

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

Matthew 7:12

7/11/25

WELCOME BACK!

Dear Families,

Welcome back to the second half of the Autumn term! This season always brings a sense of excitement and anticipation as we begin the countdown to Christmas and embrace the spirit of Advent.

The weeks ahead are filled with wonderful opportunities and festive activities. As always, it promises to be a busy and joyful time, and we're incredibly grateful for your ongoing support in helping make our children's learning experiences so meaningful and memorable.

We're delighted to welcome Mr Harber to our school community this term as a full-time class teacher. He will be sharing class responsibilities with Mrs Vernon in Year 4 throughout the year.

Mr Harber is already a well-loved member of our school family, having completed many of his trainee placements here at St Joseph's. His familiarity with our routines and values makes him a fantastic addition to the team, and we're thrilled to have him on board!



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

Matthew 7:12



NSPCC

**Speak out. Stay safe.
programme**

This week, our children have been taking part in the NSPCC

‘Speak Out Stay Safe’ programme.

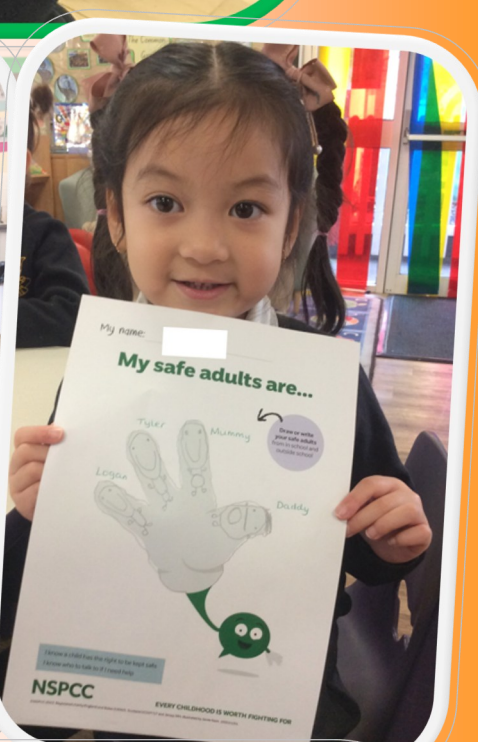
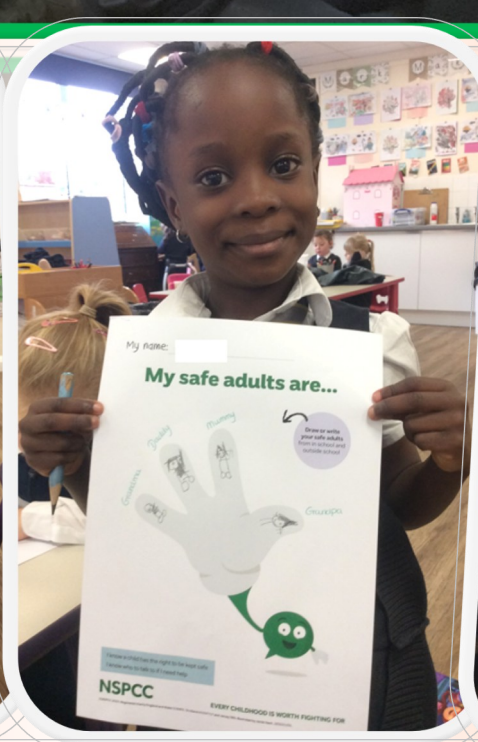
On Monday we launched this focus, when the children enjoyed watching a special assembly all about keeping safe. They learned that it’s always okay to speak out if something doesn’t feel right.

Together, we talked about trusted adults – the people who help us feel safe, listen to us, and can help when we need it.

The children shared some lovely ideas about who their trusted adults are, and then created beautiful drawings to show these special people.

We’re so proud of how thoughtfully the children engaged with this important message about staying safe and speaking out.





Parent Workshops

Our years 5 and 6 parent workshops will be taking place on the following dates:

Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar—Monday 17th November @ 3:30pm in the year 5 classroom

Maths Calculations—Tuesday 25th November @ 3:30pm in the year 6 classroom.

Can parents wishing to attend please contact the school office and so we can account for numbers attending. Year 5 and 6 children are also welcome to attend.



