

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

Matthew 7:12

17/10/25



Dear Family,

We began our week with joyful Harvest celebrations! It was a truly special occasion, led by our children through heartfelt collective worship, including beautiful singing, thoughtful prayers, and inspiring scripture readings. Every child played a part in giving thanks to the Lord for the Harvest, and we were delighted to welcome our nursery preschoolers to join in the festivities. It was a wonderful way to set the tone for a vibrant and busy week here at St Joseph's!

Give thanks to the Lord,  
for he is good; his love  
endures forever.

-1 Chronicles 16:34



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

Matthew 7:12

# Cookery Club

Our school kitchen area was transformed into a pizza parlour after school last Friday as Mr. Smith's cooking group tried their hand at creating some delicious home made pizzas.

We learned about 'knocking the dough back' to make sure that it was stretchy and ready to shape, before covering with tomato sauce and grating a mixture of cheddar and mozzarella cheese together for the topping. After a quick bake in a hot oven, they were ready to take home and enjoy.

Great job everyone!



# Cookery Club

This week, the Cooking Club whipped up a batch of homemade Oreo-style cupcakes—and they were a hit! The children carefully mixed the ingredients and scooped the mixture into cupcake cases with great care and enthusiasm. A huge well done to all our young bakers for making these delicious treats!



It's  
Terrific  
Tuesday!

# PARENTS EVENING

This week you will have received an email link to book your parents evening online, to take place when we return after the half term break on Tuesday 11th and Wednesday 12th November (for years 5 and 6 these will take place on Monday 4th, Tuesday 5th and Wednesday 6th November). This will have given teachers and children plenty of time to settle in to their new year groups, becoming familiar with routines, expectations and targets for the year ahead.

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.

Dates for  
the Diary:

## Parent Workshops

Sometimes the terminology and content covered in maths and SPaG (Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar) can be quite overwhelming for parents when supporting children with home learning. Things might be taught quite differently now from the way that they were when we were at school ourselves, and this can make us feel like we are confusing our children even more when we are trying to help them!

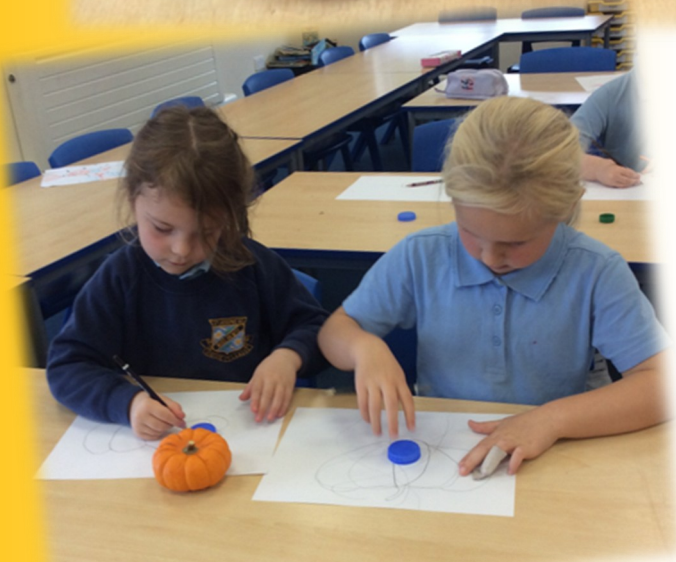
We would like to provide parent workshops to give you the opportunity to ask any questions that you might have; see how some aspects of the subject are taught and find out more about how you can best support your child's learning.

This term, we will begin with workshops aimed at parents of children in Years 5 and 6. **There will be a SPaG workshop on Monday 17th November and a maths workshop on Tuesday 25th November.** These workshops will begin at 3.30pm and run until 4.15pm, in the Year 5 and 6 classrooms. You are welcome to bring your Year 5 or 6 children along with you. Please come along to find out more about supporting your child's progress in these important subject areas.

# ART CLUB

## *A message from Sarah...*

This week at Art Club, the children explored Neurographic art—a calming and creative technique that encourages mindfulness through flowing lines and organic shapes. Inspired by the colours and textures of autumn, they used a variety of media to bring their unique designs to life. It was a wonderfully peaceful session, full of focus, creativity, and seasonal spirit.





# Welcome to our Nursery



*A MESSAGE FROM MRS LEREGO....*

We really enjoyed our visit to the library this week - we listened to a story and explored the books.

At forest school this week we loved getting very messy with mud, water and paint!

