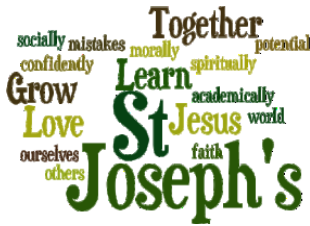


25th January 2026

St Joseph's Catholic Primary Weekly Reminders



Gospel reading for

Sunday 25th January

Conversion of Paul, Apostle Feast

Mark 16: 15-18



Headteacher Message

In assembly this week, Miss Edwards and Miss Eaton kindly took part in a game of "How Well Do You Know Me?" Both teachers were asked a series of questions and had to answer either "Miss Edwards" or "Miss Eaton." One example was: Who is more likely to stay up late at the weekend? They had to choose whether the answer described themselves or the other person.

The game helped us discover whether they truly knew each other—and they certainly proved they did, scoring an impressive 8 out of 9 (their only disagreement was over who tells the best jokes!). After two years of working closely together—spending time, talking, and listening—it was clear just how well they understand one another. We also enjoyed learning a little more about them along the way!

The message was clear: to really get to know someone, you must spend time with them, talk to them, and listen. This is also how we deepen and grow our relationship with God—through time spent in prayer, reflection, and meditation. In last weekend's Gospel, John the Baptist showed his understanding of Jesus by the titles he used for Him: Son of God and Lamb of God, each revealing different aspects of Jesus' mission.

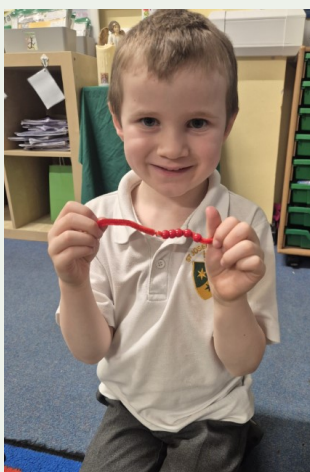
On Tuesday morning, I had the pleasure of watching 6BT's assembly, "Inspirational Women." The class shared the stories of remarkable women throughout history, as well as women from the Old Testament—173 named individuals and over 600 unnamed—whom Catholics believe played vital roles in salvation history. These women were true heroes of faith, demonstrating strength, wisdom, courage, and virtue as they placed their trust in God.

The children also reflected on the immense trust God placed in Mary, the mother of Jesus, chosen to carry Our Lord. Her faith and obedience remain deeply inspirational today. 6BT then spoke about the inspirational women in their own lives—their mothers. Hearing them share their stories, the qualities they admire, and the love and gratitude they feel was both moving and uplifting. Thank you 6BT.

“You’ll always be with me, like a handprint on my heart”

is the chosen theme of this academic year for everyone at St Joseph’s School. As we begin a new calendar year, we have taken time to reflect on our New Year’s resolutions and the positive impact each of us can make in the world.

We know that meaningful change begins with our own actions. With this in mind, each member of our community has created a set of “good deed beads” to help us consciously choose kindness each day. By carrying these beads with us, we hope to strengthen our relationship with Jesus and with one another, letting our everyday actions leave a lasting and loving mark.





Friday 16th January 2026
 LQ: Can I write in R6 to explore a characters feelings?

Dear beloved son,
 I miss you to infinity and beyond. When I stepped onto that boat, my heart sank. My brain was saying, "What are you doing? You may never see your son again." But I carried on. I know our friendship will keep me going. I am very sad you are not here with me, but you will always leave a handprint on my heart.

Love you always,
 Dad

Our theme has also inspired our writing—Thank you to Emie in Year 4 for this piece of inspirational writing!

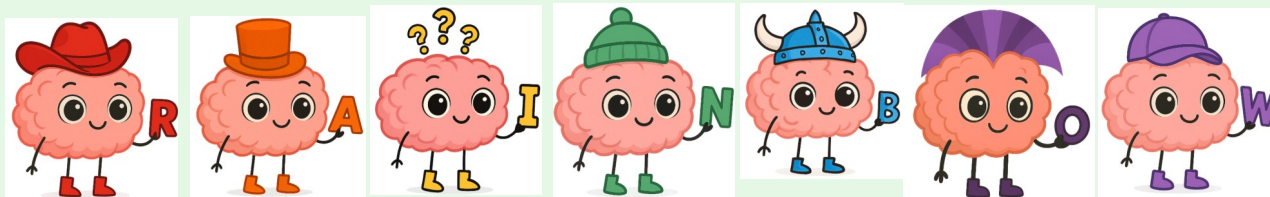


Class Champions this week



Class	Winner	Class	Winner
RMG	Vienna-Rose	RM	Paddy
1B	Evie	1D	Chloe
2AE	Grace	2RE	Harry
3B	Patrick	3W	Jacob
4B	Elsie	4FG	Mia
5D	Fatima	5F	Jasmine
6BT	Millie	6O	Albert

