

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

21/11/25

Matthew 7:12

Dear Families,

As a school, we are prioritising 'resilience' this year, by equipping our children with the skills, mindset and support they need to adapt, persevere and thrive in the face of challenges."

Whether children are tackling a difficult task, preparing for assessments, or learning to work with new classmates, resilience empowers them to stay positive and persistent.

As the year continues, we have planned lots of experiences throughout the curriculum to ensure the children have the opportunity to apply these skills and develop a 'can do attitude' to their lives.

In partnership with our parents we can work together to grow confidence and independence within our children.

To support this incentive, we are taking part in the Social Impact Schools Award to formally recognise and celebrate the amazing social actions that our school take over the school year. As you know, social action is a key part of school life here at St Joseph's- we know that by getting involved in things, volunteering, campaigning and fundraising, children are growing themselves whilst also benefiting the world around them.



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

Matthew 7:12

Resilience



Building Resilience: A Key Focus This Year

One of our core priorities this school year is nurturing resilience in our children—helping them develop the confidence, perseverance, and self-belief needed to tackle challenges and strive for success in all they do.

A fantastic example of this took place on Monday during our climbing wall activity. Every child embraced the challenge with enthusiasm and determination, giving their best effort to climb as high as they could. Even more heartwarming was the way they encouraged and supported one another throughout—it was truly wonderful to witness.

Well done to all our brilliant climbers!

We're excited to continue growing our resilience together as the year unfolds.









DO
YOUR
BEST





Winter Has Come Early to St. Joseph's!
Although winter doesn't officially begin until 21st December, in the garden it starts with the first frost. It's a beautiful sight—what looks like snow resting on our plants, and even our pond covered with sheets of ice!
This season reminds us how essential it is to have a time of rest. Just as plants gather their energy and minerals now to prepare for future growth, we too will take this opportunity to plan and gather ideas.

We look forward to welcoming all our happy gardeners back in the spring, full of big and bright energy for a new season of growth!



Parent Workshops



On Monday, Miss Steiner hosted an informative workshop for Year 5 and 6 parents, focusing on Spelling, Punctuation, and Grammar (SPaG).

The session offered valuable insights into the curriculum and showcased examples of the types of questions children are expected to tackle. Parents also received helpful resources to support learning at home.

Thank you to Miss Steiner for leading such a practical and enlightening session, and to all the parents who joined us. Mr. Brain will be leading a maths calculations workshop for parents next Tuesday 25th November at 3:30pm in the year 6 classroom. Please email the school office to confirm your attendance.



We have been enjoying some lovely walks in the frost and exploring the feeling of shaving foam - searching for the hidden animals!

Acorns: We have been focusing on our physical development by completing an obstacle course - climbing, balancing and jumping off the equipment.

Oakleaves: Our story of the week is Goldilocks and the three bears. The children have been retelling the story and playing with the three bear tuff tray.

Star of the week: Sabrina for coming into Nursery happily and trying to re tell the story of Goldilocks and the three bears.



Children in Need

Although we are a week behind everyone else, (due to last week's Anti-Bullying theme), today we are celebrating 'Children in Need'. Our pupils and staff arrived in their cosiest pyjamas, filling the school with colour, comfort and plenty of smiles!

By taking part, we are helping to support this amazing charity, which works tirelessly to change the lives of children and young people across the UK. Thank you to everyone who donated and joined in the fun—your kindness makes a real difference.

Together, we're showing that even small acts can help create big change!

We' also fully prepared and looking forward to our Movie Night after school too!



Children in Need



Art Club

In Art Club this week, our young artists added a bright layer of white acrylic paint to their dried papier-mâché fruits and vegetables, creating a smooth base ready for vibrant colours next week. Everyone worked with great focus and plenty of excitement!

After that, we jumped into a festive activity—making Christmas scrapbooks using recycled cards. The children loved cutting, designing, and decorating their pages, filling them with creativity and holiday cheer.

We can't wait to continue the colourful fun next week!



**...COMING
NEXT WEEK!**

Parent Workshops

Monday

**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.

Thursday



Next Thursday 27th November, after school, the FSJ will be holding a Christmas sale in the playground/central weather dependent.

Please come along to support the school.

Friday

Next Friday is non uniform day. We are asking for bottle donations for the tombola at the Christmas Fayre.

Thank you as always for your continued support.



**COMING
SOON!**

CHRISTMAS FAYRE

**FRIDAY 5TH DECEMBER @
1:30PM—4:00PM**

*Save
the
date*

Victorian Christmas



Victorian Christmas Celebration –

Thursday 11th December

Step back in time with us as we celebrate a Victorian Christmas at school! On this special day, all pupils are warmly invited to come dressed in Victorian-style attire to help bring the festive spirit of the era to life.

We're thrilled to welcome a visiting drama company who will be leading immersive workshops for our Key Stage Two children. Through these interactive sessions, pupils will experience what life was like for a Victorian child—learning through role play, storytelling, and hands-on activities.



CHRISTMAS COUNTDOWN

RECEPTION AND KEY STAGE 1 NATIVITY

Tuesday 9th December - Reception and Key Stage 1 Nativity

There will be two performances at 10:00am and 5:30pm. To allow us to reach a wider audience please only attend one performance. The morning performance would be an ideal one for grandparents and parents with very young children to attend.

NUSERY NATIVITY

Wednesday 10th December - Nursery Nativity

The Nursery will be performing their Nativity play at 2:00pm followed by refreshments in the hall. We look forward to welcoming our families to this special event!

