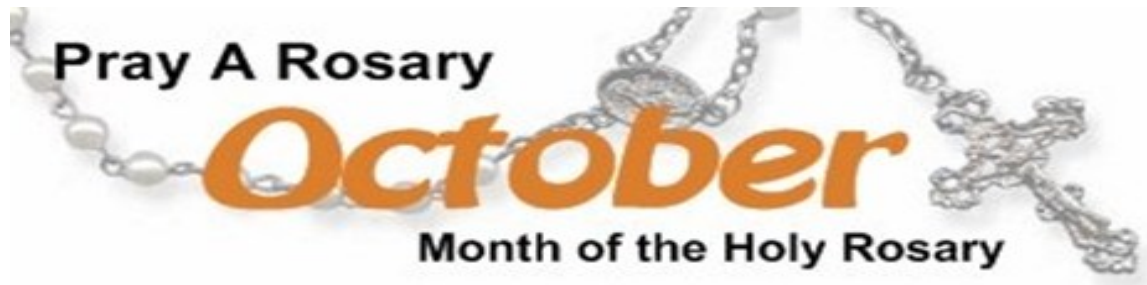


'Treat others the way you want to be treated.'

Matthew 7:12

10/10/25



Dear Family,

This October, we honour the Holy Rosary with special reflections and prayer. On Thursday lunchtime, Mrs Urding and one of our parishioners, Miss Kate, welcomed a group of Year 3 children to our Rosary Club.

Together, they explored the significance of praying the rosary, drawing attention to key moments in the lives of Jesus and Mary.

The children thoughtfully retold the parable of the Lost Sheep, sharing their insights into its meaning. They reflected on the powerful message that every person is precious to God—and that even when someone feels lost, spiritually or morally, God lovingly seeks them out.

A heartfelt well done to all the children who took part. It was truly inspiring to hear how they connect with these Bible stories and how their understanding shapes the way they live their lives.

This week we held our first parent voice meeting of the new academic year. It was so good to welcome our new members and we had a very productive session, which you can find further details of later in this newsletter. Thank you to everyone who came along, it is so important for our school community to work in partnership together.



'Treat others the way you want to be treated.'

Matthew 7:12

CURRICULUM

Year 5 are creating their own art installations! After researching a range of different installations and learning what the features of this type of artwork are, the children are having a go at producing their own installations.



They are using cardboard boxes to represent a full-sized room and will then decorate the 'walls' with their chosen designs. They will even find some tiny people to place inside the 'rooms' so that they can take photographs that give an impression of what the installation would feel like at full size!



A message from Mr. Smith....

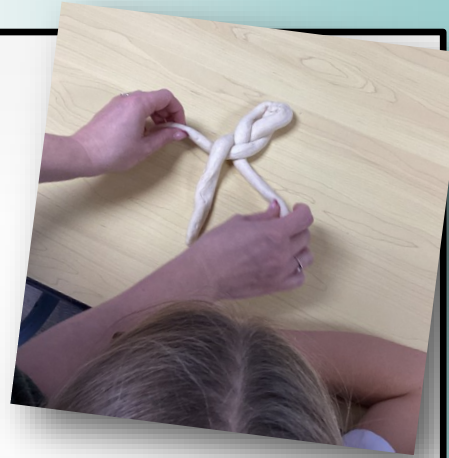
Lots of fun was had at Friday cookery club last week, as we made chocolate crispy cakes for an 'end of the week' treat. The cooking team worked really well together, measuring out the ingredients carefully, before melting them and adding the cornflakes for crunch. We even enjoyed washing up afterwards! Great team effort everyone.



Cookery Club

A message from Mrs Vernon....

Delicious smells wafted through the halls from the school cooking club who baked fresh plaited bread for our harvest celebration. The children did a great job of intertwining the strands of the loaf to symbolise the coming together of people - farmers, families and communities – to celebrate the fruits of their collective harvest. The plaited bread will be on display at our harvest assembly where we look forward to giving thanks to God for all that we have.





