



St Joseph's Catholic Primary School

27.2.26

'Treat others the way you want to be treated'

Matthew 7:12

Dear Families,

We've had a fantastic first week back, celebrating Children's Mental Health Week! The classes have enjoyed so many different activities to support and develop a healthy mindset. The staff have worked really hard to provide opportunities for our children to try a wide variety of new experiences including spa treatments, yoga, water colour painting and sensory activities.

We also really enjoyed welcoming Sarah in on Thursday for our Art Day, where the children not only enjoyed learning new creative techniques but also produced some wonderful completed pieces of art which they were really proud of!

Today some of our Key Stage 2 children will be venturing to Birmingham to take part in the annual Young Voices School Choir Concert, which will be as always an amazing experience and a fantastic way to end mental health week, with a shared and uplifting experience!

We are now in the season of Lent, leading up to the most important time in our Church's liturgical calendar. Over the next few weeks the children will be exploring what the Lenten journey means to them, culminating in our school Big Lent Walk on Friday 20th March. As always this half term promises to be full of fun and new opportunities.

*The
Journey
of Lent*



Place2Be's

CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH WEEK

We've had a fantastic week celebrating Children's Mental Health Week!

Each day, the children explored a new aspect of staying positive and looking after their wellbeing through developing a positive mindset.

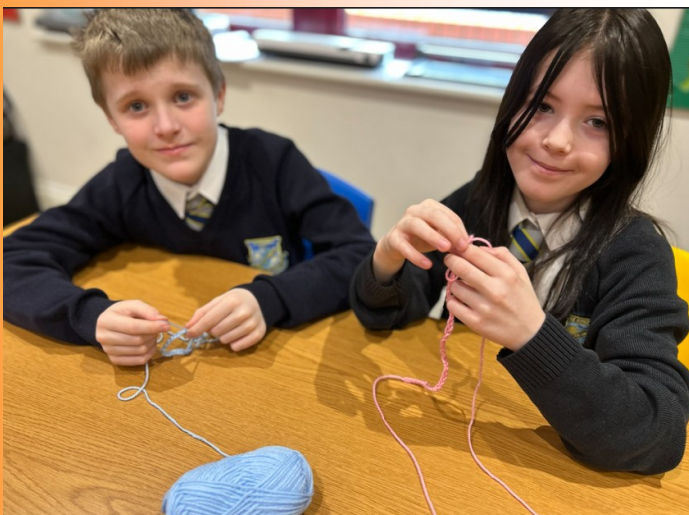
They loved collaborating with their peers, supporting one another, and discovering different ways to stay mentally healthy. Activities included mindfulness exercises, creative arts and crafts, and plenty of physical movement.

It truly was a wonderful and uplifting week for everyone!













Art Day with Sarah

As part of Children's Mental Health Week, on Thursday we were delighted to welcome Sarah from The Art Studio Ross into school to lead art workshops with every class.

The children explored how art can support our mental health — helping us to express feelings, relax, build confidence and enjoy a mindful moment in a busy week. It was such a lovely, calm activity, and the classrooms were filled with creativity and thoughtful concentration.

We were so proud of the children's enthusiasm and the beautiful work they produced. Keep your eyes peeled for the finished results at Parents' Evening — we can't wait for you to see them!







Welcome to our Nursery



A message from Mrs Lerego....

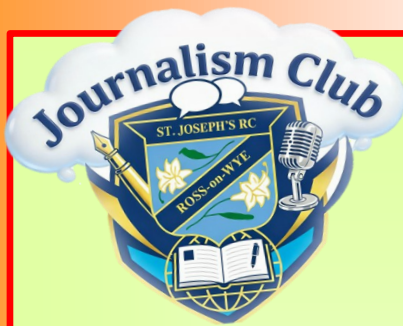
We all loved our art session this week with Sarah - using fresh flowers for inspiration to create some lovely pictures!

The Seedlings loved finding the hidden ducks in the shaving foam and the Acorns have been planting beans in the compost.

The Oakleaves enjoyed their forest school session this week - cooking pancakes on the fire!