This week, local community police officers have been patrolling The Avenue to help ensure that parking around our school remains safe and respectful for everyone.

We kindly ask families to avoid parking on the corners of The Avenue. For safety and visibility, drivers must not park within 10 metres (32 feet) of any junction.

While pavement parking isn't illegal, it can result in a fine. More importantly, pavements in this area are regularly used by families with prams —so please keep them clear.

We also ask that you do not block residents' driveways or park on grass verges, as many take great pride in maintaining their surroundings. Thank you in advance for your continued support.

Cooking Club

A message from Mrs Urding...

White Chocolate & Blueberry Muffins – A Sweet Success!

This week in Cooking Club, the children baked a batch of delicious white chocolate and blueberry muffins. They had a fantastic time mixing the ingredients, carefully folding in the juicy blueberries and creamy white chocolate chunks. The room was filled with delicious smells!

It was wonderful to see such super teamwork and enthusiasm from everyone. We hope you enjoyed your tasty treat to take home!





A MESSAGE FROM SARAH.....

Wednesday's topic in Year 3 Art lesson was the Ancient Egyptians and their art. The children made scrolls based on Papyrus (Egyptian Paper). They tore strips of brown paper which were glued onto tin foil. The strips of paper will then be dried and become Papyrus scrolls. The children will then write on and decorate the scrolls next week.



Remembrance

Our Year 5 and 6 children were invited to attend the Remembrance Service at The Prospect this week. They worked hard to learn the hymn, 'Guide Me, O, Thou Great Redeemer' in preparation for Thursday morning. At the service, the children listened carefully to the information that was shared about the specific memorials. They sang beautifully and were attentive and respectful throughout, we felt very proud of them all.





A MESSAGE FROM MRS LEREGO....

All the Nursery children have loved making some fantastic firework pictures this week using sparkly paint and toilet rolls!

We have all been making collage poppies ready for our remembrance assembly next week.

Star of the week - Nahla for taking part in targeted activities.





**MAKE A
DIFFERENCE**

Samaritan's Christmas Shoebox Appeal

We extend our deepest gratitude to all the families who took part in our Christmas Shoebox project. Your kindness and thoughtfulness are helping bring joy to children who might otherwise go without gifts this festive season.

Thanks to your incredible efforts, many young hearts will experience the magic of Christmas in a truly meaningful way. You've made a difference—and we couldn't be more thankful!



Grateful 



**...COMING
NEXT WEEK!**

ANTI-BULLYING WEEK 2025

**POWER
FOR
GOOD**
#ANTIBULLYINGWEEK

Monday 10th to
Friday 14th November

**ODD SOCKS
DAY 2025**



Monday 10th November

#OddSocksDay

#PowerForGood

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!



Don't forget
parents'
evening!

Next week, commencing Monday 10th November, we are holding our Parents' Evenings for Reception to Year 4. Please contact the school office if you have not yet booked an appointment. We look forward to welcoming you then.



Remembrance Day November 11

On Tuesday 11th November we will be holding our own Remembrance Service here in School, to honour those who served and sacrificed in wars and conflicts. We will of course be holding a two minute silence, as we take the time to reflect, respect, and show our gratitude, marked by the words: "We will remember them."

**BAKE
SALE**



On Friday 14th November our Peter Pan cast members and Miss Steiner will be holding a cake sale in the playground straight after school. All proceeds raised will go towards resources for our up and coming Peter Pan performance.

SUPER HERO DAY
NEXT FRIDAY 14TH NOVEMBER
COME TO SCHOOL DRESSED AS YOUR
FAVOURITE SUPER HERO!

COMMUNITY GARDEN

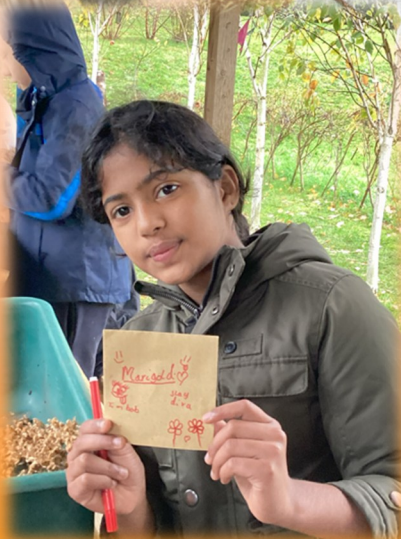
Our visit to the community gardens was full of fun and discovery! The children enjoyed a pumpkin scavenger hunt, where they found nine pumpkins spelling out the word “acornfall.” After that, they enjoyed picking apples and tasting them fresh from the tree.