On Thursday after we held our first Parent Voice meeting of the new academic year. It was lovely to welcome some new members and we had a very productive meeting. To access the summary of our meeting please follow the link below.

[St Joseph's RC Primary School - Parent Voice](#)



We will be holding our Autumn term Parents Evenings on Monday 11th and Tuesday 12th November. You will receive an email with a link to book an appointment on Monday 13th October. We look forward to welcoming everyone to these important meetings, it is vital that we work in partnership with families to ensure the very best we can for our children.



The FSL would like to hold a Christmas clothes sale. If you have any donations of Christmas jumpers, pyjamas or outfits that you could give to the sale this would be greatly appreciated. Please bring any donations to the school office, thank you.





Welcome to our Nursery



A message from Mrs Lerego.....

Thi week in Nursery, the Seedlings have enjoyed going on Autumn walks in the push-chair, collecting leaves then doing Autumn colours painting!

The Acorns have been really trying to put on their own coats and wellies ready for their walks down to forest school - Well done!

The Oakleaves have been making longer and shorter towers with the coloured blocks, then having a go at making them the same size!

Super learning everyone!



Nursery





Readathon

Half Term
Monday 27th – Friday
31st October



Join St Joseph's Readathon and dive into a world of stories! Don't just read, read to inspire, read to make a difference!

Read as much as you can during the Readathon—books, comics, audio books, magazines, or anything you enjoy!



Ask family and friends to sponsor you for your reading efforts!



We are excited to announce our upcoming Readathon! This is a wonderful opportunity for children to challenge themselves, explore new books, and foster a lifelong love of reading.

During the Readathon, children are invited to read as much as they can—books, comics, magazines, audiobooks, recipes, or anything else they enjoy. They can be sponsored by family and friends to support their reading efforts.

This year, all funds raised will go towards our 'Wellbeing Classroom', helping us provide a nurturing space that supports the social and emotional development of all our children.

The Readathon will take place over half term, from Monday 27th to Friday 31st October. We would love for you to get involved at home by encouraging your child to read and by helping them collect sponsorships.

As a special incentive, the child who reads the most will receive a prize – a gift card to a local bookstore and a cozy reading kit to enjoy their favourite books even more.

We'd love to see your Readathon adventures! Share photos of your child reading on our school Facebook page over half term – and tell us, where is your favourite spot to read?

Thank you for your support in making this event both fun and meaningful for the children!

Important
Update



SCHOOL COUNCIL

From Monday 10th November until Friday 14th November, we will be celebrating Anti-Bullying Week, and this year's theme is "Power for Good!"

Throughout the week, all our classes will take part in fun and meaningful activities that help us learn how to use our Power for Good — by speaking up, supporting others, and spreading kindness.

Our school council have been busy planning some exciting themed days:

Monday – Odd Sock Day

Let's start the week by celebrating what makes each of us unique! Come to school wearing odd socks to show that being different is something to be proud of.

Wednesday – Back to Front Day

Wear your clothes back to front! This fun activity helps us think about things from another person's point of view.

Friday – Superhero Day

To finish the week, come dressed as your favourite superhero — or create your very own! Think about what special power you would have to use your Power for Good!

As part of our Superhero Day, the children will also have the chance to try out their superhero powers on our very own climbing wall — a fun way to test their strength, bravery, and teamwork!

Let's make this a week full of kindness, courage, and fun!



In Year 3 Art on Thursday the subject was 'Tint and Shade'. It was explained that shade was made by a colour of their choice combined with black and tint is created by colour and white. The children enjoyed experimenting with various colours to create different tints and shades. They were doing this so they can create Wayne Thiebaud inspired ice cream artwork using paper cones. We look forward to seeing their finished ice cream creations!