As a part of our Harvest topic, we have been talking about healthy eating and doing some fruit and vegetable printing.

Star of the week: Bogdan for settling in well at Nursery





## **Samaritan's Christmas Shoebox Appeal**

**This Christmas, we are supporting the Samaritan's Purse Shoebox Appeal, helping to bring joy to children around the world who may not otherwise receive a gift.**

**Would you consider sending a shoebox gift to bless just one child in need this festive season?**

**We're inviting our families to fill a shoebox with small gifts such as toys, school supplies, hygiene items, and treats. Each box is a wonderful way to share kindness, hope, and a smile with a child in need.**

**We will soon sending out details of great gift ideas and step-by-step instructions for packing an Operation Christmas Child shoebox gift.**

**If you'd like to take part, please bring your filled shoebox to school by Friday 7th November.**

**Together, we can make a big difference — one shoebox at a time! Our School Council will be sharing this news with our school community during Assembly on Monday.**

**MAKE A  
DIFFERENCE**

# ON YOUR MARK, GET SET... READ!



*Get ready to dive into a world of stories this half term with our School Readathon!*

Whether you're curled up on the sofa, reading under a tree, or perched in a truly unusual place — we want to see it!

Raise money through sponsorship as you read, and you could win amazing prizes for:

The Most Interesting Reading Spot

The Most Sponsorship Raised

Every page you turn helps support our school — and celebrates the joy of reading!

So, grab a book, find your favourite (or most creative!) reading spot, and get reading!



## 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!



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—MONDAY 10th NOVEMBER

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—WEDNESDAY 12th NOVEMBER!

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

## Friday – Superhero Day FRIDAY 14th NOVEMBER!

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!

# I ♥ Learning

This week in RE, Reception have been learning all about Baptism. The children worked independently to practise their scissor skills, carefully cutting and sequencing the key events of a baptism. They also did a fantastic job identifying important features such as the priest, font, and candle. A lovely session full of curiosity and growing independence.



**We Are Independent**

# Gardening Club

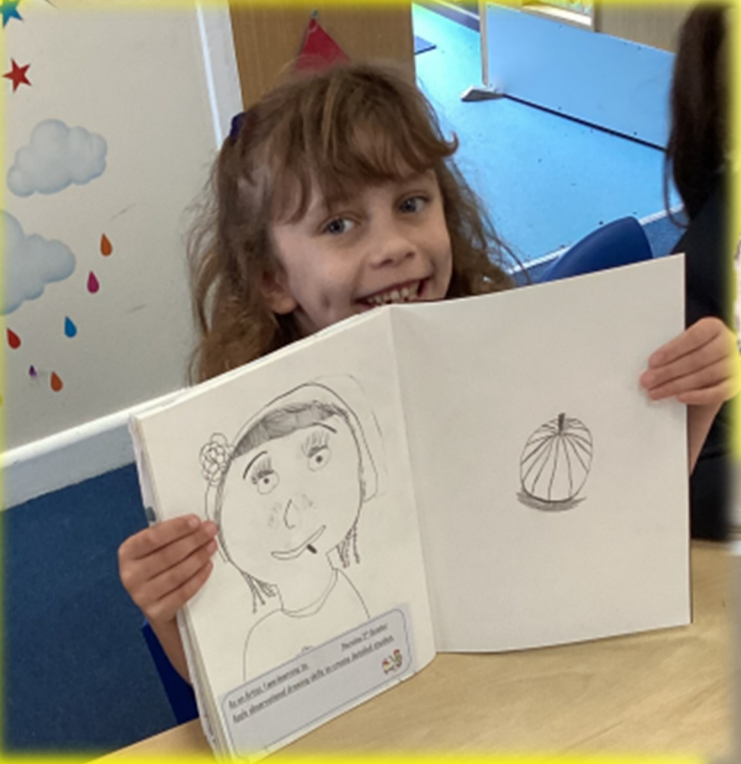
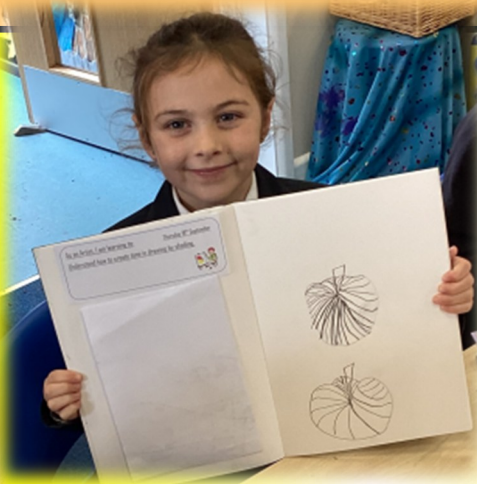
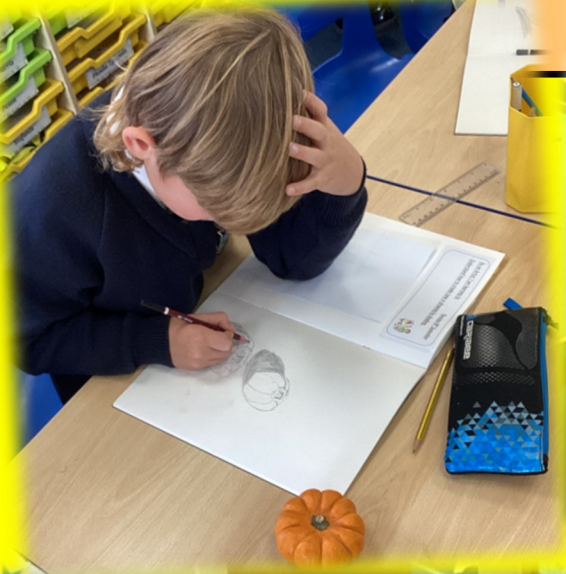
There is never a dull moment in our gardening club! We got right to work mixing concrete to secure our new bird feeding post. Roy is busy building us all a beautiful new compost heap. Then we planted daffodil bulbs, they are the tête-à-tête dwarf variety. We sowed some pansy seeds with a layer of vermiculite on top to help keep them moist as they germinate. Our last job of the day was to plant our leeks in our kitchen bed. What fun working outside can be!



