

St Joseph's Catholic Primary School

'Treat others the way you want to be treated'

Matthew 7:12

8.5.26

Dear Families,

It's been a busy and exciting four-day week in school, filled with focus and energy. Our Year 6 pupils have been preparing for their SATs, and we are so impressed by their determination, resilience, and calm approach. They are working incredibly hard, and the whole school community will be cheering them on as they head into SATSs week next week.

The rest of the school was buzzing too. A particular highlight was the Year 2 trip to Eastnor Pottery, where pupils had the chance to get hands-on with clay, explore their creativity, and bring home some wonderfully unique creations. It was a joy to see how much they gained from such an enriching experience.

As a school, we were also reflecting on the build-up to Pentecost, a time in our Christian calendar that celebrates the coming of the Holy Spirit and the courage it inspires. In assemblies and class discussions, pupils were reminded of the themes of hope, guidance, and togetherness, and how these values shape the way we learn and support one another.

With so much happening in just four days, the week was full of learning, laughter, and memorable moments — a lovely reminder of how vibrant our school community is.



Year 5 had a fantastic time at Forest School this week!

The session was packed with fun, exploration, and hands-on learning. The children really impressed us with their focus and determination as they developed their fine motor skills through careful drilling techniques. Using these new skills, they created their very own keepsakes to take home. We ended the session with delicious hot chocolate and roasted marshmallows! Thank you Mrs. Bennett for all your hard work preparing this fantastic session!





Welcome to our Nursery



It's been all about Minibeasts this week in Nursery!
We have been reading 'What the ladybird heard' and taking part in lots of Mini beast activities - digging them out of Ice, making symmetrical ladybirds, going on mini beast hunts and searching for bugs in shaving foam!





This week in Cooking Club, the children had a fantastic time making chicken stir fry. They learned how to safely prepare vegetables, practising their chopping skills with peppers, carrots and beans, and talking about how colourful ingredients help make a healthy, balanced meal.

Once everything was prepared, the vegetables were stir-fried and mixed together with the cooked noodles and chicken. The children were delighted to see how quickly the dish came together and how the ingredients changed as they cooked.





This week in Art Club, the children began by decorating the front covers of their own sketchbooks. They chose their colours, patterns, and themes, making each one wonderfully unique.

They then tried some still life drawing, using real flowers as their inspiration. The children looked closely at shapes and details and produced some lovely, thoughtful sketches. A calm and creative session all round.





A message from Mrs. Bennett...

The children enjoyed doing some planting this week at forest school, They also explored the area looking for bugs and insects, lifting logs and leaves to discover worms, beetles, and millipedes It was a fun way to learn about nature and different habitats.

We finished off by having some delicious s'mores around the fire!





A message from Miss Sprawson...

This week at Running Club, our pupils from St Joseph's R C Primary School took on their second run along the Town and Country Trail—and what a fantastic effort it was!

Our training is becoming progressively more challenging, but the children rose to the occasion with determination and resilience. Mrs. Hodges and I were incredibly impressed by everyone's positive attitude and perseverance throughout the session.

We're so proud of the effort shown by all, and we're already looking forward to seeing what next week's run will bring. Keep it up, everyone!





On Wednesday, Danube Class enjoyed an exciting and creative visit to Eastnor Pottery as part of our art learning. This trip linked closely to our recent art lessons, where we have been exploring how to work with clay, including shaping different forms and learning techniques to join pieces together.

During the visit, we had the opportunity to put our skills into practice by designing and making our own terracotta cottages. Everyone showed fantastic creativity, carefully shaping their clay and adding unique details to their designs.

Our creations have now been placed in the kiln, where they are being fired to become strong, finished pieces of art. We are all very excited to see the final results and can't wait to bring them home to share with our families.

Well done, Danube Class, for your enthusiasm and brilliant artistic efforts!





GET
CREATIVE



Next Week!

**Year 6
SATs**

Next week, commencing Monday 11th May,

it is SATs week and we would like to remind our year 6 families of the arrangements, to help ensure the children feel calm, confident and ready to do their very best.

All Year 6 children are asked to arrive at school by 8:00am each morning. Upon arrival, they should come straight into the classroom, where staff will be there to welcome them and help them settle.

To give the children a positive and relaxed start to each day, we will be providing a free breakfast each morning:

We know that SATs can feel like a big moment, so children are welcome to bring a small comfort mascot to keep under their table during the tests if they wish.