Gardening Club

After feeding all our lovely birds at St Joseph's, we turned our attention to re-potting! Roy kicked things off with a soil experiment to determine the best medium for our hydrangea cuttings. We prepared three pots:

- One with peat-based soil and rooting powder
- One with pure worm castings, no rooting powder
- One with John Innes compost, also without rooting powder

To prepare the cuttings, we snipped just below the new buds and removed all leaves except the top two, which we then trimmed in half. Softer stems require more warmth, so keep that in mind. Each cutting was placed snugly against the inside wall of its pot, pushed down as far as it would go. After a gentle misting with water, we covered them with plastic bags to maintain humidity—only if needed.



Fun Learning

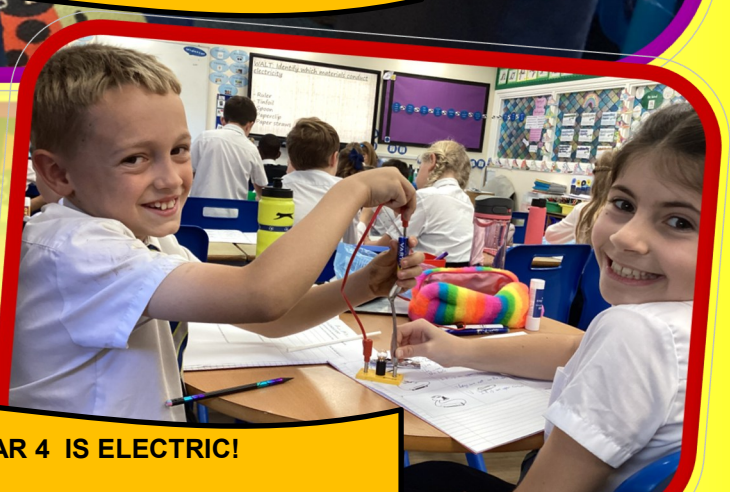
Here's a glimpse of our curriculum in motion this week at school! It's a joy to witness the children fully engaged in their learning, collaborating with enthusiasm, and building a diverse set of skills along the way.



PRACTISING OUR COUNTING SKILLS IN RECEPTION!



FUN IN YEAR 1 MAKING OUR WINDMILLS!



SCIENCE IN YEAR 4 IS ELECTRIC!

ART CLUB



This week in Art Club, the children explored the vibrant world of artist Wayne Thiebaud, who found beauty and joy in everyday objects—especially sweet treats! Inspired by his colourful style and love for the ordinary, the children designed their own imaginative ice cream recipes.

Using playful alliteration, they named their creations with delicious flair—think **Bursting Blueberry**, **Cheeky Cherry**, and **Mellow Mango**. With acrylic paints in hand, they brought their ice creams to life, blending creativity with bold colour and texture. The results were fantastic! Well done everyone.





On Tuesday afternoon, year 3 thoroughly enjoyed their Forest School afternoon with Mrs. Bennett today. They built shelters to keep them dry (mostly), roasted marshmallows over the campfire and enjoyed some warm hot chocolate. They worked together well to ensure everyone remained happy and safe. Thank you to Mrs. Bennett for all your hard work preparing this fantastic experience!





 Forest School



**...COMING
NEXT WEEK!**

Harvest Assembly



On Monday 13th October it's our Harvest Assembly here in school. We will be sure to take lots of photos and videos of this event, to share with our families. A BIG THANK YOU to everyone who sent in donations for the Harvest collection.

On Tuesday 14th October, Year 6 will be enjoying an afternoon down at Forest school with Mrs Bennett. Please can they remember to bring in suitable clothing and footwear for this session.

COMMUNITY
GARDEN

On Tuesday 14th October, Year 5 will be visiting the Community Gardens in the afternoon. Please can they remember to bring in suitable clothing and footwear for this session.

Next Friday 17th October we will be holding a Bake Sale after school on the playground. Donations are always warmly welcome! We look forward to ending our week with a sweet treat- ready for the weekend!



