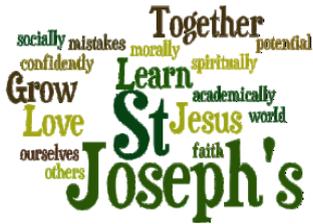


6th February 2026

## St Joseph's Catholic Primary Weekly Reminders



*Gospel reading for*  
*Sunday 8th February*  
*Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time*  
*Matthew 5:13-16*



### Headteacher Message

This week, our choir had the incredible opportunity to take part in the world's largest children's choir, Young Voices. Since its beginnings in 1997, Young Voices has grown to include more than 2.5 million children performing in major venues across the UK. Our pupils proudly took to the stage at Wembley Arena, where they sang in an electric atmosphere alongside talented artists such as Aneesa Folds, Alex Spencer, and Ruti. It was an uplifting evening filled with music, movement, and joy—an experience our choir members will never forget.

Being part of both St Joseph's Choir and Young Voices has helped our children grow in confidence, express themselves creatively, and celebrate their individuality.

If your child would like to join our choir, we warmly encourage you to sign up during the next round of club applications.

On Thursday evening, Andy from Smartphone Free Childhood delivered an engaging and thought-provoking talk for parents in the school hall. Thank you to all those who joined us, whether in person or online. It was an insightful session that explored the ever-present challenges of online social media and digital platforms.

Andy shared practical advice and strategies, helping to spark meaningful discussion among parents about how best to support children in navigating the digital world safely.

You can access the slides from the session using the link below:

<https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1unl758ySd-4oNGVQEYM9QWLNnYlh0yrkqLpiOtHzrXs/edit?usp=sharing>

If you feel inspired to join the initiative after watching the presentation, you can sign the Parent Pact here:

<https://www.smartphonefreechildhood.org/sign-the-parent-pact>



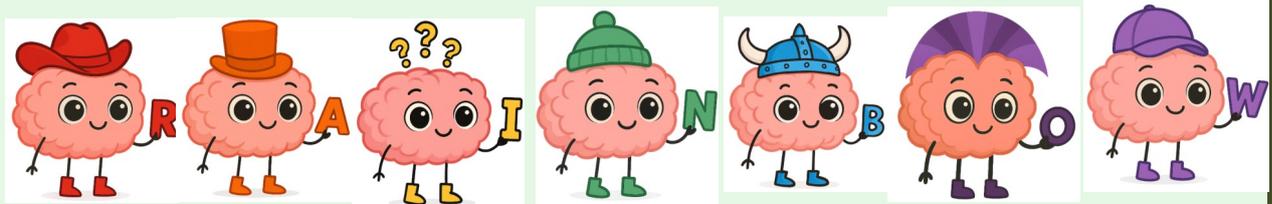


## Class Champions this week



Class	Winner	Class	Winner
<b>RMG</b>	Prayyan Savla	<b>RM</b>	Oliver Andrews
<b>1B</b>	Arthur Bowles	<b>1D</b>	Oscar Riddell
<b>2AE</b>	Teeran Bedi	<b>2RE</b>	Amelie Kriel
<b>3B</b>	Michael Delaney	<b>3W</b>	Noah Warren
<b>4B</b>	Arjun Verma	<b>4FG</b>	Lily Rose Reilly
<b>5F</b>	Mikey Robinson	<b>5D</b>	Ella Fahy
<b>6BT</b>	Safiya Ehtsham	<b>6O</b>	Aman Matharu

## Rainbow Award Winners this week



Dollie-Rae Harper-Matthew, Calum O'Donnell,  
Kiera Lawson, Alex Pawelko, Evie-Mae Boardmen,  
Evy Saini, Madhav Sharma, Freddie Ramsden,  
Olivia Cimpeanu, Jeremy Delaney, Noah Farina,  
Mia Hoadley, Luna Iraola Jones



# SMARTPHONE FREE CHILDHOOD

## What is Smartphone free Childhood?

**Smartphone Free Childhood is a movement of families standing together to delay smartphones and social media – turning isolation into collective strength.**

Together we're giving children back what truly matters: time to play, space to grow, freedom to be. Because childhood should be shaped by families and communities, not algorithms.