We also explored nature by collecting plants, leaves, and natural materials to create beautiful artwork representing the four seasons. To finish the day, students harvested foxglove, marigold, and poppy

seeds, and even planted their own little acorn seeds to take part in the cycle of growth.

It was a wonderful, hands-on experience connecting us with nature and the changing seasons!





ART CLUB

This afternoon our young artists got busy creating papier mache fruit and vegetables to decorate our dining hall! The children explored real fruit and veggies for inspiration, used tin foil to shape their designs, and then carefully covered them in papier mache.

They showed fantastic focus and creativity – we can't wait to see how they look once they're dry and ready to paint next week!

Stay tuned for the colourful results!



Gardening Club



This week gardening club was all about planting for today for tomorrow's beauty! Once birds were fed we got our hands dirty planting Iris bulbs. Root end must go down and lots of soil added on top to give them the best chance of shooting up in the spring. We did the same with acorns and planted the bulbs of Bluebells for our forest garden. We re-potted our thriving Bay Trees into bigger pots, to allow them to grow even bigger and stronger. It's so fun to imagine bulbs working hard all winter long in order to bloom beautifully in the Spring.



Forest School

A little rain didn't dampen our spirits today! Year 5 had a fantastic time during their Forest School session — embracing the outdoors and making the most of every muddy moment.

The children built amazing shelters, (which were much needed!), tried their hand at whittling and sawing, and got creative in the mud kitchen. They also enjoyed cooking marshmallows over the fire and even made some delicious cookie dough!

They showed excellent teamwork, resilience, and enthusiasm — true outdoor adventurers!

A big thank you to Mrs Bennett for planning and delivering such amazing sessions!





Art in Practice

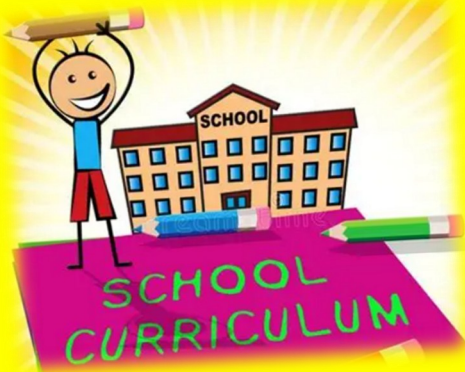


Year 1 have begun their exciting new art topic, 'Make Your Mark', by exploring the expressive power of lines. The children experimented with a variety of materials, chalk, crayons, pastels, watercolours, and charcoal to create different types of lines, including wavy, straight, broken, horizontal, and vertical. As part of their learning, they were introduced to the work of Bridget Riley, a celebrated British artist known for her use of lines to create striking optical il-

lusions. Her artwork inspired the children to think about how lines can be used not just to draw, but to build patterns, movement, and visual effects. Great job everyone!



A great big welcome to our brand new Curriculum Ambassadors! These children have been chosen to represent their classes in our regular Curriculum Ambassador meetings and to share their ideas and opinions about teaching and learning at St. Joseph's. I am really looking forward to working with them and hearing their thoughts about their lessons. I would also like to say a big thank you to the previous team for their hard work and super contributions. Watch this space for the feedback from our first meeting next week...



**SO
PROUD
OF YOU**

During the half term break, Alice was interviewed by BBC Radio Hereford and Worcester, on behalf of HOPE support services in aid of Children In Need. She showed great courage in discussing her personal story and how Hope have been a great support in her journey.

We are super proud of you Alice!



