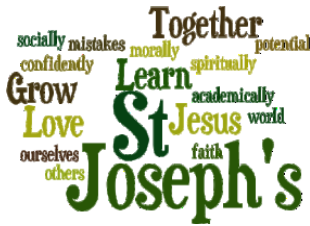


9th January 2026

St Joseph's Catholic Primary Weekly Reminders



*Gospel reading for
Sunday 11th January
Baptism of the Lord Feast
Matthew 3: 13-17*



Headteacher Message

What a cold start we have had to the new school term—winter has certainly arrived, and, as ever, life has had to carry on despite the challenges it brings. Thankfully, while a few frozen pipes caused some disruption, we were spared the heavy snowfall that might have prevented us from getting on with our day-to-day routines.

As we begin the new year, it is a good time for us all to reflect and consider the changes we can make that will positively impact both ourselves and those around us. With Christmas decorations being packed away, many families take this opportunity to clear, reorganise, and reset, creating the conditions for success in the year ahead. In light of this, I would like to gently remind parents of our school uniform policy. Our expectations are clear, and by choosing St Joseph's for your child, you have agreed to follow the policies set out by the school. Please take a moment to review the policy and ensure that your child is wearing the correct uniform. If you have any uniform items in good condition that are no longer needed, we would be very grateful if you would consider donating them to the second-hand uniform shop for other families to use.

I am sure that everyone enjoyed a wonderful Christmas, and the children have been keen to share stories of the exciting gifts they found under the tree on Christmas morning. While the elves may have helped with the preparations, it seems that a few parcels may have gone astray, as some essential stationery items did not quite make it under the tree. Please ensure that your child has the correct equipment needed to fully access the curriculum, so that 2026 can truly be their best year yet on their learning journey.

Key Reminders

3B Assembly—postponed

Letter has been sent to 3B parents

SEN ILP Meeting scheduled this week

Specific Parents—by invite

Thursday 15th January

Heights and weights checks Reception & Yr 6

Friday, 16th January

Flu Immunisations (catch up session)

Friday, 16th January

Y2 PE Afternoon

Links to other newsletters

[Preschool Newsletter](#)

[Reception Newsletter](#)

Author of the Week

CHRISTOPHER EDGE

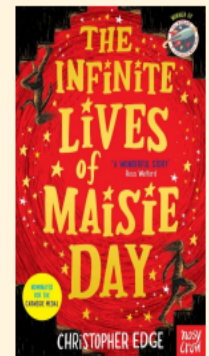


Four of Christopher's books have been nominated for the prestigious CLIP Carnegie medal.

Christopher writes books which tackle big questions and provoke the reader to think. Each one, because of this, is full of twists which will have you guessing until the end.

The genre Christopher writes is science-fiction - which combines science and - you guessed it - fiction to create an intriguing story. Don't be fooled into thinking they're all set in the future or space, though. Not all sci-fi books are!

Christopher Edge says:



If you like Frank Cottrell-Boyce or Kirsty Applebaum, you'll love these books!

I love reading because books can help you to make sense of the world, they can let you escape from your world for a while, and maybe, one day, even inspire you to build a better world. Keep reading and change the world!

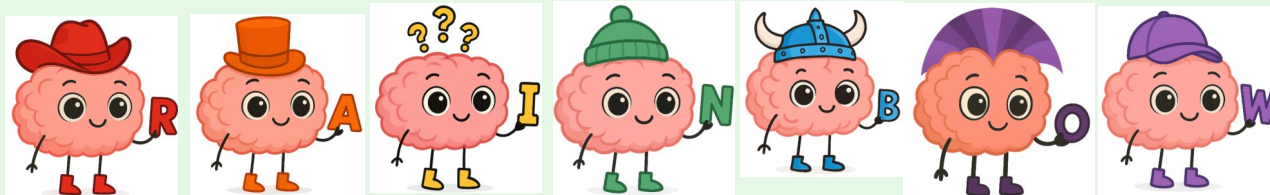


Class Champions this week



| Class | Winner | Class | Winner |
|------------|---------|------------|-----------|
| RMG | Jessica | RM | Charlotte |
| 1B | Ariana | 1D | Jazbeline |
| 2AE | Dilan | 2RE | Tommy |
| 3B | Mark | 3W | Arthur |
| 4B | Mila | 4FG | William |
| 5D | Ariya | 5F | Ethan |
| 6BT | Dean | 6O | Daisy |

Rainbow Award Winners this week



Arjun 4B, Aysa 6O, Oliver 1D, Oscar 1D, Casey 2RE,
Emily 5F, Jessica 5D, Annalise 4W, Aubrey 3W,
Harry 1B, Sophie 3W, Cecilia Sheehy 6BT,
Bailey 4FG, Chloe Vieira 2AE, Siena RMG, Hinaya RM

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!

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



**SMARTPHONE
FREE CHILDHOOD**

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 • **Location:** St. Joseph's Primary School
- Or join us on zoom! (Link to be sent out nearer the time)

What to Expect

- **Discover** the mission and vision of the "Smartphone Free Childhood" movement.
- **Gain practical advice** on how to approach the topic of smartphones as your children get older.



RECORDERS

DO YOU HAVE A RECORDER THAT IS NO LONGER USED, OR WANTED? PLEASE CONSIDER DONATING IT TO YEAR 3 FOR RECORDER LESSONS. MANY THANKS.

Vehicle Gate (morning drop off)

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 drive through.

Reminders regarding parking

Please park considerately on the surrounding road to the school and do not block the drive-ways of residents. A reminder that there is no parking on the school site.

Attendance

| Reg | % Week | Reg | % Week | % Year group YTD |
|---------|--------|------|--------|------------------|
| RM | 83.3 | RMG | 93.6 | 95.9% |
| 1D | 96 | 1B | 95.8 | 95.8% |
| 2AE | 95.5 | 2E | 93.1 | 94.9% |
| 3W | 93.2 | 3B | 94.8 | 95.5% |
| 4B | 93.3 | 4G/F | 82.9 | 96.4% |
| 5B | 97.5 | 5P | 80 | 94.1% |
| 6O | 97.6 | 6T | 89.2 | 94.9% |
| Top Reg | 6O | | | |



**Highest Class Attendance was
60 with 97.6%**



**Winner of the Attendance Bag -
Kaylan—Year 6**

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**