STAR OF THE WEEK- Samuel for taking part in a messy painting activity.





In this week's journalism club we have been focusing on our school's Mental Health Week. Throughout the week all the children have been taking part in a number of wellbeing activities, which we have loved doing!

Abi, Year 5, and Viktor, Year 4 report the following:

On Tuesday, all of the classes took part in a carousel of activities. The activities were a spa in reception, making playdough in Year 1, listening to music while drawing the sounds that we hear in Year 2, dance routines in Year 3, calming yoga in Year 4, finger knitting in Year 5 and water colouring in Year 6.

In Reception class they had a really calm spa activity where we could paint our nails, do glitter tattoos, foot spas and face masks with cucumbers on our eyes! Abigail's favourite activity was finger knitting in Year 5 with Miss Steiner which was really calm but also fun.



Viktor's favourite activity was the spa in reception class. On Monday in our classes we made some pictures which will go in a main school display showing our community of Ross-On-Wye.

For instance, in Year 3 and 4 we made leaves, in Year 5 we created decorative windows and in Year 2

we made flowers.

The theme for this year's mental health is My Happy Place and in Year 5 we made posters for a display board about where our happy place is.

On Wednesday, in Year 5 we had fun in Forest School! We made candles, built a base and toasted marshmallows which was great fun!

Olivia, Year 3, and Defne, Year 4, reported that we took part in a number of fun activities. We went to each classroom and Defne's favorite was in Year 1 where we had flour, oil, food coloring, salt and vanilla to make playdough. Mental health helps us to breathe and stay calm.

Olcan adds that Mental health is a state of mind where you feel happy or calm or relaxed. We can look after our mental health by doing the physical things we enjoy.



Reported by: Abi, Olivia, Viktor, Daphne, Olcan and Miss Sprawson



During half term, Alice had the idea (inspired by her wellbeing warrior selection) to spread a bit of kindness by designing and making some positivity stickers for her classmates to mark the beginning of children's mental health awareness week. She also made some for school staff too to leave in the staff room for them!



We love it when our children share their experiences from outside school and it was fantastic to see these photographs that Freddie shared this week of him caring for his animals.





This week in Cookery Club, the children rolled up their sleeves and created a delicious batch of savoury muffins! Using whisked eggs, milk, ham, peppers, olives, and cheese, the children experimented with flavours, textures, and basic kitchen skills. They worked brilliantly as a team, practising safe chopping techniques, and learning how different ingredients contribute to the final bake. Well done everyone for making such tasty treats.





Our Reception children had a fantastic afternoon with Mrs Bennett on Thursday, making pancakes at Forest School! They absolutely loved being outdoors and learning how to cook pancakes over an open fire—while keeping safe at all times. It was a wonderful hands-on experience that they'll certainly remember!





GREAT WORK!

Congratulations to our school council who raised £55 making and selling their fresh fruit smoothies on the playground before half term! We look forward to their toy sale in a few weeks time. Hopefully, we can each our target of £200 for new playground equipment– ready for the summer term!



During Forest School this week, our Year 5 children had a fantastic time making their own candles! They also set up their own campfire and enjoyed toasting marshmallows to make delicious s'mores.

They are working hard with Mrs Bennett and Roy to spruce up our designated Forest School area — watch this space!