# Art in Action

*A message from Sarah.....*

***This week we explored 'Observational Drawing' where the children were encouraged to draw what was in front of them, with particular emphasis on texture, shape and shading. I demonstrated the technique to follow and the children then put this into practice by drawing a variety of mini pumpkins. A great time was had by all!***





## OUR CURRICULUM

*A message from  
Miss Steiner....*



**I met with our dedicated team of Curriculum Ambassadors this week to talk about PSHE. At St. Joseph's, these lessons are called Jigsaw lessons. 'PSHE' stands for Personal, Social and Health Education and this is a very important part of the learning we do in school.**

**The children told me that - in Jigsaw lessons - they learn how to look after themselves, how to look after other people and how to live a happy life. I was really happy to hear that this is the way that they perceive this area of our curriculum! Additionally, they said that they learn about their rights and responsibilities; their feelings, dreams and goals and about all the things that will help them when they're older.**

**When I asked them what they loved about Jigsaw, they said that they feel safe to share their thoughts in the lessons because of the charter that they all sign. They like the fact that they can pass rather than speaking in the circle if they want to and that it is a 'chance to share feelings and our own opinions'. Our Year 2 ambassadors said that, in their class, the children really love their Worry Monster!**

**We talked about what their dream themes for a PSHE lesson would be and the children gave some super suggestions! They'd love a lesson about fixing friendship problems and would also like to have more drawing opportunities. They also mentioned that they would love to be able to sometimes lead parts of the lessons themselves. I have passed all of their comments and ideas on to the teachers, as always; the children's voices are so important in the learning that happens at St. Joseph's.**





# Forest School

***Our Year 6 children had a brilliant afternoon at Forest School with Mrs Bennett on Tuesday!***

***They began exploring the world of carpentry, learning how to handle tools safely and effectively. From gripping hammers and drills to driving nails into logs, they developed fine motor skills and gained a deeper understanding of how wood behaves.***

***Everyone listened with great focus and threw themselves into the activities with enthusiasm. Alongside their practical learning, they enjoyed the simple pleasures of the outdoors—roasting marshmallows and preparing their own cookie dough to warm over the fire.***

***It was a fantastic session filled with learning, laughter, and teamwork. We're already looking forward to seeing how their skills grow in the next Forest School adventure!***





