

# St Joseph's Catholic Primary School

"Love One Another as I have loved you"

Spring 1 Newsletter  
January 2026



## Headteacher's Message



Happy New Year everyone, I wish you all health and happiness for 2026. The children have already made a fantastic start to the new term and I am looking forward to watching them grow and succeed even more in the upcoming weeks. As we settle back in to the Spring term, I want to share a few reminders with you all. Please ensure you send your child to school with their book bag each day so they can change their reading books and read to adults in school. Also, lots of children are forgetting PE kits on their PE days so please check dojos or ask your child's class teacher if you are unsure. Thank you for your continued support.

Mrs Williams

## Spring 1 Dates

### Y5 TENTEN WORKSHOP

Wed 21<sup>st</sup> Jan 2:45 - 3:15

### Y6 TENTEN WORKSHOP

Thur 22<sup>nd</sup> Jan 2:45-3:15

### TT ROCKSTARS & NUMBOTS NON-UNIFORM DAY

Fri 6<sup>th</sup> Feb

### TOY MUSEUM COMPETITION ENTRY DEADLINE

Mon 9<sup>th</sup> Feb

### TOY MUSEUM EXHIBIT SHOWCASE

Fri 13<sup>th</sup> Feb 3:20-3:45

## Term Dates

### Spring 1

Monday 5<sup>th</sup> January- Friday 13<sup>th</sup> February

### HALF TERM

Monday 16<sup>th</sup> February- Friday 20<sup>th</sup> February

### INSET DAY

Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> February

### Spring 2

Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> February- Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> April

### BANK HOLIDAY

Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> April

Monday 6<sup>th</sup> April

### EASTER HOLIDAYS

Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> April-Friday 10<sup>th</sup> April

### Summer 1

Monday 13<sup>th</sup> April- Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> May

### BANK HOLIDAY

Monday 4<sup>th</sup> May

Monday 25<sup>th</sup> May

### MAY HALF TERM

Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> May- Friday 5<sup>th</sup> June

### Summer 2

Monday 8<sup>th</sup> June- Friday 17<sup>th</sup> July

### SUMMER HOLIDAYS

Monday 20<sup>th</sup> July- Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup>

September

## A Reminder of the St Joseph's Safeguarding Team:



Mrs Williams  
Headteacher  
Safeguarding Lead



Miss Baldi  
Assistant Headteacher  
Deputy Safeguarding Lead



Mrs Smith  
SENCO  
Deputy Safeguarding Lead



Mrs Glossop  
Pastoral Manager  
Deputy Safeguarding Lead

## Contact Us

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01709 710270

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## Let Us Pray

As we begin a new term, we continue to keep our school community in our prayers.

Dear God,

Thank you for bringing us safely into a new term. Please watch over our children, families and staff. Help us to be kind, patient and supportive of one another. Guide our learning, keep us safe each day, and help us to do our best in all that we do.

Amen.

## Attendance



Good attendance is vital to your child's learning and progress. We kindly remind parents and carers of the importance of ensuring children attend school every day and arrive on time unless they are unwell.

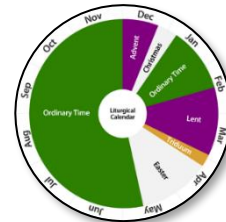
Thank you for your continued support in helping us maintain high attendance levels.

## Key Messages

### Lost Property

Please note that lost property is now located in the school foyer. If your child has misplaced any items, please encourage them to check there. We recommend that all clothing and belongings are clearly labelled to help items be returned properly.

## Spring 1 in the Liturgical Calendar



During Spring 1, we begin with a short period of the **Season of Epiphany**, which celebrates Jesus being revealed to the world as the Son of God. After the **Feast of the Baptism of the Lord**, we move into **Ordinary Time** - a season of new beginnings and growing faith. The term focuses on Jesus' life, teachings and miracles, helping pupils explore how faith is lived out in everyday life.

Towards the end of Spring 1, we begin to look ahead to **Lent**, a special time of reflection and preparation that starts with **Ash Wednesday** in the following half term.

## 2026- The National Year of Reading!

In 2026, the National Year of Reading is reconnecting reading with the things that already inspire us - from playlists and football matches to films, food and family time. It's reading that fits how we live, not the other way around.