VICTORIAN CHRISTMAS DAY

Thursday 11th December - Victorian Christmas

On this special day, all pupils are warmly invited to come dressed in Victorian-style attire to help bring the festive spirit of the era to life.

We're thrilled to welcome a visiting drama company who will be leading immersive workshops for our Key Stage Two children.





RECEPTION TRIP TO CLEARWELL CAVES!

Thursday 11th December - Reception children will be visiting Clearwell Caves as part of our school's Christmas celebrations. This promises to be a magical experience for the children and a wonderful way to get into the festive spirit with their friends. During the tour, the children will meet Santa and receive a special gift. On our journey home, we will stop at Beechenhurst for a picnic lunch and some outdoor games.

CHRISTMAS DINNER DAY AND AFTERNOON CELEBRATIONS!

Friday 12th December - Christmas Dinner Day and celebrations
We'll be gathering in the school hall at lunchtime to enjoy our Christmas dinner together—a cherished tradition that brings us all together in celebration! After our meal, we'll transform the hall in preparation for a magical surprise show in the afternoon. This joyful event is lovingly organized each year by the FSJ, and it's always a wonderful way to kick off the festive season!

YEAR 1 AND 2 CHRISTMAS OUTING!

Tuesday 16th December - our Year 1 and 2 children will be visiting the Sherman Theatre in Cardiff to watch 'The Frog Prince' as part of our school's Christmas celebrations. This promises to be a magical experience for the children and a wonderful way to get into the festive spirit with their friends.





IT'S BEGINNING TO LOOK A LOT LIKE CHRISTMAS

Christmas Crafting Magic!

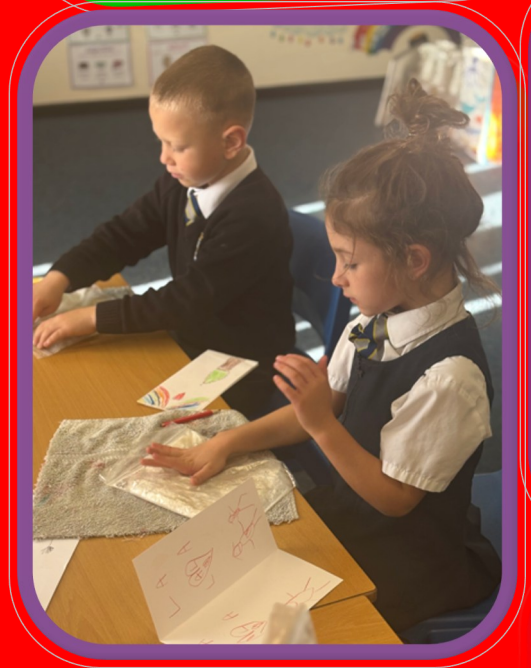
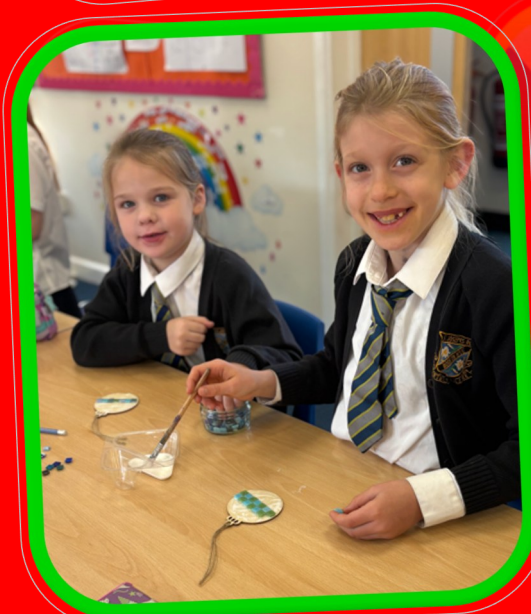
On Thursday, our school was filled with festive cheer as every class got creative making Christmas decorations for the upcoming Christmas Fayre on Friday 5th December.

A massive thank you to Sarah, who sprinkled Christmas joy across the school—visiting each classroom and inspiring children with her sparkle and enthusiasm! The children are so proud of their hand-made creations, and we can't wait for you to see them at the Fayre.

Let the countdown to Christmas begin!



GET READY



CHRISTMAS FAYRE

Autumn Term

Friday 28th November	Non uniform Day—bottle donations for the Christmas Fayre - tombola
Thursday 4th December	End of term Mass
Friday 5th December	Christmas Fayre @ 1:30pm
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
Tuesday 27th January	Key Stage 2 Theatre trip to see the BFG
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



A big congratulations to our lucky ticket winner, Archie! He got to enjoy the Hereford match v Curzon FC on November 1st and had a fantastic day out with his dad! 🏆🏆🏆👨👦

We look forward to hearing all about Sakura's visit to the stadium on 29th November for their next home game.



WYE	99.17%
AMAZON	93%
DANUBE	98%
TIBER	96.76%
THAMES	94.29%
AVON	97%
SEINE	96.25%



Attendance & Punctuality

Please be reminded that children arriving after 9:15am will be marked as unauthorised late. Regular punctuality is essential to ensure minimal disruption to learning and to help your child start the day calmly and prepared. Thank you for your continued support.

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

*“Choosing kindness is
just as easy as
smiling.”*

—Justin Tremblay

Enjoy your weekend

God Bless

Mrs Francis