

St Joseph's Catholic Primary School



16/1/26

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

Matthew 7:12

Dear Families,

It's been another busy week here in school with lots going on!

On Monday, we welcomed Victoria Major, Herefordshire Council's Health Schools Advisor. Victoria led our parent information session on Healthy Eating in Schools, and we would like to thank those who were able to attend this valuable session.

We have shared the presentation slides with all parents this week. These outline the changes we are implementing to ensure we continue to meet our statutory duty as a school. Schools in England are required to promote healthy eating and drinking as part of supporting pupils' overall health and wellbeing.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support as we work together to embrace these positive changes for the long-term benefit of our children. Please follow the link below to access ideas for health lunch box snacks:

[Healthy Lunchbox Ideas - Healthy Little Foodies](#)

[Lunchbox ideas and recipes – Healthier Families - NHS](#)

Parents may find the 'Yuka' app helpful when making food and drink choices. By scanning barcodes, the app provides clear information about nutritional quality and suggests healthier alternatives. It can be a useful tool to support healthy eating habits and encourage children to make informed choices.



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

MATH Workshop

4 PARENTS

We had a fantastic turnout on Tuesday at Year 2 Maths Mastery workshop with parents and grandparents! I

t was great to see families working together, exploring strategies, and gaining a deeper understanding of how maths is taught here in school.

Thank you to everyone who was able to attend. We're looking forward to year 1 and Reception classes taking part in the coming weeks!





Learning Together

SEA CADETS

ROSS-ON-WYE & MONMOUTH



On Monday morning, our Year 5 and 6 pupils welcomed Ross-on-Wye & Monmouth Sea Cadets & Royal Marine Cadets for a special assembly! They learnt all about what the Sea Cadets is, the exciting opportunities it offers, and how it helps young people build confidence, teamwork, leadership skills, and a sense of adventure.







John Kyrle High School





On Tuesday our Year 5 pupils visited John Kyrle for their high school taster visit.

There were smiles all around as they experienced a real taste of secondary school life, and we couldn't be prouder of them.

They began the day with a French lesson, exploring a new language beyond what we learn here. This was followed by an exciting art session where they experimented with a range of media, including mono-printing and marbling. Their creativity really shone through.

A fantastic experience for all! A big thank you to John Kyrle High School for making us feel so welcome!

I liked the art lesson that we had because it was something new that we hadn't done before and it was really creative!

The French lesson was also really good!

Henry . B

I enjoyed learning French, as we learn Spanish at our school and so it was something new!

I'm looking forward to going to John Kyrle again soon!

Archie Barlow



Welcome to our Nursery



A message from Mrs Lerego....

We've had a wonderful week in the Baby Room as we welcomed several new little ones. They've settled beautifully and have already begun exploring their new environment with enthusiasm. Highlights included discovering treasures in the Twinkle Twinkle basket, splashing and scooping in our zesty citrus soup, and creating their own sparkly stars with playdough.

Over in Acorns and Oakleaves, the children have been busy with a wintery theme. They've been weighing polar animals, painting ice in the outdoor tuff tray, and practising their scissor skills to craft delicate snowflakes. It's been fantastic to see their concentration and creativity shine.



Star of the Week

A big congratulations to Lucas for showing fantastic behaviour throughout the week. We're all so proud of you!





Forest School

Reception had a fantastic Forest School session this week, linking closely with our science learning about woodland animals and their habitats. The children learned about different woodland animals and discovered what their homes are called, including fox dens, badger setts and rabbit warrens. They then worked together at Forest School to create their own versions using natural materials. The children were incredibly engaged, curious and enthusiastic, and loved learning about the animals in such a hands-on way!



Cooking Club

A banner for 'Cooking Club' featuring various kitchen items and food. On the left is a kitchen scale. In the center is a silver cooking pot with a knife resting on its handle. To the right are a measuring jug, a sandwich, a chocolate cake, and two cupcakes. The text 'Cooking Club' is written in a large, orange, bubbly font across the top.

Our Cooking Club had a fantastic time making delicious and healthy pizzas! The children worked hard chopping fresh peppers and preparing their pizza bases with a tomato spread. Each pizza was unique, as the children chose from a variety of toppings, including ham, pineapple, sweetcorn, cheese, peppers, and pepperoni. Well done everyone.





It was another fun week at Dance-Fit on Wednesday! The children have been learning new routines, working as a team, and building confidence along the way. Everyone had a great time dancing, laughing, and sharing their creativity, and the club continues to be a highlight of the week for those involved.

Great work everyone!





*This week in
Journalism Club.....*

The excitement has been building this week...The children have been taking part in the auditions for St Joseph's Got Talent and showing off their amazing skills!

The final is on Tuesday 20th January, with KS1 at 9:30am, and KS2 at 1:30pm.