# Community Garden

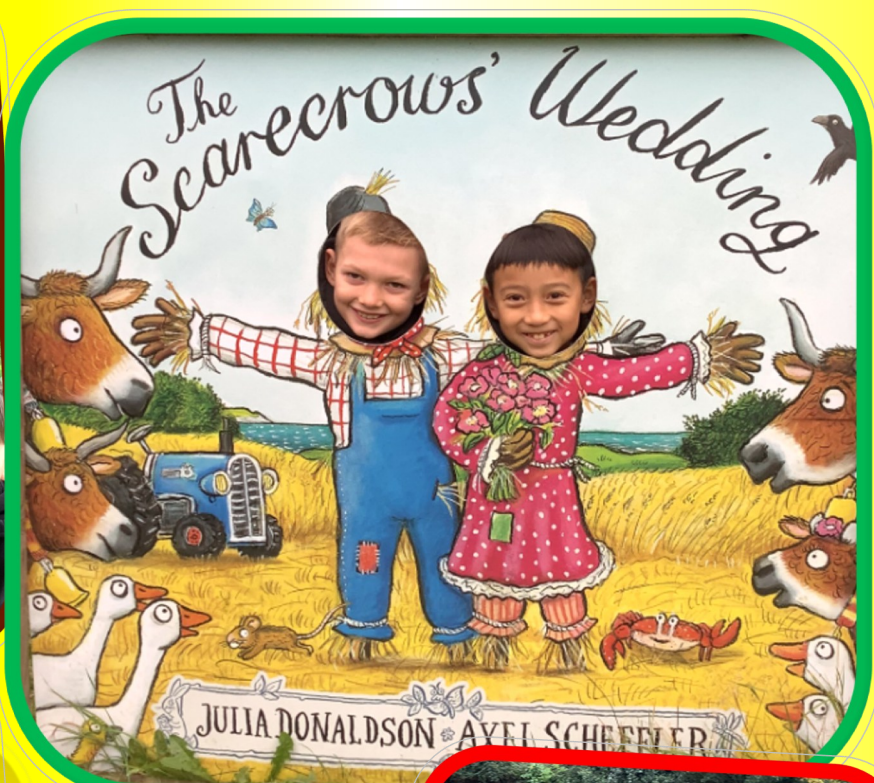


**Our Year 5s had a fantastic time at the Ross-on-Wye Community Gardens on Tuesday afternoon.**

**The children experienced a whole range of hands-on, nature-filled activities. From taking part in an exciting scavenger hunt around the gardens to planting acorns that we hope will grow into mighty oaks one day.**

**They also collected seeds to take back to school — ready for our own planting projects — and ended the visit by gathering together to enjoy a story about nature.**

**A huge thank you to the team at the Community Gardens for hosting us and helping our pupils connect with nature in such a meaningful way. We can't wait to come back!**





# NEWS

**A message from Mr. Mason...**

**St Joseph's football team participated in the Hereford Football Association tournament today. They all demonstrated fantastic resilience, courage and togetherness. Each member of our football team represented the school wonderfully and we are very proud of them. Thank you to the HFA for hosting another great event!**



**The FSJ 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.**



**...COMING  
NEXT WEEK!**

**COMMUNITY  
GARDEN**

On Tuesday 21st October, Reception 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 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



# Autumn Term

|  |                                  |
|--|----------------------------------|
| Tuesday 21 <sup>st</sup> October                         | Reception @ Community Gardens pm |
| Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> October                          | FSJ Pumpkin Party                |
| Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> October                          | Break up for half term           |
| Monday 27 <sup>th</sup> —Friday 31 <sup>st</sup> October | HALF TERM READATHON!             |



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



# HALF TERM HOLIDAY Club

MONDAY 27TH OCT TO FRIDAY 31ST OCT

admin@st-josephs.hereford.sch.uk

01989 564655

Our popular holiday club is booking up fast. Please contact the school office if you would like to book a place. Please note, places are limited.



THE NATIONAL FRAMEWORK FOR THE INSPECTION OF CATHOLIC SCHOOLS, COLLEGES AND ACADEMIES



|        |        |
|--------|--------|
| WYE    | 92.08% |
| AMAZON | 95.79% |
| DANUBE | 95%    |
| TIBER  | 95.14% |
| THAMES | 98.21% |
| AVON   | 98.26% |
| SEINE  | 97%    |

This week, we received the final report from our Catholic Schools Inspection, which took place on the 25th and 26th of September.

We are delighted with the outcome, as it celebrates many of the strengths that make our school so special. We remain committed to addressing areas for development and, as the academic year unfolds, we will continue striving to ensure the very best outcomes for every child in our care.

St Joseph's RC Primary School - Ofsted, CSI and Performance Data



# 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](mailto:admin@st-josephs.hereford.sch.uk)

*Time*  
SPENT WITH  
**FAMILY**  
IS WORTH  
*every*  
SECOND

Enjoy your weekend!

God Bless

Mrs  
Francis