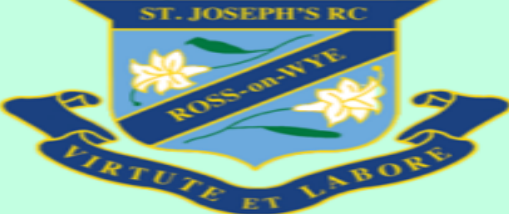
We are incredibly proud of how hard the children have been working in preparation for SATs. Their effort, determination and positive attitude have been fantastic to see. After SATs week, we have lots of exciting activities and events planned to celebrate all of their hard work and to make the most of their final term in Year 6.

Thank you for your continued support—we are looking forward to a successful and positive week for all.



Next Friday, 15th May, we will gather on the school field with Father Nick for our May Procession in honour of Our Lady. During this month dedicated to the Blessed Virgin Mary, we will come together in prayer and devotion, asking for her loving intercession for our school and families.

We kindly invite each child to bring a flower to offer to Mary during the procession.



Limited Spaces Available!

St. Joseph's

MAY HALF TERM

Holiday

CLUB

BOOK NOW!

TUESDAY 26TH – FRIDAY 29TH MAY



IMPORTANT NOTICE

A reminder that any holidays taken during term time will be recorded as unauthorised.

We have made every effort to support families by structuring the school year to complete the required 190 school days while breaking up earlier than many other schools. This approach is intended to provide opportunities for families to access more affordable holiday options outside of term time.

Under the Department for Education (DfE) attendance guidance and the national framework introduced in August 2024, there are strict legal rules regarding unauthorised absences:

- A maximum of two penalty notices may be issued to the same parent for the same child within a rolling three-year period.
- If a third unauthorised holiday or period of absence occurs within that three-year timeframe, the case may be referred directly for prosecution under Section 444 of the Education Act 1996.

Please note that this is a legal requirement, not a school policy.



What a joy to be out in the garden this week! We got straight to work designing and planting hanging baskets. We loved learning all the tricks and tips from Roy on leaning the plants on their side so they trellis down beautifully. Sprinkling pallets in the soil will help them retain their water. Every plant was balanced by either planting the same or similar size on the opposite side. We also planted sweet peas in our Reception garden, we remembered how delicious last year's were! We can't wait to try this year's crops in a couple of months!





I ♥ GARDENING





Keeping Healthy

As part of our continued commitment to becoming a healthier school, we are encouraging all children to make healthy choices at lunchtime. **We kindly remind families that biscuits, chocolate, sweets and cake should not be included in packed lunches.**

Providing children with healthy, balanced lunches helps to support their wellbeing, concentration and learning throughout the school day. We appreciate your support in helping us to promote healthy habits for all of our pupils.

Fun "pick and mix" lunchbox



Mini chicken or cheese quesadillas

- Toast a folded tortilla with grated cheese and either cooked chicken or beans inside, then cut into triangles for dippers.

Rainbow veg and dip

- Carrot sticks, cucumber, red/yellow pepper and baby corn with a small pot of yoghurt -herb dip
- Fruit kebabs
- Thread grapes, strawberries, kiwi and melon onto cocktail sticks or reusable skewers to make bright fruit "lollies".

Crunchy extras

A handful of pretzels, crackers or popcorn in a separate compartment for texture and fun.