## Key Reminders

All Week	Children's Mental Health Week
Tuesday 10th 9.00am	Yr 5 Assembly
Thursday, 12th February	Y1 PE afternoon
Thursday, 12th February	Y2 Trip—Odds Farm
Friday, 13th February	Y4 PE afternoon
<b>Friday, 13th February</b>	Y5 Viking Day
Friday, 13th February	End of Half Term—normal school timings

**CLASS ASSEMBLIES START AT 9.00AM. PLEASE BE PUNCTUAL.  
ARRIVING LATE IS DISRUPTIVE AND CAN UPSET THOSE PERFORMING**

## Links to other newsletters

[Preschool Newsletter](#)

[Reception Newsletter](#)

## Author of the Week

LAURA ELLEN ANDERSON



One of the 'Amelia Fang' series was Waterstones Book of the Month for October 2019.

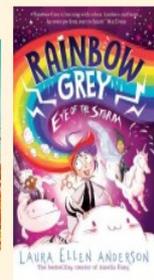
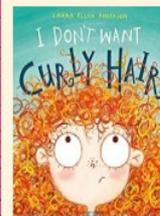
Not only does Laura write her own books, she illustrates them as well! Her first series, 'Amelia Fang' now has 7 books, while her most recent series, 'Rainbow Grey', has 3!



Laura Ellen Anderson says:

If you like Abi Elphinstone or Jenny McLachlan, you'll love these books!

Let your hair down and dig your fangs into a whole spectrum of **POWER!**



Calling all budding artists!

RA

## Call for entries

An exciting opportunity for students aged 4–18, who are living and studying in the UK, to exhibit their artwork on site or online at the Royal Academy of Arts.

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### Open for submissions

5 January–4 March 2026

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Find out more and enter  
[royac/youngartists](https://royac/youngartists)  
[@royalacademyarts](https://www.instagram.com/royalacademyarts)

# Young Artists' Summer Show

2026

Royal  
Academy  
of Arts

Made possible by Robin Hambro

# Young Artists' Summer Show

## Guidance from The Royal Academy of Arts

Now in its eighth year, the Young Artists' Summer Show is a free, open submission exhibition for students aged 4–18 studying in the UK. Artworks are judged by a panel of artists and arts professionals, with selected artworks displayed online and on-site at the Royal Academy of Arts.

**Registration and submission is open until 5pm on 4 March 2026**

The Young Artists' Summer Show is an opportunity for UK based young artists aged 4-18 to make and share a piece of artwork that truly expresses their own voice. There is no set theme and we welcome submissions covering a range of techniques including drawing, painting, printing, photography, sculpture, textile, fashion, animation, video, and more.

### What we're looking for:

- ◆ Judges are looking for imagination, originality and skill.
- ◆ Each artist can submit one artwork along with a short artist statement or description, written in the artist's own words where possible. Rather than solely focussing on the artmaking process, we encourage artists to describe why an artwork was created and what it means to them. Descriptions must be no more than 80 words and, if the work is selected, it will be subject to editing by the RA ahead of display.
- ◆ Capturing a good image of the artwork is very important and could influence the way that the artwork is viewed by the judges. You can read more about photographing your artwork in our FAQ's.

To see examples of previous successful submissions—please follow the link below.

<https://youngartists.royalacademy.org.uk/exhibitions/2025>

This information is also being sent home via a letter this week. Please ensure that the permission slip attached to the letter is sent in with any entries.

**Completed entries should be given to Miss Eaton (Art Coordinator) by Friday 27th February to allow time to upload entries.**

**HOUSE POINTS – This week**

<b>St David 119</b>	<b>St George 105</b>
<b>St Andrew 100</b>	<b>St Patrick 109</b>

**HOUSE POINTS –Running Totals**

<b>St David 523</b>	<b>St George 626</b>
<b>St Andrew 620</b>	<b>St Patrick 606</b>

## Attendance

### Attendance

CLASS	%	CLASS	%
RM	98.7	RMG	91.2
1D	96	1B	95.9
2AE	96.2	2RE	95.2
3W	98.1	3B	97
4B	98.2	4GF	93.9
5F	91.7	5D	96.3
6O	96.8	6BT	99.2

1st

2nd

3rd

6BT 99.2%

RM 98.7%

4B 98.2%

Highest Class Attendance was



Winner of the Attendance Bag

Edan in Year 4

#### Reporting Absence

Please use the dedicated [absence@stjosephschalfont.school](mailto: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.