WE NEED
YOUR HELP



SWIMMING LESSONS £2.50

Assessment Required

- Small class sizes
- Age 4 +
- Flexible Schedules
- Affordable Price



SCAN HERE

30TH MARCH - 8TH
APRIL 2026

ENQUIRE NOW

📞 01600 714381

📍 MSSC Hadnock Rd, NP25 3NG

SWIMMING CRASH COURSE



**Book
Now**



SCAN TO BOOK

Course 1: 30th March – 2nd April
Course 2: 7th April – 10th April

Mornings
9:45am - 10:15am & 10:15am - 10:45am

Ages 4+

To book your FREE swim assessment
please contact us at



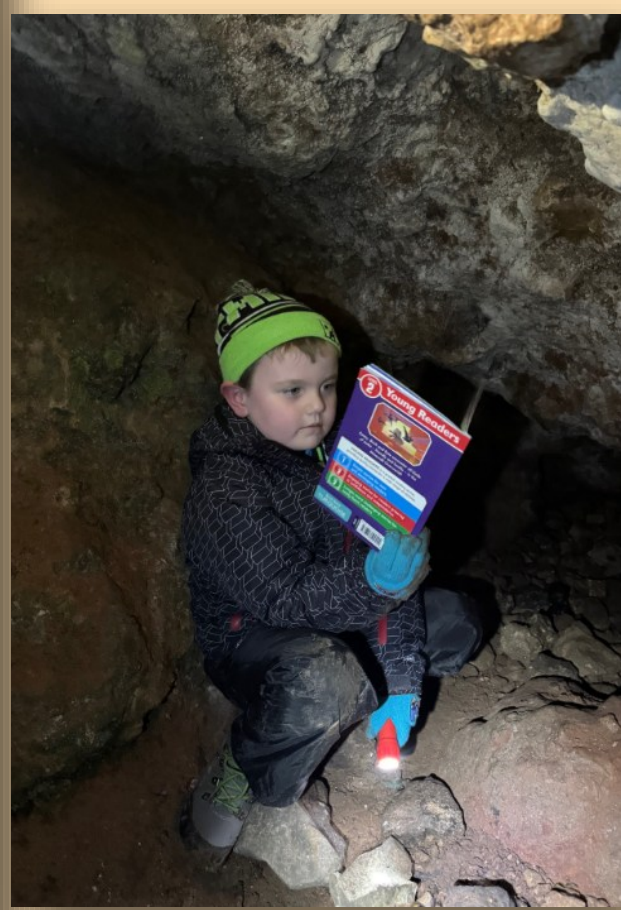
Monmouth School
SPORTS CLUB

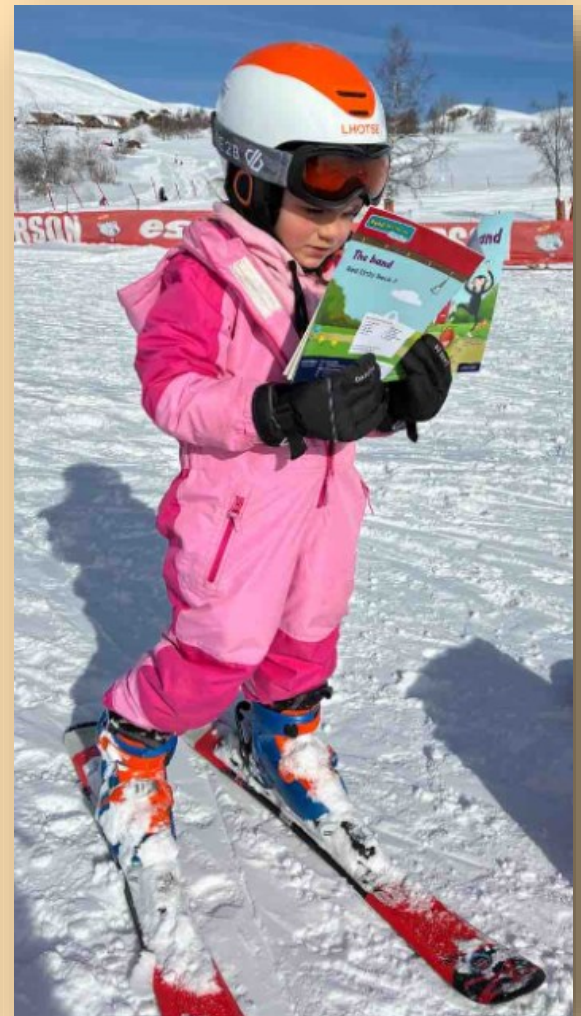
sportsclub@habsmonmouth.org
01600 714 381