At St Joseph's, we already **love** reading. But this year, we're allocating one day per month to truly celebrate reading in all its glory.

Coming up...

**January: The Launch of the Library!**

National Year of Reading 2026

GO  
ALL  
IN.

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## A message from Ms Gibbs and the School Council:



Thank you for all your support with the rice cake sales. This term, school council are now looking to sell biscuits in support of 'The Good Shepherd Appeal'. Biscuits will be on sale at 10p each, and information will be added onto ClassDojo.

This term, School Council are creating a whole-school suggestion box to allow pupils to propose ideas, giving children in school the opportunity to share their thoughts.

**Ms Gibbs & The School Council**

## THANK YOU!

As a result of all your incredible generosity, we raised a whopping £626.10 at our Christmas fair last month!

We want to say a huge thank you to everybody who donated, and to our wonderful PTA for organising it all once again.

A special thanks to our Year 6 pupils who also helped to set up and run some of the stalls as well.



## Spring 1 Family Project: TOY MUSEUM

This half term, we would like you to get involved in sharing toys and games from your past.

Inspired by what their adults played with as a child, children and their families are then asked to design or create their own toy or game aimed at children today.

This project aims to connect you and your children through childhood memories and stories, while creating an understanding of change over time. It is hoped that children will be given opportunities to share family experiences, compare the past and present, and design something new!

**Families are asked to discuss the following questions:**

- What toy or game did you enjoy as a child?
- What was it made of?
- How was it played?
- Does it still exist today?

Families can then use inspiration from the past to design a toy or game, create a physical toy, or create instructions for a new game.

**Examples could include, but are not limited to:**

Recycled modelling, cardboard, paper, Lego, Play-Doh, drawings, digital designs, written rules... be as creative as you like!

**Please return all ideas and creations on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> February. These will be displayed in our very own Toy Museum throughout the week, and we invite parents and carers to visit this on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> February.**

**Good luck!**

**Miss Taylor**

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## A note from our Junior Journalists

Every six weeks, our Junior Journalists gather to reflect on their learning from the previous term. Written in the pupils' own words, these columns are an opportunity for our pupils to speak on behalf of their classmates, sharing what they have been learning, what they enjoyed most, and perhaps what challenged them along the way.



FS2	YEAR 1	YEAR 2
<p>"We learnt <b>lots</b> of sounds last term! We were narrators in the nativity and it was really, <b>really</b> good. Our parents even videoed us. We learnt that baby Jesus was born with Mary and Joseph as his mum and dad. We also got certificates for the nativity and had a Christmas tree in the classroom. Miss Mason read us the Jolly Christmas Postman. The Year 6s gave us some Christmas food in the hall. It was YUMMY."</p> <p><b>Lucy and Noah M</b></p>	<p>"Our first day in Year 1 was so good and we got to do some playing! We read The Cat in the Hat, The Three Little Pigs and Super Duper You and did lots of writing. We even read the Christmas Peppa Pig on one day!</p> <p>In the Nativity, we played one of the travellers and a camel. Before Christmas we drew crosses on our heads with water to learn about advent. We also had Christmas dinner which was so yummy. It was a really fun term!"</p> <p><b>Aaliyah and Carter-Joe</b></p>	<p>"Before Christmas we learnt the Ning Nang Nong in English and wrote our own Christmas poems! We also played narrators and wise men in the nativity, and we can still remember all of the lines! In geography we learnt about human and physical features, and we decorated our advent wreath. We also made Christmas cards with holly on it to send home. In DT we built a chair for baby bear by using cardboard cylinders and had to make sure they were stable and strong."</p> <p><b>Eliza and Ariella</b></p>
YEAR 3	YEAR 4	
<p>"Last term we did our Christingles and we read the Bible. We used the Jesse Tree every day before Christmas and we read stories about when Jesus was born. In English, we learnt about Planet Omar and how to be fair and kind. We went on a trip to Chatsworth Estate and we saw lots of big horses that were so big they had to have their own barn! We also saw the leader of the reindeers on a tractor ride. It was magical!"</p> <p><b>Paloma and Jovana</b></p>	<p>Last term we watched a pantomime in assembly! On the last day of school, we did Christmas songs with Mr Edge who teaches us music. Next in December we did a Christmas play with Year 3 and Year 4 in the church and sang Christmas carols. We went to Chatsworth and saw lots of animals. On the last day we also made houses out of marshmallows and sticks. It was such a fun term!</p> <p><b>Written by Viktoria and Lena</b></p>	
YEAR 5	YEAR 6	
<p>Last term we did lots of fun things including learning cool facts about Brazil and we also went on a trip to St Pius X where we did a technology taster day. We made our own cookies, our own chocolate moulds and our own boxes with our name on it. Our music teacher Mr Edge teaches us music every Friday and he did a Christmas carol for us singing our favourite Christmas songs. We also performed our own Christmas carols with the whole class which our parents watched. In maths we learned about fractions and multiplication using the column method. In English, we did a spooky story about Francis, and in art we drew self-portraits to move us on to customising them.</p> <p><b>Written by Scarlett and Mike-Patrick</b></p>	<p>Last term, we did many fun activities, full of joy and laughs. Autumn Two held many memories that we shall cherish for a long, long time. Take Robinwood for example, a residential where we faced our fears, accomplished many things, and set challenges that we never expected to achieve. Another instance, the Christingle service, is a perfect case where we demonstrated our love and loyalty to God, teaching other years about Him and Jesus. Preparing for Secondary school, we also went on two field trips- one to Saint Pius X, and one to Rawmarsh Community school, to give us a taster of what is to come in Secondary school. Overall, last term was an absolutely amazing term, that held joy and memories round every corner.</p> <p><b>Written by Oisín, Harrison &amp; Sydney</b></p>	

