

# St Joseph's

## Preschool Newsletter



A navy jacket has gone missing in the class, please could you check your children's coats to see if your child has taken it by mistake. **Please ensure all items of clothing and bags that come into school are well labelled.**

**Reminder – Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> we are celebrating Book Day. All children are invited to come to school dressed as a character from the Wizard of Oz (our theme book for this year).**

**Topic: We are taking our prehistoric adventures even further next week as we step into the world of Cave Baby! The children will explore the story and use it as a springboard to learn about early humans, the amazing creatures that lived long ago, and the very first drawings ever made. We will be discovering how people told stories through cave art, experimenting with their own mark-making, and imagining what life might have been like in the Stone Age. It will be a wonderfully creative week filled with storytelling, exploration, and plenty of Stone Age magic.**

### Supporting your child at home

-Turn off the lights and use a torch to “explore the cave” together, talking about what they can see and what stories their drawings might tell.

-Tape a large sheet of paper to a wall, table, or even under a chair to create a “cave wall”.

- Chalk
- Charcoal (or a pencil rubbed on its side)
- Paints in earthy colours (brown, orange, black, red)
- Sponges, sticks, or fingers for mark-making

Turn off the lights and use a torch to “explore the cave” together, talking about what they can see and what stories their drawings might tell.

**Maths: Next week, we will be introduced to balance scales as part of our early maths learning. We will have the chance to experiment with placing different objects on each side and watching what happens. Through hands-on play, we will begin to use important vocabulary such as *heavier* and *lighter*, noticing how the scales move and comparing the weight of everyday items.**

**This will help build early problem-solving skills, curiosity, and a growing understanding of how things in their world work.**

### Supporting your child at home

Find two small containers or bowls and balance them on a ruler placed over a round object (like a tin can) to make a simple balance scale. *If you already have balance scales at home, even better.*

Gather a selection of small household items such as:

- A spoon, toy car, pinecone, block, piece of fruit
- Encourage your child to choose **two objects** and predict which one they think will be *heavier* and which will be *lighter*.
- Place the objects on each side of the balance and watch what happens together.



Please use the QR codes below to recap this weeks focus sounds



## Brilliant Things

Running free.  
Blowing  
bubbles.  
Dance with  
glee.  
Stamp in  
puddles.  
Into my shoes  
the water  
goes.  
Now I've got  
squelchy toes!



## Our Star Poem

### Important Information about Picking up at the end of the day

There are an increasing number of parents allowing their children on the equipment in the Key Stage 1 playground—whilst waiting to pick up in the evening. It is disappointing that even when asked not to do so—some parents have ignored the staff and carried on the next evening. **A reminder that the play equipment is not to be used by any children before or at the end of the school day.** We ask all parents to please keep your children with you.

Staff will ask you to remove your children if you put them on the equipment—please do not put them in the position to have to do so while they are also trying to safeguard their classes at handover.

## Information:



Family Lives offers a confidential and free\* helpline service for families in England and Wales (previously known as Parent line). Please call us on **0808 800 2222** for emotional support, information, advice and guidance on any aspect of parenting and family life. If you don't get an answer first time please do try again.



**We would be grateful for boxes of tissues for our cold noses please.**



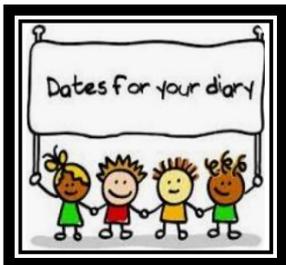
**Here are a few links to support your children's learning at home.**

<https://hungrylittleminds.campaign.gov.uk/>

<https://literacytrust.org.uk/policy-and-campaigns/home-learning-environment/small-talk/>

<http://www.wordsforlife.org.uk/>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/tiny-happy-people>



**EYFS School trip to Black park - Reception children and those Preschool 2<sup>nd</sup> June childrendue to start Reception in 2026. More details to follow.**

**Preschool will be closed on 2<sup>nd</sup> of June**

**Father's Day EYFS Assembly on 19<sup>th</sup> June at 2:15 pm**



**[Here is some links for support and information on toilet training.](#)**

<https://eric.org.uk/potty-training/#step-3-stopping-using-nappies>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/tiny-happy-people/articles/zhqts82#z8g8qyc>

<https://help-for-early-years-providers.education.gov.uk/health-and-wellbeing/toilet-training>



After some sensory fun and colour mixing...we can officially say our footprints are smaller than some dinosaurs!

We have been enjoying our new outdoor building material but the cardboard box was yet again the best bit!



Happy Mother's Day to all our wonderful Mummy's!  
Thank you for joining us at the Chitty Chatty Tea Party!



Have a lovely weekend  
Mrs Pugsley and the Preschool team