Abigail, Olivia and Olcan (our new member of our reporting team!) interviewed some children about their auditions, and here are some of the questions and answers:

When asked, "Why did you audition for St. Joseph's Got Talent?" Elia replied, " Because it's my dream to be a singer when I grow up, so I want to start achieving it now".

We asked Hunter, "Does singing inspire you?" and Hunter replied, "Yes, because I've never won a trophy before, so I want to win and get a prize!

Connie, from Year 6, who performed Taylor Swift's 'The Fate of Ophelia,' told us that, "Since it was my last St Joseph's Got Talent, it didn't matter if I didn't make the final, so I thought I might just go for it!" When Harrison was asked why he auditioned he replied, "It was for fun, and to prove that boys can sing because they can!" Livia, also in Year 6, did some excellent cultural dances which got her into the finals.

Well done to all the children who auditioned, you all did such a fantastic job!

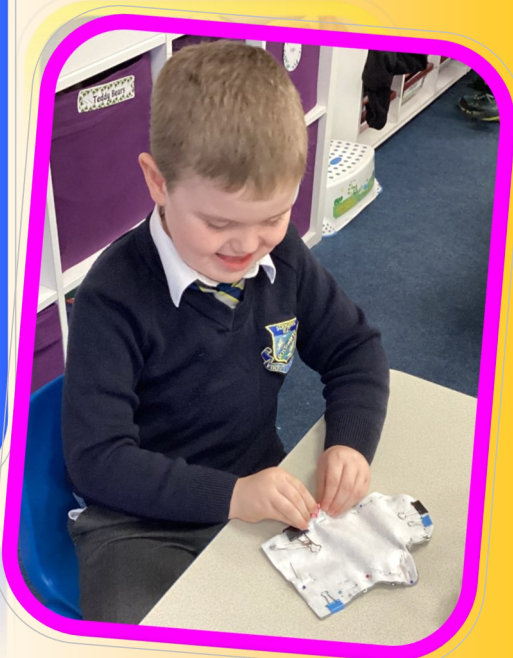
GOOD LUCK TO ALL THE FINALISTS! WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOUR TALENTS!

Abigail, Olivia and Olcan



Amazon Class have made a fantastic start on their puppet-making project in Design and Technology this week!
In their first lesson, they explored creative ways to join materials, experimenting with pins, paper clips, and staples. Now, they've moved on to using needle and thread and are doing an amazing job.

We can't wait to see their finished puppets!



NEXT WEEK

TUESDAY



ST JOSEPH'S PRIMARY SCHOOL

**ST JOSEPH'S
BRITAIN'S GOT
★ TALENT**

CLASS AUDITIONS - MONDAY 12TH JANUARY

**SHINE LIKE A STAR
20TH OF JANUARY**

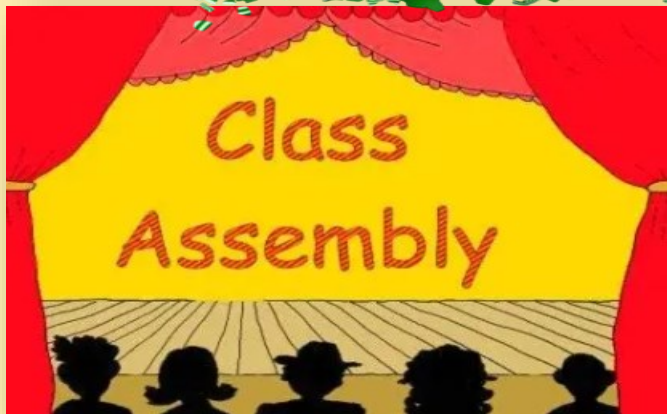
We are excited to announce that the finals of St Joseph's Got Talent will take place next Tuesday. After some fantastic auditions, our finalists are ready to take to the stage and showcase their amazing talents.

The Key Stage 1 final will be held in the morning, followed by the Key Stage 2 final in the afternoon. Pupils will have the opportunity to support their classmates and enjoy a wonderful celebration of confidence, creativity and performance.

We are all very much looking forward to this special event and can't wait to see our talented pupils shine!

If your child is in the final you will have received an email inviting you to attend and so you can watch your child's performance.

WEDNESDAY



Next Wednesday 21st January our Year 3 children will be performing their class assembly at 2:30pm in the school sports hall. We look forward to welcoming our year 3 parents to this event.

easyfundraising

Help us to raise free funds as you shop online

Sign up

JOHN LEWIS Booking.com

Argos ebay

M&S TESCO

JUST EAT 8,000+ online brands

The FSJ have signed up to a great website called Easyfundraising to help raise money for The Friends of St. Joseph's - simply by shopping online.