CHELTENHAM

Literature
Festival

Next Friday 17th October, Reception, Year 1 & 2 will be visiting the 'Cheltenham Literature Festival'. We will be leaving school at 9.30am and we will arrive back at school in time for normal pickup.

To enhance our children's reading for pleasure, we will have the opportunity to attend the Story Shack before making our way to the Garden Theatre at midday. Here we will attend a session with the author Michael Rosen who is one of the nation's best loved children's writers and performers. He will be sharing his much-loved stories and poems. We are really looking forward to this exciting event!

Autumn Term

Monday 13 th October	Harvest Festival @ 9:15am
Tuesday 14 th October	Year 6 @ Forest School
Tuesday 14 th October	Year 5 @ Community Gardens
Friday 17 th October	Reception and Key Stage 1 @ Cheltenham Literacy Festival
Tuesday 21 st October	Reception @ Community Gardens pm
Friday 24 th October	FSJ Pumpkin Party
Friday 24 th October	Break up for half term
Monday 27 th —Friday 31 st October	HALF TERM READATHON!

Monday 3 rd November	Return to school
Monday 3 rd —Friday 7 th November	NSPCC 'Speak out Stay Safe' Week
Tuesday 4 th November	Year 6 @ Community Gardens pm
Monday 10 th —Friday 14 th November	Anti- Bullying Week– Super Hero Day on Friday 14 th November!
Tuesday 11 th November	Parents Evening 3:30pm—6:00pm
Wednesday 12 th November	Parents Evening 3:30pm—6:00pm
Friday 21 st November	Children in Need
Friday 21 st November	Pyjama Day and Movie Night
Thursday 4 th December	End of term Mass
Friday 5 th December	Christmas Fayre
Tuesday 9 th December	Reception and Key Stage 1 Nativity @ 5:30pm
Wednesday 10 th December	Nursery Nativity @ 2:00pm
Thursday 11 th December	Whole School Victorian Christmas Day and KS2 workshops
Thursday 11 th December	Parent Voice @ 2:00pm
Friday 12 th December	Christmas Dinner Day and afternoon celebrations!
Tuesday 16 th December	KS1 Christmas Theatre Trip
Thursday 18 th December	KS2 Christmas Production 5:30pm
Friday 19 th December	Nursery Christmas Party
Friday 19 th December	End of Autumn Term Christmas Holidays



FRIDAY 24TH OCTOBER

We will be hosting our annual 'PUMPKIN PARTY' in the sports hall. Please bring costume/party wear in a bag for the children to change into if you would like, this is optional.

Please be considerate of any 'props' children may like to bring as part of their costumes.

£5 per child, includes a snack bag (bookable through parent pay)

Entertainment and disco!

Reception and KS1: 3:30pm – 4:30pm

KS2: 5pm – 6pm



WYE	92.5%
AMAZON	98.95%
DANUBE	99.67%
TIBER	96.57%
THAMES	98.93%
AVON	96.09%
SEINE	95.83%

ST JOSEPH'S PRIMARY SCHOOL




HALF TERM HOLIDAY

MONDAY 27TH OCT TO FRIDAY 31ST OCT

Club

admin@st-josephs.hereford.sch.uk 01989 564655



RECEPTIONS ADMISSIONS

September 2026

Do you have a child born
between the
1st of September 2021 and
31st of August 2022?

If so, you will need to
apply for a school place
by the 15th of Jan 26
(to commence Sept 2026)

*St Joseph's Primary School is a thriving
and happy primary school, providing a
broad and balanced curriculum.*

*To arrange a visit, please contact us
on the details below.*



01989 564655



admin@st-josephs.hereford.sch.uk



Creator God, provider of all,
we bring our thanks today.
And we bless each other
that the beauty of this world
and the love that created it
might be expressed
though our lives and
be a blessing to others
now and always.
Amen

Enjoy your weekend!

God Bless

Mrs

Francis