



19.6.26

St Joseph's Catholic Primary School

'Treat others the way you want to be treated'

Matthew 7:12

Dear Families,

What a lovely time we all had at our annual Sports Day on Friday last week! The weather was perfect and it was so fantastic to see all of our children joining in, having fun and supporting one another. A huge 'thank you' from all of us to the family and friends who were able to come and share the day with us. Sports Day is always highly anticipated by everyone, and it was wonderful to share this experience with so many members of our school family.

This week, we welcomed members of the moderation team from the Local Authority, who visited to collaboratively review our Year 6 Writing results with us. We were so pleased that they agreed with all of our school assessments, which all showed fantastic attainment and progress for our amazing children. A huge 'well done' to everyone in our Year 6 team! We are really looking forward to sharing the results with parents as soon as we are able to.

As we move towards the end of the school year, there is still so much to look forward to. On Tuesday, members of Years 5 and 6 are heading to Paris and the magic of Disneyland for four days!









A message from Mrs Urding...

This week in Cooking Club, the children made delicious, healthy individual quiches. They carefully chopped a range of ingredients, including ham, peppers, mushrooms, tomatoes and cheese, before filling their pastry cases and adding the egg mixture.

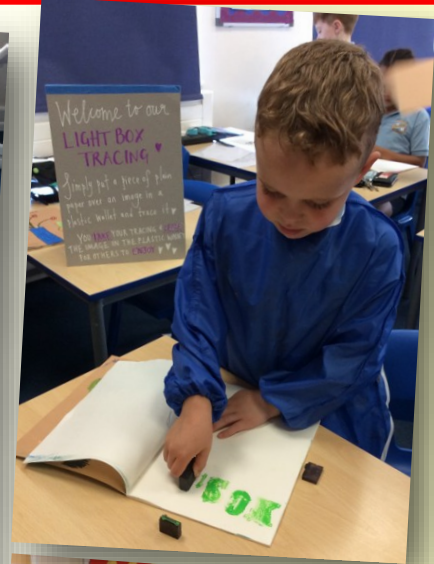
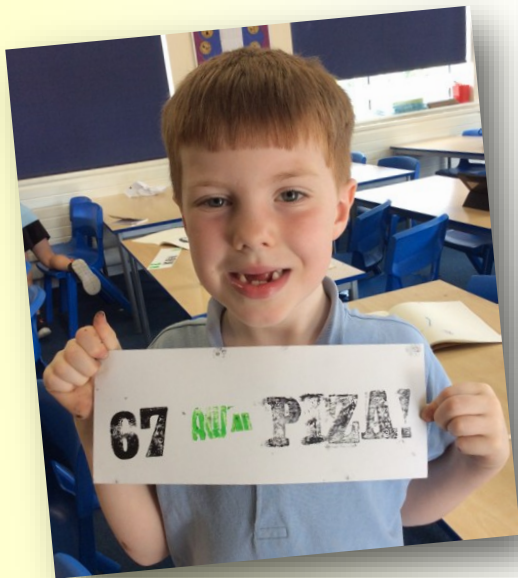
Well done to everyone for their fantastic effort – the results were wonderful!





A message from Miss Sadler...

Our young artists explored printing ink this week by creating bold prints of their own names. It was an exploratory, hands on session where the children experimented with texture, pressure, and colour. Their excitement as their names appeared on the page made the activity wonderfully engaging.





A message from Mr Mason...

Dynamos Cricket Festival 2026!

A huge well done to our Year 3 and Year 4 children who represented our school brilliantly throughout the day. They demonstrated excellent respect, determination, and teamwork, showing great values both on and off the field.

Most importantly, they had lots of fun, embraced every challenge and made some wonderful memories along the way. We are incredibly proud of the way they conducted themselves and the positive attitude they showed from start to finish.

A big thank you to everyone involved in organising such a fantastic event and helping to make the day so enjoyable for all the children.



Amazon Class had a wonderful afternoon at Forest School on Tuesday afternoon, exploring the woodland, enjoying hot chocolate and s'mores by the fire, and creating beautiful tree clay faces. They looked fantastic, and a brilliant time was had by all. Thank you, Mrs Bennet, for making it such a memorable session for everyone.





Welcome to our Nursery



We have had a very busy week in Nursery, with lots of exciting activities taking place!

The children have been busy creating special cards for Father's Day, putting in lots of care and creativity.

Our Acorns have been developing their physical skills by practising balancing on the crates in the Reception garden. They also had great fun exploring shaving foam, searching for hidden sea creatures and engaging their senses through play.

Meanwhile, the Oakleaves have been working hard with their learning. They have been creating repeated patterns using Unifix blocks, showing great focus and creativity. During their phonics sessions, they have also been talking about past and present events, building their understanding of time and developing their communication skills.





Reception has had the most extraordinary week as their chick eggs began to hatch. The children watched in amazement as tiny beaks cracked through shells and fluffy chicks emerged. It has been an unforgettable learning experience, full of curiosity, care, and excitement. A heartfelt thank you to the Wilkes family for providing us with this wonderful opportunity.



