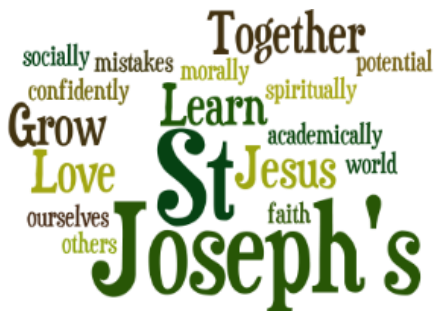


23rd February 2024

St Joseph's Catholic Primary School Newsletter



*Gospel Reading for
Sunday 25th February
Second Sunday of Lent
Mark 9: 2-10*



Headteacher message

It is so nice to watch the longer evenings extending our day—it seems to lift the mood of everyone when the hours of brightness extend. Unfortunately, the weather has not been so kind to us on the first few days of the half term. A Year 1 pupil, coming into school this week, told me that it was great weather for ducks! Let's hope now for better weather for humans in the remaining weeks of the term!

During the half term we began the season of Lent, on Ash Wednesday. Lent is a period of 40 days during which we remember the events leading up to and including the death of Jesus Christ, whose life and teachings are the foundation of Christianity. It is traditionally a time when believers engage in fasting and donating money to charity. Quite often this notion of fasting is related to giving up food, however, at the weekend, my parish priest shared some thoughts on the notion of fasting relating to our actions which I shared with staff this week, in our meetings. I would like to share them with you also:

Give up harsh words: use generous ones.

Give up unhappiness: take up gratitude.

Give up anger: take up gentleness and patience.

Give up pessimism: take up hope and optimism.

Give up worrying: take up trust in God.

Give up complaining: value what you have.

Give up stress: take up prayer.

Give up judging others: discover Jesus within them.

Give up sorrow and bitterness: fill your heart with joy.

Give up selfishness: take up compassion for others.

Give up being unforgiving: learn reconciliation.

Give up words: fill yourself with silence and listen to others.

Wishing you all a peaceful weekend.

SCHOOL KEY INFORMATION

Attendance—Week Ending 23rd February 2024

CLASS	%	CLASS	%
RA	96.0	RB	97.6
1JB	93.5	1EB	97.5
2E	94.1	2F	92.9
3GS	97.7	3D	96.5
4D	90.4	4H	99.6
5G	88.5	5C	97.6
6W	97.6	6MT	97.6

Attendance Goodie Bag

Our draw for the weekly attendance goody bag for this week went to Xavier (Yr3)

As Xavier was on a trip today Jacques collected his goody bag. Let's hope Jacques did not eat all the treats!

Our highest class attendance this week was 4H with 99.6%

They will have an additional playtime.

Well done!



Message from Attendance Officer

This week 353 pupils achieved 100% attendance and therefore had the chance to win the attendance goody bag on Friday.

Every week, **all** pupils who achieve 100% attendance have their names automatically added to the end of term prize drawer of an £50 Amazon voucher.



Whole School Attendance figure

95.4%

Safeguarding

NSPCC Pants Assembly

As part of our ongoing commitment to safeguarding the children, Mrs Ford delivered the NSPCC Pants Assembly this morning to children in KS1. Below are links to resources for parents, as it is worth following up on this vital learning with your children over the weekend.

<https://learning.nspcc.org.uk/research-resources/schools/pants-teaching/>

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/support-for-parents/pants-underwear-rule/>

Social Media

Please consider very carefully the access your children have to mobile phones and the platforms they are using.

Often they are not mature enough to consider the implications of some of the material they post.



National Online Safety

Punctuality

Being on time is a vital part of life and something we aim to instil in children from the youngest age.

The school day starts, with soft start at 8.30am—where teachers have additional learning opportunities set up within the classroom.

*The school gates close at 8.50am each morning. Adults who monitor the turning circle will leave this area to return to their jobs. Please **DO NOT** leave your child waiting for a gate to open up, as the external doors of the building will be locked and they will have no way of entering the school.*

***YOU MUST** park outside the school grounds **AND ACCOMPANY** your child to the school office to be signed in.*

School Information

Housepoints (rolling totals)

St David 61 (434)	St George 75 (385)
St Patrick 67 (548)	St Andrew 55 (453)

Midday Supervisor

We are always looking for additional Midday Supervisors to join our busy lunchtime team.

