



11.6.26

St Joseph's Catholic Primary School

'Treat others the way you want to be treated'

Dear Families,

What another busy and fun-filled week we've had here in school!

School life at St Joseph's is always vibrant and full of exciting opportunities for our children. However, the second half of the summer term is truly something special. From now until the end of term, our calendar is packed with trips, events, celebrations, performances and memorable experiences. It really is non-stop for the next four weeks and two days!

While it can be busy, it is also one of the most rewarding times of the year, allowing us to create so many wonderful memories with our children. This is especially true for our Year 6 pupils, who we will soon be saying farewell to. With their final weeks at St Joseph's passing so quickly, we are making the very most of every opportunity to celebrate their achievements and enjoy our remaining time together before they leave us on 14th July.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. We hope you enjoy reading about all the exciting things that have been happening across school this week.





Our new Reception children had a wonderful second settling on Tuesday morning and it was such a pleasure to see how happy, confident and settled they were as they came through the door. They enjoyed spending time in their new classroom, exploring activities both inside and outdoors, and also shared a lovely lunch together

A real highlight was watching them connect with their Year 5 buddies. The older children were incredibly responsible, caring and attentive, helping our newest pupils feel safe, supported and excited for the year ahead. It was a beautiful example of our school community at its best

We can't wait to see you all again soon at our parent picnic at the end of June!







A message from Mrs Urding...

This week in Cooking Club, the children thoroughly enjoyed making both sweet and savoury scones. They carefully mixed the ingredients, adding raspberries for the sweet scones and cheese for the savoury ones. Using an upturned cup, they carefully cut out the scone shapes before placing them onto the baking trays ready for baking.





A message from Miss Sadler...

This week in Art Club, the children embraced their creativity using their favourite medium, vibrant acrylic markers, to decorate clear acetate sheets. The bold colours and crisp lines made their artwork pop beautifully, and the room was buzzing with imagination. It was a relaxed and creative session, and the children showed great focus throughout.





A message from Mrs. Bennett...

This week at Forest School, we worked together to build shelters. We had to communicate, share ideas, and help each other to make our shelters as strong and waterproof as possible. Once they were finished, we tested them by tipping water over the top. It was great fun to see if our shelters kept us dry, and we were proud of how well we worked together as a team.

Well done Everyone!



St Joseph's Primary School presents

Fiddler on the Roof JR.



Tuesday 7th July

The Savoy Theatre, Monmouth

Tickets are now on sale. Please email the school office to place your order.

Please note, children who are not yet of school age are unable to attend the performance of *Fiddler on the Roof*.

The cast have worked incredibly hard in preparation for the show, and it is important that they have the opportunity to perform without unnecessary distractions. Even small amounts of noise can be disruptive to both the performers and the audience.

Audience members have also purchased tickets and deserve to enjoy the performance in the best possible environment.

We appreciate your understanding and cooperation in helping to make this a wonderful experience for everyone involved.

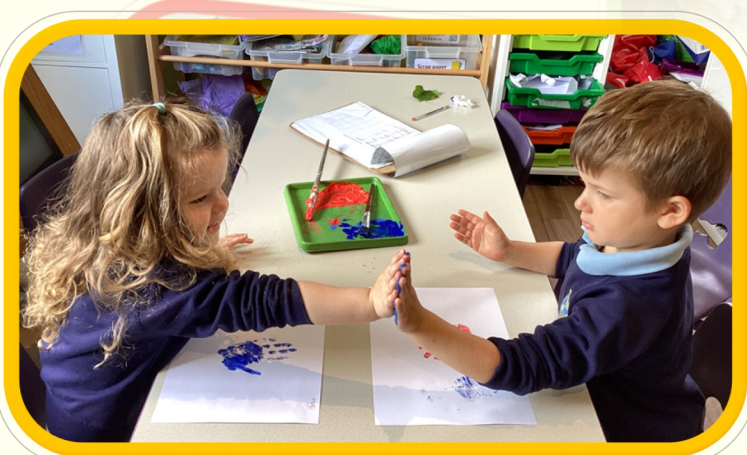


This week we have been exploring colour mixing, and the children have had so much fun getting creative!

They created some lovely handprint artwork by mixing colours together, holding hands with their friends, and then printing onto paper. It was wonderful to see them experimenting and working together.

We also enjoyed mixing coloured water and using pipettes to squeeze the colours onto cotton wool, watching how the colours blended and changed.

The Seedlings particularly loved making bubble painting pictures using cardboard toilet rolls. They dipped the rolls into paint and pressed them onto paper, then had great fun popping the bubbles to reveal beautiful patterns and colours!