Autumn Term

Monday 10th—Friday 14th November	Anti- Bullying Week– Super Hero Day on Friday 14th November!
Tuesday 11th November	Parents Evening 3:30pm—6:00pm
Wednesday 12th November	Parents Evening 3:30pm—6:00pm
Friday 21st November	Children in Need
Friday 21st November	Pyjama Day and Movie Night
Friday 28th November	Non uniform Day—Chocolate donations for the Christmas Fayre
Thursday 4th December	End of term Mass
Friday 5th December	Christmas Fayre
Tuesday 9th December	Reception and Key Stage 1 Nativity @ 5:30pm
Wednesday 10th December	Nursery Nativity @ 2:00pm
Thursday 11th December	Reception Class Christmas outing!
Thursday 11th December	Whole School Victorian Christmas Day and KS2 workshops
Thursday 11th December	Parent Voice @ 2:00pm
Friday 12th December	Christmas Dinner Day and afternoon celebrations!
Tuesday 16th December	KS1 Christmas Theatre Trip
Thursday 18th December	KS2 Christmas Production 5:30pm
Friday 19th December	Nursery Christmas Party
Friday 19th December	End of Autumn Term Christmas Holidays begin!

SPRING TERM

Monday 5th January	Children return to school
Wednesday 7th January	Year 3 swimming
Friday 9th January	Young Voices
Thursday 15th January	Beginning of Term Mass
Tuesday 20th January	St Joseph's Got Talent
Wednesday 21st January	Year 3 Assembly
Wednesday 28th January	Year 4 Assembly
Wednesday 4th February	Year 2 Assembly
Wednesday 11th February	Year 1 Assembly
Friday 13th February	Valentines Disco
Monday 16th – Friday 20th February	Half Term
Thursday 6th March	World Book Day
Wednesday 11th March	Reception Assembly
Tuesday 17th March	Parents Evening
Wednesday 18th March	Parents Evening
Tuesday 17th March	St Patrick's Day
Wednesday 18th March	Year 5 Assembly
Thursday 19th March	St Joseph's Feast Day
Friday 20th March	Big Lent Walk
Monday 23rd March	Whole school Art Week
Thursday 26th March	End of Term Mass
Friday 27th March	FSJ Bounceathon End of Spring Term

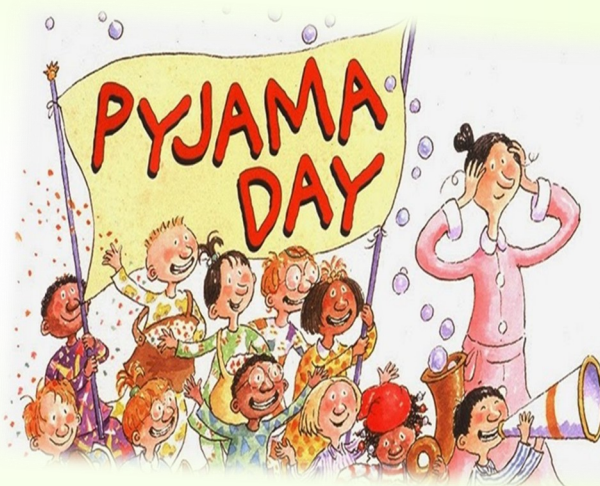
**COMING
SOON!**



On **Friday 21st November** we will be celebrating Children in Need Day. The children are welcome to come to school in their pyjamas and donate £1.00 towards this charity.

We will also be holding a movie night straight after school until 5:45pm, with pizza and popcorn! We will be showing three different movies, in three separate classrooms. The choice of movies will be:

- 1) Bad Guys 2
- 2) Minecraft Movie
- 3) Henry Danger the Movie



If your child would like to attend this event please email the office and so we can add them to the register and a payment of £5.00 will be added to Parent Pay. Many thanks.

**GREAT
Attendance**



WYE	97.9%
AMAZON	93.16%
DANUBE	98.67%
TIBER	96.76%
THAMES	99.64%
AVON	93.04%
SEINE	94.58%

Congratulations to Miss Jones and her family on the birth of their new baby boy—Freddie, who arrived during the half term. Sending you best wishes from us all— it was lovely to meet Freddie when he came for his first visit earlier this week.

Spread the Joy this Christmas!

Take part in our

CHRISTMAS HAMPER RAFFLE

All proceeds go to

St. Joseph's School Ross On Wye



£1 per strip | Draw: 15th December 2025

With love and festive cheer
from Co-op Ross On Wye

Dear God

We thank you for your love and your
promise to be with us.

At school or work, at rest or play, help us
to feel near to you and hear your voice.

Guide us to always do our best in every
situation and to love one another.

Amen

Enjoy your weekend

God
Bless

Mrs
Francis

In a world
Where you can
Be anything
Be kind