Do you have time on your hands, looking to re-join the workplace?
Monday to Friday 11.45 to 1.15pm,
every day or just a couple of days per week.

All hands welcome..... To find out more visit the [school website](#) for details, or contact Mrs Smith via office@stjosephschalfont.school.



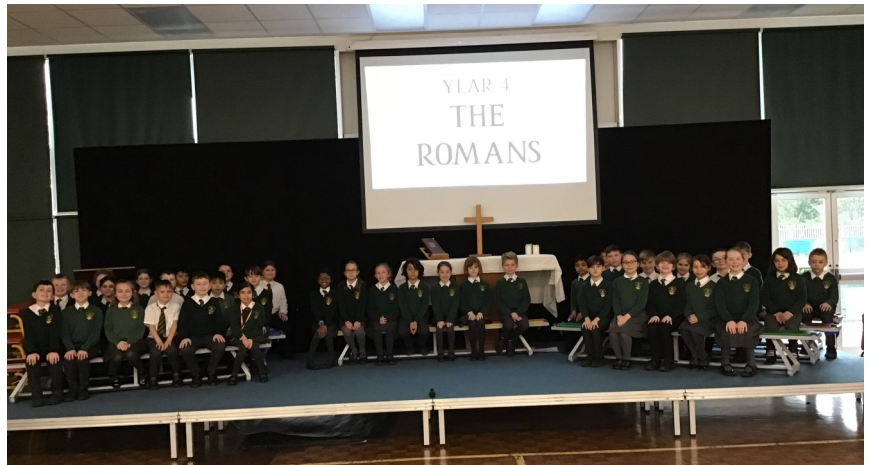
Year 4 Roman Britain Assembly

On Thursday afternoon (22.2.24) all of Year 4 shared their knowledge on Roman Britain. They became experts on the topic after studying it in History during the first 6 weeks of Lent Term.

They proudly and clearly informed the audience of the important facts as well as reciting 2 songs about the Romans. After, they shared their projects with the audience as they went around the museum.

Everyone was invited to take a picture in front of the Roman back drop.

Mrs Lovegrove and Mrs O'Kane really enjoyed posing 'like a Roman.'



SCHOOL KEY INFORMATION

Pupil Leadership message

This week, we were lucky enough to introduce our new idea to improve our schools Class Champion Awards. If you get Class Champion, you are classed as one of the VIPs for the whole week. As well as having a lanyard, you also get a set of privileges that vary in the year you are in, these include: 1st to lunch, a chair next to your teacher in assembly, walking Joey, allowed to play on the equipment all week even if its not your day and a homework pass, these are the Year 6 privileges, so they may not be the same for other years. All those who were the first recipients of the lanyards were very proud

On Monday, Darcey Hassett (6W) led our whole school assembly with the Pupil Leadership Team, all about dyslexia, both hers and Alex (a member of the team) have this learning difficulty. They talked about famous people with dyslexia, including Mohammed Ali , Tom Cruise, Jennifer Aniston, Whoopi Goldberg and Dwayne Johnson. She explained the impact dyslexia has on learning, especially reading. We even found out that one of the teachers in our school was dyslexic – Miss Grimshaw. The whole Pupil Leadership Team pitched in to help with the assembly.

The whole school found out that being dyslexic doesn't mean you are not smart but that you learn in a different way. As well as that they also found out that dyslexic people take longer to process questions and information.

At the end of the assembly Darcey thanked Sofia (a member of the team) for helping her with planning the assembly and preparing the powerpoint.

Over all the assembly was excellent and really informative.

This week, Year 4 took us on an adventure in their year group assembly, which was all about the Romans. At the end of the assembly, we had a look at the museum of artefacts they had made. We saw some brilliant things and they told us all about the number of weapons the Romans had and how important fighting was to them.

Have a great weekend.

Darcey and Sofia.

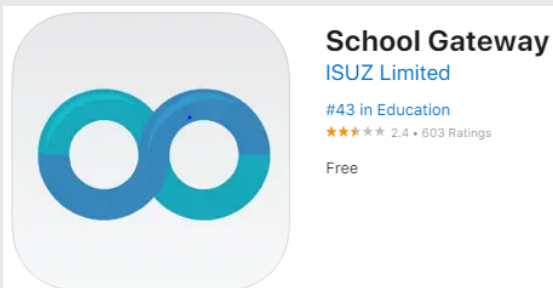


SCHOOL KEY INFORMATION

Email communications are sent to you via

Schoolcomms

To ensure **text messages** are received, please visit the [App Store](#) to download



enter your email address and mobile phone number that you have set up for school.