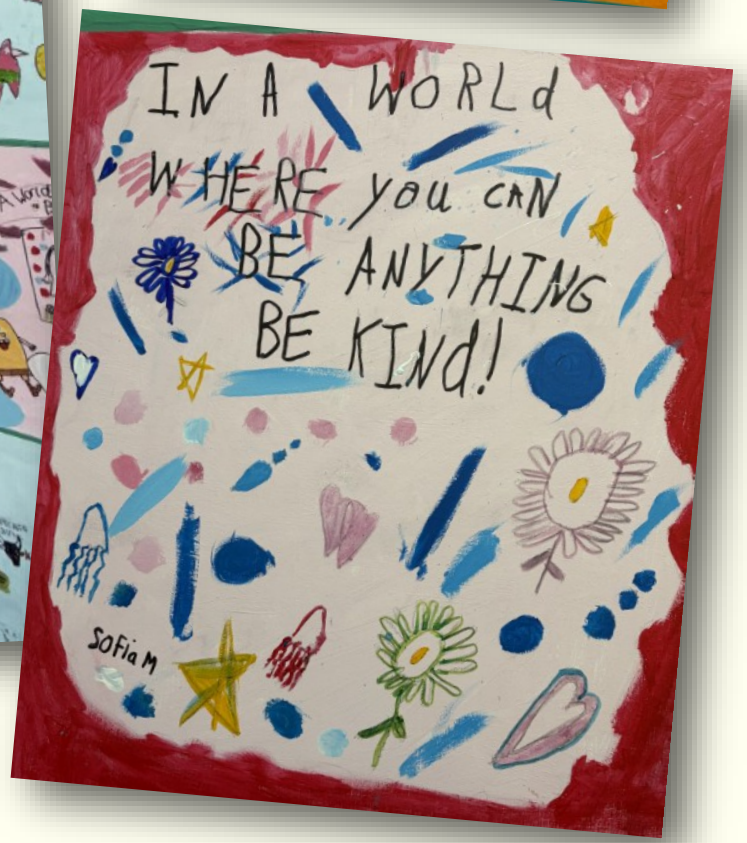
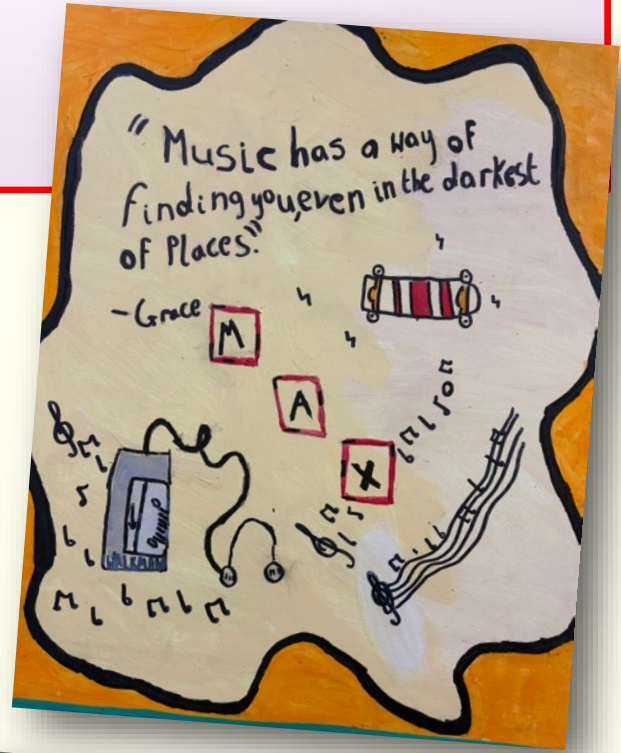


Lat week, the Year 6 children had a fantastic time working with Tom, our artist in residence, designing and creating their legacy boards! We have dedicated a whole corridor to displaying these works, which showed so much thought and creativity from each of the children.



Our legacy boards form such an important part of our school family memories, and it will be wonderful to see these on display every day.

Well done everyone class of 2026!



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



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



Next Week!



Next Monday 22nd June, some of our year 5 and 6 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!



The excitement is building as we get ready for our much-anticipated Disney trip next **Tuesday 23rd June!**

We are counting down the days and looking forward to a fantastic few days filled with fun, adventure, and magical memories.

A reminder that everyone should arrive at school by 6:30am for registration and departure. We ask that all children arrive promptly so that

we can set off on time. We can't wait to share this special experience together!

Next **Wednesday 24th June**, our Year 1 children are off to Cattle Country to enjoy a fantastic day out with their friends, combining fun, discovery and learning. We look forward to sharing this event with you!



Coming Soon!

SCHOOL GAMES

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.

St Joseph's Primary School presents

Fiddler on the Roof JR.



Tuesday 7th July

The Savoy Theatre, Monmouth



Reception Class and Year 1 have been busy making some lovely surprises for this coming Father's Day weekend!



WYE	99.62%
AMAZON	93.3%
DANUBE	99.68%
TIBER	97.9%
THAMES	96.07%
AVON	95.83%
SEINE	96.96%





Summer Term Begins

Tuesday 23 rd – Friday 26 th June	Year 5 and 6 Residential to Disneyland Paris
Wednesday 24 th June	Year 1 trip to Cattle Country
Tuesday 30 th June	New Reception class family picnic @ 1:30pm
Wednesday 1 st July	School Games Hereford Years 5 and 6
Thursday 2 nd July	Future Naturalists Day
Friday 3 rd July	Reserve Sports Day
Monday 6 th July	Dress rehearsal for Fiddler on the Roof performance – Monmouth Savoy
Tuesday 7 th July	Fiddler on the Roof performance – Monmouth Savoy 6pm
Thursday 9 th July	Year 6 Leavers Mass
Friday 10 th July	Nursery Graduation
Friday 10 th July	Year 6 Surprise Trip!
Monday 13 th July	Whole school Colour Run
Tuesday 14 th July	Year 6 Leavers Assembly
Tuesday 14 th July	End of Summer Term

Enjoy your weekend. Wishing all our Dads and Grandads a very Happy Weekend this

Father's Day!

God Bless

Mrs Francis