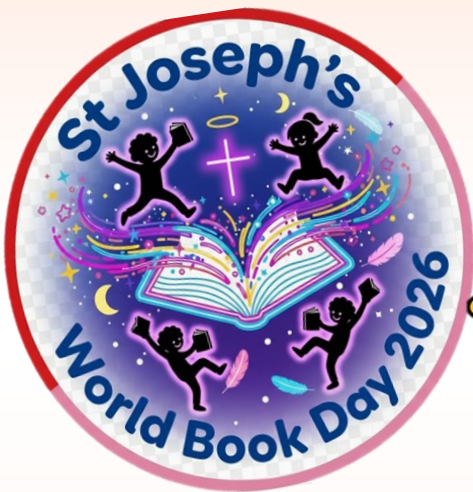
Miles, Bella, Reeva and Alice have certainly set the standard with their Extreme Reading Challenge entries! Well done to all three of them for reading in such adventurous and unusual places!

We can't wait to see even more photos of our children enjoying their books in the most extreme and imaginative locations!





Get Ready For Next Week!



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.



Our brilliant FSJ team will be selling Wonka chocolate bars for £2.00 each on the playground after school next Thursday, 5th March, to celebrate World Book Day!

There will be four lucky golden tickets hidden inside... will you find one?



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.

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.**

On Monday you will receive an email 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 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, have been sent out today. Thank you for your support in helping our children live out the values of generosity, kindness and justice this Lent.

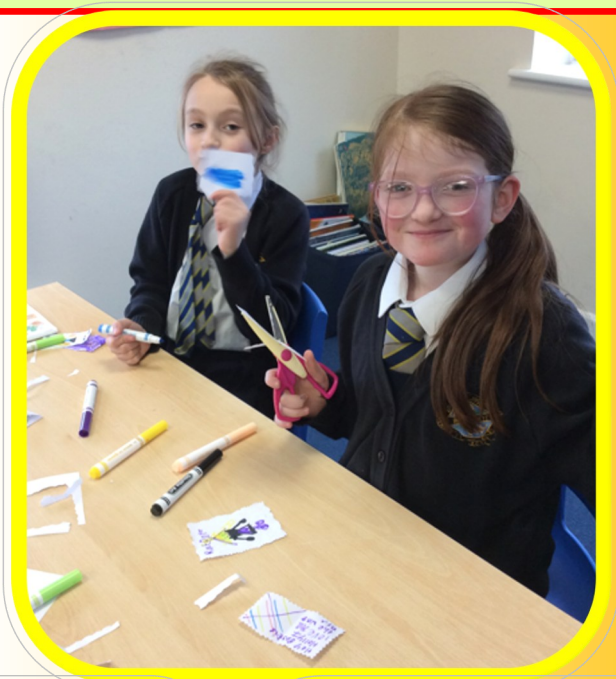
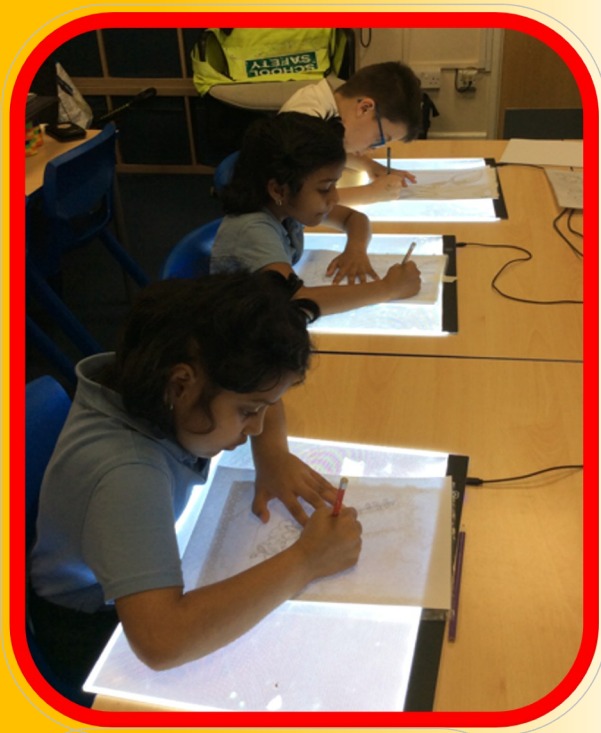
SPRING TERM

Wednesday 5th March	Parent meeting @ 3:30pm- Year 4 Residential
Thursday 5th 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, we linked our session to Children's Mental Health Week, focusing on creativity as a way to relax, express ourselves, and unwind. The children enjoyed a range of our favourite calming activities, including light box tracing, designing and creating their own stamps, observational drawing of flowers, and even having a go at finger knitting.

