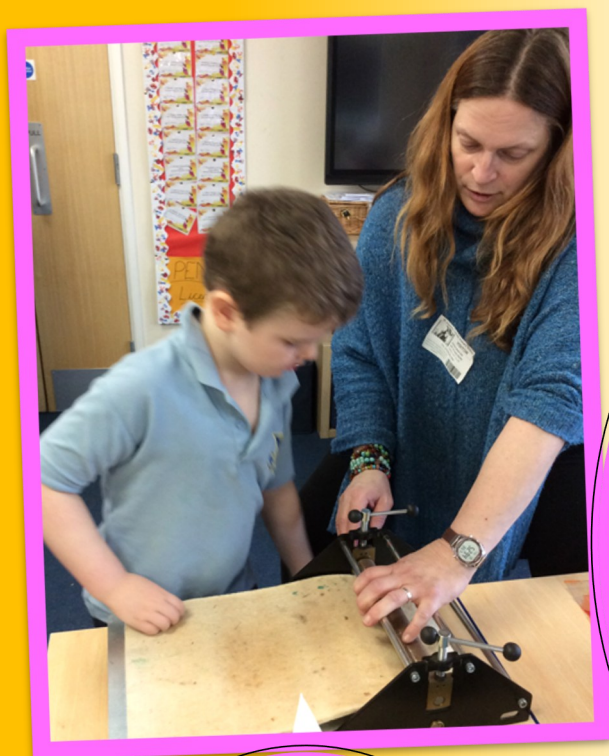
St Joseph's will be taking part in CAFOD's Big Lent Walk again this year, and we are excited to share that our walk will take us out into our local community around Ross-on-Wye, including a route through Chase Woods. This will be a wonderful opportunity for the children to enjoy God's creation on their doorstep, to spend time walking together, and to reflect on those around the world who have to walk long distances each day for water, food or safety. Further details, including dates, consent arrangements and information about sponsorship for CAFOD, will be sent out shortly. Thank you for your support in helping our children live out the values of generosity, kindness and justice this Lent.

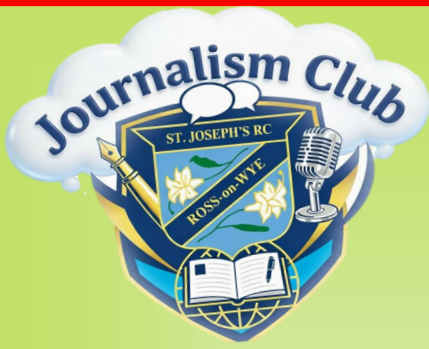
SPRING TERM

Monday 23rd—Friday 27th February	Children's Mental Health Week
Friday 27th February	Young Voices
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



Art Club has been full of creativity this week! The children had a fantastic time exploring printmaking, designing their own unique creations and using a pressing machine with special inks to bring their ideas to life. They carefully printed their designs onto cards, experimenting with colours, patterns and textures. There was lots of imagination on display, including some beautiful Valentine's-themed cards. Well done to all our young artists for their wonderful work!





PETER PAN



**On Tuesday, 10th February children from KS2
performed in the musical version of Peter Pan**

JR in the Savoy Theatre in Monmouth.

Abi reports, 'we sold over 200 tickets! It was very exciting and everyone was so good with the acting and super quick changing. And all of the people that were new to acting were incredible!

A great thanks to Miss Steiner for the excellent directing and putting all the effort in, Hilary for the great make up and hair and for everyone who helped with the props, costumes and lights and sound tracks. I played LIZA who is the darlings maid, and a pirate. My favourite part was when Captain Hook (Ned) ran to the front of the stage and fainted with his head flat on the floor.

Peter Pan is a story about a boy from a far away world, trying to find a shadow. The children in the house wake up and Peter takes them on a journey to Neverland. Peter rescues the children from the pirates and then takes them back home.'

Bella adds that, 'we did a lot of practice over and over again and when the curtains opened I was very scared and nervous. My favourite part was when I stepped on Abby's foot! I was the little brave girl and I loved it so much!'

Oliviia adds, 'it was fabulous! I was a pirate and my favorite part was when Ned told the pirates to look where the lost boys lived and when Ned and Harrison pulled the mushroom out and there was a chimney!'



Finally, Olcan reports that, 'the excitement was on the verge of exploding! Honestly, there cannot be a best part in the entire show as it was all fantastic!'



On Wednesday afternoon, some of our Year 6 children attended a netball tournament hosted at Ashfield Park Primary. They all demonstrated fantastic courage, resilience, teamwork and skill. Thank you to everyone who ensured this tournament went smoothly, especially the staff at Ashfield, it was a fantastic afternoon.



IMPORTANT INFORMATION

At St Joseph's, we take great pride in looking our best every day. Our school uniform is an important part of who we are – it shows that we belong to a community that values respect, effort, and pride in our appearance.

We ask all pupils to please wear the correct uniform each day, ensuring shirts are tucked in, shoes are clean, and jumpers or cardigans display our school logo clearly. Hair should be tidy, and no trainers please. By following these simple expectations, we all help to maintain the high standards that make St Joseph's shine.

When we look smart, we feel confident – and we represent our school as true St Joseph's ambassadors, both in and out of the classroom. Let's keep up the great work and continue to make a positive impression wherever we go! Thank you for your continued support.



WYE	94.96%
AMAZON	94%
DANUBE	98.33%
TIBER	99.12%
THAMES	97%
AVON	96.67%
SEINE	96.96%



Congratulations to our children who were chosen for the Table of Awesomeness this week by our lunchtime teachers. We are super proud of you all! A big thank you to Mrs. Bennett and Mrs. French for organising this special event!

As part of our Healthy Schools initiative, we're working hard to create a school environment where children can thrive—healthy bodies, healthy minds, and happy learners. A key part of this is supporting good hydration throughout the day, because choosing water instead of sugary drinks helps to reduce sugar intake and supports children's health and wellbeing.



Healthy hydration at school

To support this, we are a water-only school during the school day. This means children should bring a named bottle filled with plain water only—please do not send squash, juice, flavoured water or fizzy drinks. Parents may choose to add pieces of fresh fruit (for example slices of lemon, orange or berries) to their child's water bottle to add a little natural flavour.

Why we're doing this

Many drinks marketed for children can still contain added sugar, sweeteners, acids and flavourings, which can contribute to tooth decay and other preventable health problems over time. Choosing water helps children build healthy habits and keeps the school day focused on learning.

How does this work in practice?

Children have regular opportunities to drink water during the day, and we'll continue to encourage them to keep their water bottles topped up. Thank you for your support. We really appreciate your help in making this a consistent message for all children. If your child has a medical need that affects what they can drink, please contact the school office so we can support you.

Prayer for the Holidays

Dear God, Thank you for this term at school and for all we have learned together. Please keep us and our families safe during the holidays and help us to make good choices and show kindness to others. Bring us back to school rested, refreshed and ready to learn, grow and follow Jesus. Amen.



Have a great half term break!

We look forward to welcoming everyone back to school on Monday 23rd February.

God Bless

Mrs Francis

**FEBRUARY
HALF TERM**