A PIN number will be sent to you—text messages will appear via this App.

WITHOUT THE APP YOU WILL NOT RECEIVE TEXT MESSAGES

Social Media

Make sure that you keep up to date with all the wonderful and interesting things we are doing in school by regularly checking in to facebook / twitter (X).

There is now so much information on our social media platforms and Miss Minoli is adding new things all the time.

FOLLOW US



End of the School Day

Please ensure that children remain supervised at the end of the school day. Children are not permitted to play within the Forest School, on the playgrounds or play equipment.

Please ensure that you leave the school grounds promptly once you have collected your children.

Thank you for helping us to keep your children safe.

School Uniform

As part of joining the school, parents are signing up to abide by and agree to the school policies and procedures. These are all available on the school website and are shared with parents when children are offered a place at St. Joseph's.

Our school uniform is part of our common identity and as part of our standards for the children, we expect everyone to abide by the uniform policy.

Below is the winter school uniform for Reception—Year 6. All children are expected to be in the correct school uniform. Please note the list below and ensure that your child is compliant.

Reception – Year 6		
	Item	Available from
Winter		
	Dark green V-necked jumper with school crest	Earth uniform
	Dark green tie with thin gold double stripe	Earth uniform
	White cotton shirt	Any stockist
	Dark grey full-length school trousers / Dark grey pleated,	Any stockist
	Dark grey or white knee/ankle socks or tights (no branded	Any stockist
	Black shoes (no branded logos)	Any stockist
Outdoor Wear		
	Black / navy coat (plain – no branded logos)	Any stockist
	Dark green shower-proof jacket or fleece with school crest	Earth uniform
PE and Games		
	Dark green gym bag with school crest	Earth uniform
	Black (plain – no branded logos) loose fitting shorts	Any stockist
	Green T-shirt with gold school crest	Earth uniform
	Black (plain – no branded logos) tracksuit bottoms	Any stockist
	Black (plain – no branded logos) sweatshirt	Any stockist
	Trainers (suitable for sporting activity)	Any stockist
School bag		
	Dark green book bag with school crest (Infants)	Earth uniform
	Dark green rucksack (small or large) with school crest	Earth uniform

Uniform can be purchased from Earthuniform or via our previously owned school uniform shop (on the school site).

Please can you particularly note—trainers are not part of school uniform
(except for PE).

School coats should be either black or navy.

Please be aware teachers will be following up on ensuring that all children have the appropriate uniform from Monday 5th February.

Essential Equipment List

Please can parents have a check this weekend to ensure that your child has all the correct stationery they need for learning.

Please see the list of essential equipment below —all of which are available from the school stationery shop.

We have just had a restock and the shop is open at the KS1 Hall door at 8.30am each morning.



Pritt Stick Glue	£1.50
Highlighter	£1
Sharpener	70p / 30p
Ruler	50p
Eraser	30p
Handwriting Pen	£1
Pencil	30p
Purple Pen	50p

Essential Equipment List

- 2-3 hb pencils
- pencil sharpener
- eraser
- ruler (30cm) non-foldable
- small selection of colouring pencils
- a glue stick
- dry wipe marker
- white board eraser
- purple pen (KS2)
- highlighter (KS2)

Reminder—pencil cases should be small / plain (not Smiggle or oversized) as these do not fit in the pupil's trays and often cause a distraction from learning.

SCHOOL KEY INFORMATION



*There are many enquiries regarding when, and when not,
to send children to school.*

Please see the NHS information page for more information.

St. Joseph's School Prayer

Our School Prayer

St. Joseph's is our school.

Teach us Lord, to Love, Learn and Grow together.

Just as you guided your beloved son, Jesus.

Open our hearts to your plans for us and

Show us your path to follow.

Each day, help us to feel your presence among us,

Protecting us on our journey.

Holy Spirit be with us.

St. Joseph pray for us. Amen



Our School

Lent Prayer

I want to follow in your footsteps

Because I trust in you.

Slowly I discover your path

And I move forward,

Keeping my eyes fixed on you.



Have a lovely weekend - St. Joseph's School