Easyfundraising turns your everyday online shopping into FREE donations when you use them to shop with over 8,000 retailers such as Morrisons, Sainsburys, Asda, Tesco, Argos, eBay, John Lewis & Partners, Argos, ASOS and Booking.com and lots more.

You can also raise money when shopping in store by linking your credit/debit card to your account.

Retailers then make a small donation to say 'thank you' and Easyfundraising gives those free funds to the FSJ.

Please register using this link – just click sign up -

https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/support-a-good-cause/step-1/?char=413876&invite=27VJ8X&referral-campaign=s2s&utm_campaign=web-referral

Plus, once you've raised your first donation, Easyfundraising will give The Friends of St. Joseph's a £1 bonus donation!

There's no catch or hidden charges and The Friends of St. Joseph's will be really grateful for your donations.

Coming soon

Dates for the Diary:

MATH Workshop 4 PARENTS

A message from Mrs Murray....

Parent workshops for Reception & Year 1.

In this workshop we will share with you some of the number work your child will be learning in school, and share games and activities for use at home. We would love everyone to attend the workshop, during which, your child will come and work with you.

The workshop will run from 9:00 until 10:30 am. We look forward to welcoming you to these.

Tuesday 27th January - Year 1

Valentines DISCO

Our Valentine's Disco will take place on **Thursday 12th February** in the school sports hall.

Times:

- Reception & Key Stage 1: 3:30pm – 4:30pm
- Key Stage 2: 5:00pm – 6:00pm

Children may bring a change of clothes in a bag to change into after school.

A snack box and drink will be provided for all children attending. If you would like your child to take part, please email the school office to confirm their place.

The cost will be £5.00, payable via ParentPay.



On Tuesday 27th January, our KS2 children we will be venturing to Stratford-upon-Avon for the Royal Shakespeare Company's production of The BFG! We will be leaving school at 10.45am and returning to school by around 6.15pm.

The children will need to have a packed lunch with them on this day and will also need a coat and a filled water bottle. They should bring a snack to eat after the performance as they will not be getting back until 6.15pm. Children should wear their full school uniform.

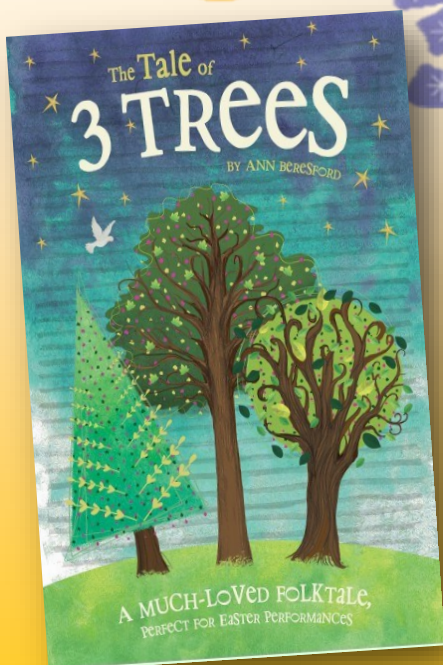
Please complete the payment contribution for this trip via ParentPay if you have not yet done so.

These contributions are essential to ensure that these experiences remain feasible and can go ahead as planned.

We kindly ask that payments are made as soon as possible to help us confirm bookings and arrangements. Thank you as always for working in partner-



year



Miss Steiner is excited to have started working on an Easter production with our Year 3 children. 'The Tale of Three Trees' is a beautiful musical that weaves together elements of the Easter story and other stories from Jesus' life.

I have been so impressed with the children's work on the play so far and am looking forward to getting started on rehearsing the acting next Thursday afternoon. The performance will take place on 26th March at 2pm in our sports hall and will be wonderful, I'm sure!

SPRING TERM

Tuesday 20 th January	St Joseph's Got Talent
Wednesday 21 st January	Year 3 Assembly
Tuesday 27 th January	Key Stage 2 Theatre trip to see the BFG
Wednesday 28 th January	Year 4 Assembly
Wednesday 28 th January	Mayor's community non-uniform day
Wednesday 4 th February	Year 2 Assembly
Monday 9 th —Friday 13 th February	Children's Mental Health Week
Wednesday 11 th February	Year 1 Assembly
Friday 13 th February	Valentines Disco
Monday 16 th – Friday 20 th February	Half Term
Wednesday 5 th March	Parent meeting @ 3:30pm- Year 4 Residential
Thursday 6 th March	World Book Day
Wednesday 11 th March	Reception Assembly
Tuesday 17 th March	Parents Evening
Wednesday 18 th March	Parents Evening
Tuesday 17 th March	St Patrick's Day
Wednesday 18 th March	Year 5 Assembly
Thursday 19 th March	St Joseph's Feast Day— whole school Mass
Friday 20 th March	Big Lent Walk
Monday 23 rd March	Whole school Art Week
Thursday 26 th March	Year 3 Easter Performance @ 2:00pm
Friday 27 th March	FSJ Bounceathon End of Spring Term

ART CLUB



Art Club was full of creativity this week! The children built on skills learned last week by exploring embossing, using tin foil to create bold textures and patterns. We also had great fun designing our own stamps and experimenting with printing – there were lots of exciting ideas and happy surprises along the way! Some of us also helped Sarah put the finishing touches on our papier mâché fruit and vegetables, adding texture and shading to make them look more realistic. The children loved having the freedom to express their creative selves and were so proud of what they achieved.