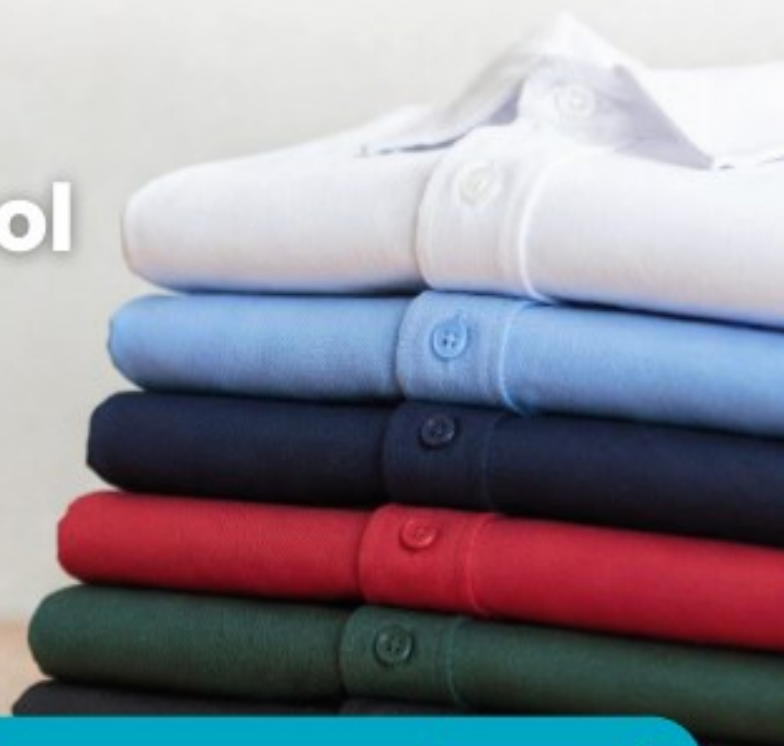
St Joseph's RC

Primary School

Uniform



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Uniform
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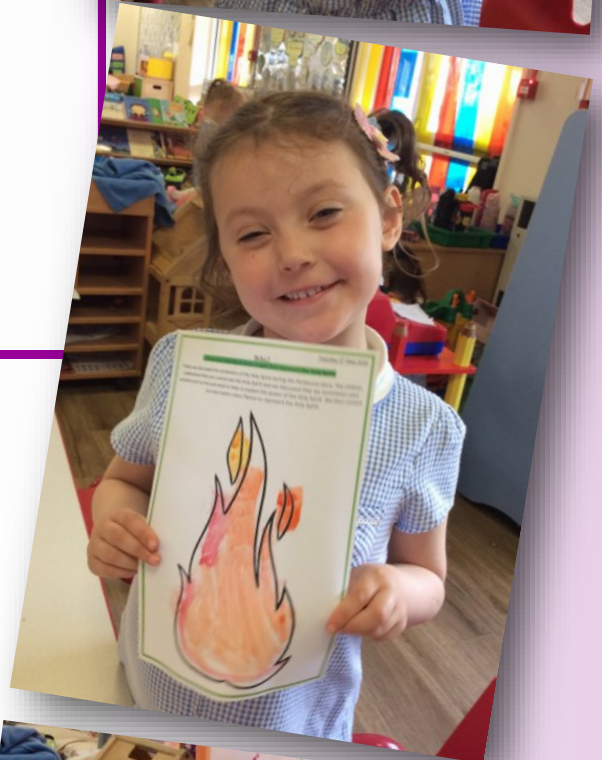


Summer Term Begins

Monday 11th – Thursday 14th May	Year 6 SATs Week
Monday 18th May	Class photos and leavers photos
Tuesday 19th May	New Reception Class visiting 10am – 1:00pm
Tuesday 19th May	Road Safety Training years 3 and 6
Wednesday 20th – Friday 22nd May	Year 4 London Residential
Thursday 21st May	Reception Class visit Noah's Ark Farm
Friday 22nd May	Non uniform Day – donations for Summer Fayre
Friday 22nd May	Break up for Half term
Tuesday 2nd June	Year 3 visit Community Gardens

Friday 5th June	Summer Fayre
Monday 8th June	Year 1 phonics screening check
Monday 8th June	Year 6 Art Project
Tuesday 9th June	New Reception Class visiting 10am – 1:00pm
Thursday 11th June	Nursery Sports Day
Friday 12th June	Sports Day
Thursday 18th June	Year 3/ Cricket Festival
Thursday 18th June	Matilda the Musical—Bristol Hippodrome
Friday 19th June	Whole school Summer Music Concert
Monday 22nd June	Year 5/6 Cricket festival
Tuesday 23rd – Friday 26th June	Year 5 and 6 Residential to Disneyland Paris
Wednesday 24th June	Year 1 trip to Cattle Country
Tuesday 30th June	New Reception class family picnic @ 1:30pm
Thursday 2nd July	Future Naturalists Day
Friday 3rd July	Reserve Sports Day
Monday 6th July	Dress rehearsal for Fiddler on the Roof performance – Monmouth Savoy
Tuesday 7th July	Fiddler on the Roof performance – Monmouth Savoy 6pm
Thursday 9th July	Year 6 Leavers Mass
Friday 10th July	Nursery Graduation
Friday 10th July	Year 6 Surprise Trip!
Monday 13th July	Whole school Colour Run
Tuesday 14th July	Year 6 Leavers Assembly
Tuesday 14th July	End of Summer Term

This week in RE, Reception explored the symbolism of the Holy Spirit in the Pentecost story, learning that although the Holy Spirit cannot be seen, its presence is often represented through powerful symbols like fire and wind. After our discussion, the class created beautiful watercolour flame paintings to reflect the Holy Spirit appearing above the disciples' heads after Jesus ascended into heaven.



WYE	95.38%
AMAZON	82.99%
DANUBE	98.06%
TIBER	97.4%
THAMES	95.36%
AVON	92.5%
SEINE	96.96%

Year five had a wonderful time at the park on Thursday, which was their treat for winning the happy lunchtime Pom Pom award!

They also enjoyed an ice cream to before heading back to school. Well done Year 5!



Enjoy your weekend

God Bless

Mrs Francis