Rainbow Award Winners this week



Thomas 2AE, Tadhg 1D, Anna RM, Apollo RMG, Charlie 2AE, Emilia 1B, Aaron 3B, Tommie 4B, Leah-Rose 6O, Dallas 3W, Evie 5D, Isla 5F, All of class 6BT

Keeping Our Belongings Safe – Let's Work Together!

We know how frustrating it can be when items go missing, and we want to make sure every child's belongings find their way back home. In light of this could we please ask parents to:

- Check the items your child brings home and return anything that may have found its way into your house by mistake.
- Remind pupils about taking care of their personal belongings - we will do this too and carry out extra checks in classrooms at the end of each day.
- Make sure all clothing is clearly labelled – it makes it so much easier for us to reunite lost items quickly!

Key Reminders

Tuesday 27th January—2.30pm

SEN Coffee Morning—
Anxiety (guest speaker)

Tuesday 27th January—9.00am

4B Class Assembly

Wednesday 28th January—9.00am

5P Pizza Express trip

Friday 30th January

Banish the winter blues—MUFTI DAY

Links to other newsletters

[Preschool Newsletter](#)

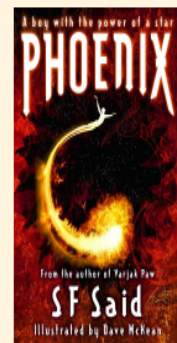
[Reception Newsletter](#)

Author of the Week

SF SAID



SF Said won the Nestle Smartie Children's Book Prize in 2003.



SF Said has written 4 books for children, each of which have been nominated for awards. He is a big advocate for reading for pleasure!

Varjak Paw, his first book, has been translated into 14 different languages, as well as being transformed into not only a stage play, but an opera too!

His books always look at belonging and identity of the character, prompting the reader to think.

If you like Abi Elphinstone or Hannah Gold, you'll love these books!

Happy reading! There's a book for everyone out there, so if you haven't yet found your favourite - keep reading! It could be the one you open next...

SF Said says:

Save the date..... Thursday, 5th February 2026



You're Invited!

**Smartphone Free Childhood - event at St. Joseph's Primary School.
Join us for an insightful evening to learn more about the Smartphone Free
Childhood movement and explore strategies for navigating the challenges
of Smartphones as children grow older.**

Event Details

- **Guest Speaker: Andy Cockburn**
- **Date: Thursday, 5th February 2026**
- **Time: 7:00 PM – 8:00 PM**

Morning Drop Off—Reminders

Please be aware that the vehicle gate is set to close at 8.45am and will close unless there is a traffic incident that we know about.

- ♦ **Once the school adult has left the gate (on Priory Rd)parents MUST NOT drive onto the school site.**
- ♦ **You must park and escort your child to the school office.**
- ♦ **The gate does not have a sensor on the road side and hence you run the risk of the gate closing on your car if you keep driving.**
- ♦ **When a vehicle is departing the site—please do not see this as an opportunity to keep driving in.**

Reminders regarding parking

- ♦ **There is no access to the school site to collect from after school clubs.**
- ♦ **Please do not request access to park unless you are a Blue Badge holder.**

**Please park considerately on the surrounding roads to the school and
do not block the driveways of residents.**

Attendance

eg	% Week	Reg	% Week	% Year group YTD
RM	94.8	RMG	93.5	95.3
1D	98.6	1B	99.2	96.2
2AE	97.9	2E	91.3	94.5
3W	98.5	3B	95.9	95.5
4B	97.9	4G/F	91.8	95.5
5B	98.3	5P	93.3	93.6
6O	99.6	6T	97.1	94.9
Top Reg	60			



**Highest Class Attendance was
60 with 99.6%**



**Winner of the Attendance Bag -
Tom in Year 5**

Reporting Absence

Please use the dedicated absence@stjosephschalfont.school email address to ensure your child's absence is recorded. Alternatively you may call 01753 887743 (Option 1) to leave a message on the absence line.

Absence must be reported before 09.00am for each day of absence.

Please be reminded the school gates close at 8.45am. After this time parents must park outside and accompany children to the school office to sign in.



**Have a wonderful weekend,
From all of St Joseph's Staff**