PETER PAN



IT'S COMPETITION TIME!

BE IN WITH A CHANCE OF WINNING FOUR FREE TICKETS TO SEE OUR PRODUCTION OF 'PETER PAN JR'

To enter our Peter Pan competition, use a piece of A4 paper and choose one of the following:

- ◆ **design a tattoo for a pirate**
- ◆ **design a costume for Tinkerbell**
- ◆ **design a flag for the pirate ship**
- ◆ **design an underground home for the Lost Boys**
- ◆ **write a story or a poem about what it would be like to fly**

Write your name and age on the back of your piece of paper and give it to Miss Steiner or hand it in to the school office, with the £1 entrance fee. Entries should all be handed in by Friday 23rd January.

All money raised from the competition will go towards resources for our production. Every winner will receive four free tickets to see the show (usually £6 each); there will be winners in 4 different age categories and ANYONE CAN ENTER! Even grown ups! Because nobody ever really grows up...



**GIVEAWAY
TIME**



VIOLIN LESSONS

Places now available for twenty minute
individual lessons

**CAROL LEWIS-MERRITT
UPPER STRING SPECIALIST**

For further information please email
calewismerritt@hotmail.com



HALF TERM **HOLIDAY** 16TH TO 20TH FEBRUARY

Club

admin@st-josephs.hereford.sch.uk

01989 564655

Our half-term holiday club will be running from Monday 16th to Friday 20th February, and we have lots of exciting activities planned throughout the week.

Places are filling up quickly, so if you would like your child to attend, please email the school office to book a place.

We look forward to welcoming you!

**NEW
DATE!**



YOUNG VOICES

Our Young Voices choir will now be attending their concert on Friday 27th February!

All other arrangements remain the same at this time. Further details will be shared in due course, including rehearsal dates. If you have any immediate questions, please do not hesitate to get in touch.



The Mayor of Ross-on-Wye

in partnership with

**St Joseph's Catholic Primary school
and
Ashfield Park Primary school**



invite you to join us for a

Community NON-UNIFORM day
Wednesday 28th January 2026

All donations will go to the Mayor's charity
(Age UK Wyvern)



**Everything's better
When we're working together**



Well done to Alice in year 3, for her first volunteer role at parkrun on a very cold Saturday morning! She clapped and cheered all the runners and more importantly made sure they ran in the right direction! Great work volunteering!

Make A Difference



! IMPORTANT

For everyone's safety please do not drive down the school drive or use the staff car park to turn around in the mornings or at normal pick up time.

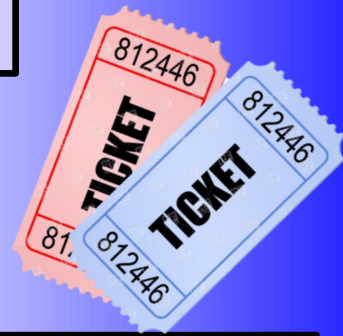
Thank you

WYE	92.5%
AMAZON	97%
DANUBE	93%
TIBER	94.41%
THAMES	98.21%
AVON	95%
SEINE	96.96%

Year 6



An email has been sent to all our Year 6 parents this week, with a link to order their child's Leavers Hoodie. The deadline for these orders is Friday 13th February. We hope they will then be ready for the children to wear in their final term with us. If you have not received an email, please contact the school office. Many thanks.



Tickets for 'Peter Pan Jr' are now available!

We would love it if members from our school community are able to come along and watch this production, as the children are working incredibly hard and the show

will be well worth seeing!

The performance is on **Tuesday 10th February at 6pm**, at **The Savoy Theatre in Monmouth**. Tickets are priced at £6 each and can be ordered by emailing the school office.

Due to the length and time of the performance, this production is not appropriate for pre-school or younger children. We kindly ask that this guidance is followed to ensure an enjoyable experience for both the performers and the audience.

Weekend Prayer

Dear Lord, Thank you for seeing us through this week. Thank you for the love and grace you've shown us and for the many ways you've blessed our lives. Please help us to love others with your love and to be a source of kindness, comfort and encouragement to those around us this weekend. We ask these things in Jesus' name. Amen

Enjoy your weekend

God Bless

Mrs Francis