Reception class had a wonderful time at Forest School on Tuesday morning, creating beautiful artwork using natural materials. The children used leaves, sticks, petals, and other treasures they found outdoors to make their own unique designs. They showed great creativity and enjoyed exploring nature while making their fantastic art.

Great work everyone!





This week, Year 6 have been working incredibly hard on their end-of-school art project in collaboration with local artist Tom. As part of this special project, the children have been reflecting on their time at St Joseph's and creating inspirational quotes to motivate and encourage younger pupils throughout their school journey.

Each child has added their own unique touch by including a meaningful personal image, ensuring that every piece is both individual and deeply special. We are immensely proud of their creativity, thoughtfulness, and the positive messages they have chosen to leave behind as a lasting legacy for future generations of St Joseph's pupils.







On Tuesday morning, our Year 2 children enjoyed a wonderful visit to the Ross Community Gardens. They started their morning with a fun treasure hunt around the gardens, where the children worked in groups to find a variety of leaves and flowers in nature.

After a lovely break time spent playing in the meadow, the children were lucky enough to taste some delicious natural honey. They also had the opportunity to observe tadpoles up close and learn more about their life cycle.





THANK YOU!

WE ARE DELIGHTED TO SHARE THAT
TOGETHER WE RAISED

£1704.30

♡ at our Summer Fayre! ♡

♡ A HUGE THANK YOU ♡

to everyone who helped to organise, donate,
set up, run a stall, bake, tidy up and give
their time and support.

And to all our wonderful
parents and carers
thank you for your amazing
support and engagement –
it makes such a difference! ♡



St. Joseph's
RC PRIMARY SCHOOL

THANK
YOU!
♡

TOGETHER
WE MAKE
A GREAT
TEAM! ♡

Free School Meals: Important Changes from September 2026

From September 2026, the Government is expanding eligibility for free school meals (FSM) in England. This change is expected to make free school meals available to more children and provide additional support for families facing the rising cost of living.

What's changing?

Currently, most families receiving Universal Credit are only eligible for free school meals if their annual earned income is £7,400 or less (excluding benefits). From September 2026, this income threshold will be removed, meaning that all children in households receiving Universal Credit will be entitled to free school meals.

The Government estimates that this expansion will benefit hundreds of thousands of additional children across England and help reduce food insecurity for families.

What does this mean for families?

If your household receives Universal Credit, your child may become eligible for free school meals from September 2026, even if your earnings are above the current £7,400 threshold.

Families are encouraged to check their eligibility and apply through their local authority or school when the new arrangements come into effect.

A note about existing free school meal entitlement

The transitional protections that have been in place since 2018 are ending in July 2026. These protections allowed some children to continue receiving free school meals even if their family's circumstances changed. From September 2026, eligibility will be reassessed under the new criteria.

Why apply?

In addition to receiving a free nutritious meal each school day, registering for free school meals can help schools access additional funding to support pupils' learning and wellbeing.

If you think your child may be eligible, please follow the link below:

[Free school meals - Herefordshire Council](#)

BOOK NOW



Limited
Spaces
Available!

St Joseph's
SUMMER
Holiday
CLUB



BOOK
NOW!

WED 15TH JULY – FRI 28TH AUGUST
Monday - Friday





A message from Miss Steiner...

Huge congratulations to the cast of 'Anne of Green Gables', who gave the most incredible performance at Hereford Courtyard Theatre on Tuesday evening!

Every single child portrayed their character(s) with depth and sensitivity and the actors pulled together wonderfully as a team to make the performance slick and professional from start to finish. The audience absolutely loved the show and it was really special to see them laughing and crying as they followed the rollercoaster of Anne's life at Green Gables.

I am so proud of the ten Year 6 children who took part in this project and showed dedication, resilience and enthusiasm for bringing the story to life. We all had a really wonderful day at the theatre; what a truly special memory for our children!



making
MAGICAL ✨
MEMORIES
Together





Next Week!

PARENT VOICE

Next Thursday, 18th June, at 2:00pm, we will be holding our half-termly Parent Voice meeting. If you would like to put forward any ideas or contributions, include an item for discussion, or need clarification on anything, please speak to your class representative or email the school office.

We look forward to a productive meeting and to sharing a summary of the outcomes with you.



Next Thursday 18th June, some of our year 3 and 4 children will be taking part in the Dynamo Cricket festival in Leominster during the school day. They will be leaving school at 8:20am prompt and returning for the end of the school day. Please ensure they have a packed lunch, filled water bottle and their PE kit for this day. A letter has been sent home including further details. This is a great opportunity for the children to partake in and we look forward to sharing their sporting experience with you!