It was a lovely, chilled session with music playing in the background, giving everyone the chance to slow down and enjoy the process of making. The children had a wonderful time exploring different materials and techniques, and it was fantastic to see so much creativity and calm concentration around the room.





A message from Miss Steiner...

An enormous thank you to all of the Key Stage 2 children who have come to audition for me this week! It is clear that so many of you have put such a lot of time and consideration into preparing your audition and I feel so proud of you all. I was shown a wonderful array of talent and enthusiasm which promises to make 'Fiddler on the Roof' a truly excellent production. I have now cast the play and am excited to share all the details with the children at our first rehearsal on **Tuesday 3rd March at 3.30pm, in my classroom.**

All of the children who auditioned for the play will be given a role and they should all attend the first rehearsal on Tuesday. On that day, I will give out scripts and also a detailed rehearsal schedule showing the sessions that your child will be required to attend. I will also send home a 'contract' to be signed and returned, please. This confirms that your child can commit to attending the sessions that are necessary for their role in the play.

'Fiddler on the Roof' is a really beautiful musical with many exciting opportunities for all performers. Not every child can have a lead role, but every single child will play a vital part in telling the story and will also have the opportunity to practise and learn skills that will better prepare them for bigger roles in the future, if they would like them.

Thank you again to all the children (and family members!) who worked so hard to prepare for the auditions. Watch this space (and our social media) for all the exciting details of the production as it begins to unfold...

**WE NEED
YOUR
SUPPORT!**



**HELP US FUNDRAISE
FOR OUR SCHOOL!**

The easiest way to support The Friends Of St Josephs - Ross on Wye is to sign up to easyfundraising! It's simple, shop with 8,000+ online retailers and we'll receive a free donation.

This month only, with their Free £2 App-eal, if you register to support them via their app, they'll get £2!

Please get the app now and choose to support The Friends Of St Josephs - Ross on Wye once installed:

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/easyfundraising-app?>



Ending soon

Don't miss out on bonus donations!





Wishing all our February birthdays a very happy day, celebrating with family and friends!



WORLD BOOK DAY AT ROSS COURT

Help Our Residents Choose Their Top 3 Costumes!

Calling All Local Schools, Families & Community Members!

Join our **WORLD BOOK DAY CELEBRATION!**

Dress up as your favourite book character & parade for our residents!

Costume Showcase: | Location: Ross Court Care Home

Winner to be announced **SATURDAY 7th MARCH!**

Top 3 will be invited to come and say hello to our residents and pick up your prize!

To Enter: Enter your best photos on our Facebook page!

Entries open until **FRIDAY 6th MARCH!**

We can't wait to see your amazing characters!

WYE	88.26%
AMAZON	98%
DANUBE	96.67%
TIBER	99.12%
THAMES	98.12%
AVON	99.17%
SEINE	97.9%



On Thursday, we held our half-termly Parent Voice meeting. It was a productive session that allowed us to gather valuable and constructive feedback from our class representatives. Please visit the parent voice page on the website to view the summary of the meeting.

***“Lord Jesus,
this Lent I want to walk with you.
Help me to listen to you in my
heart,
to choose kindness instead of
selfishness,
to say sorry when I do wrong,
and to forgive like you forgive
me.
Teach me to share with others,
to pray for people who are sad
or lonely,
and to love God with all my
heart.***



Congratulations to Miss Edwards-Knowles, our Deputy Nursery Manager, for successfully achieving her Level 4 Certificate for the Early Years Advanced Practitioner. We are all super proud of your achievement and hard work!

Have a great weekend!

God Bless

Mrs Francis