Next Thursday evening, 18th June, some of our families will be visiting the Bristol Hippodrome to watch *Matilda the Musical*. This promises to be an exciting and inspiring trip for everyone, and we are looking forward to creating our own version with Miss Steiner in February 2027!

Coming Soon!



Excitement is building amongst our Year 5 and Year 6 pupils as we prepare for our upcoming trip to Disneyland Paris on Tuesday 23rd June! The children have been eagerly counting down the days and are looking forward to an unforgettable experience filled with adventure, fun, and magical memories.

This fantastic opportunity will allow pupils to explore the parks, enjoy the attractions, and spend time with their friends in a truly unique setting. We know that this trip will be a highlight of the school year, and we cannot wait

to share in the excitement with them.

As we make our final preparations, we kindly remind parents and carers that all passports must be signed in at the school office no later than **Friday 19th June**. This is essential to ensure that all travel arrangements can be completed smoothly and on time.

Thank you for your support. We are looking forward to a wonderful trip and creating memories that will last a lifetime!



Our Year 5 and 6 children have been invited to represent St Joseph's at this years Herefordshire School Games on 1st July.

The event is scheduled to start at 9:30 am, so the children need to arrive at the school by 8:15 am, ready to depart at 8:30 am.

Children will wear their light blue PE t-shirt, navy shorts, and suitable trainers. Weather-dependent raincoats may be advisable. Please can you provide a sunhat and sun cream for your children and ensure they have a packed lunch and two full water bottles.

They will return back to school for normal home time collection.



Summer Term Begins

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
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
Wednesday 1st July	School Games Hereford Years 5 and 6
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



A Reminder About Timely Payments

We would like to thank all families who make their payments promptly and consistently. Your support enables us to continue providing high-quality services and experiences for all children and families within our setting.

As with any organisation, we have ongoing operational costs and financial commitments that must be met. Timely payment of invoices is essential to ensure we can continue to meet these obligations and maintain the standards of service that our families expect.

We kindly ask that all outstanding balances are settled by their due dates. If you are experiencing difficulties making payment, please contact us as soon as possible so that we can discuss your circumstances and explore possible arrangements.

Unfortunately, where payments remain outstanding and no communication or agreement has been made, we may have no alternative but to pursue recovery of the debt through formal channels. We hope to avoid taking such action and encourage any family experiencing difficulties to speak with us at the earliest opportunity. We appreciate your cooperation and understanding in helping us maintain a sustainable and supportive environment for everyone.



A huge well done to all of our Year 1 children for completing their Phonics Screening Check this week. The children approached the screening with smiles, enthusiasm and a real willingness to do their best.

We are incredibly proud of the effort, determination and positive attitude they have shown, not just during the check itself but throughout the whole year. The children have worked so hard to develop their phonics and reading skills, and it has been wonderful to see their confidence grow.

Thank you also to our families for supporting reading and phonics practice at home. Your encouragement makes such a difference and helps the children continue to thrive.

Well done, Year 1 – you are all stars!



Sofia in year 6 attended her first football awards last weekend and she picked up players player of the year. She was so proud of her achievement. Well done Sofia– we are all super proud of you!

WYE	99%
AMAZON	88.1%
DANUBE	96.6%
TIBER	97.4%
THAMES	96.9%
AVON	94.6%
SEINE	94.6%



Our Summer Music Concert, which is usually held outdoors, has been postponed until the autumn term. This decision has been made due to the building work currently taking place on site, as well as our music teacher, being unwell.

We're looking forward to welcoming parents and carers to our Musical Harvest Festival in the autumn. This will provide a wonderful opportunity for the children to showcase their musical talents and celebrate their achievements.

Thank you for your understanding and continued support.

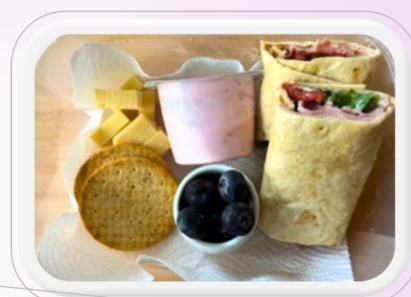


Healthy packed lunches to try....

Egg and salad sandwich
Rice crackers
Sliced cucumber
Sliced kiwi fruit
Cheese



Ham and salad wrap
Cheese and crackers
Yoghurt
Pot of blueberries



Tuna and cucumber roll
Guacamole and sliced carrots
Popcorn
Sliced apple
Cheese



We'd love you to share some of your ideas from home! Please feel free to email them in so we can include them in our weekly newsletter and share them with our families.



Enjoy your weekend
God Bless

Mrs Francis