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## Miss Milnes' Author Recommendation

MITCH JOHNSON



Read if you like...

**CHRISTOPHER EDGE AND ALISTAIR CHISHOLM**

Did you know that Mitch Johnson works in Waterstones in Norwich and writes children's books in his spare time?

Mitch's books are unique in their own way; however, they all have strong, optimistic lead characters. Each book will make you think more about wider global issues such as climate change, the power of big corporations, and the reality of other's lives. Mitch's books are thought-provoking, moving, and entertaining to read.

**Mitch says...**

"Reading is one of the most exciting, adventurous, rebellious things you can do. A shelf full of books is like a corridor lined with unmarked doors that open into other worlds; the only way to find out where they lead, is to open them up and step inside!"

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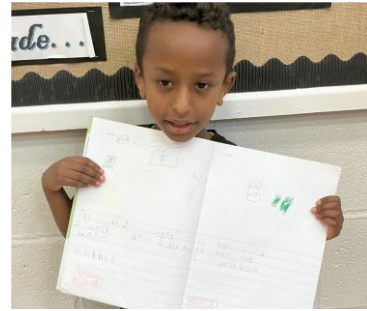


## Proud Page

Year 6 put us all to shame as they leapt from trapezes and shimmied into caves at Robinwood!



Kidus has amazed the FS2 staff with his wonderful sentence writing!



A huge well done to Harrison who has impressed Miss Taylor with his insightful participation in RE lessons last term, and for embodying our Catholic values every single day!



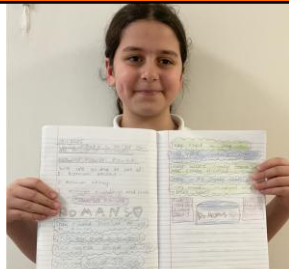
What a wonderful geographer Lily has been this term!



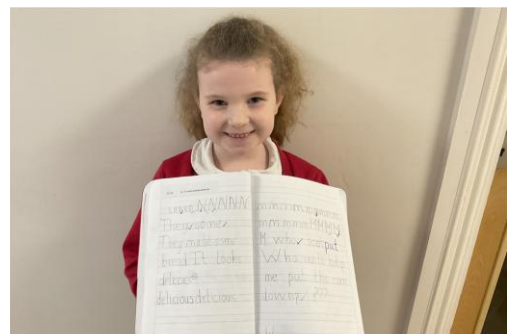
Well done to Luna-Rose for her beautiful sewing skills!



Lena has made Miss Root proud with her history poster all about the Romans!



Miss Sausby is so proud of Aaliyah for her amazing writing since the start of Year 1!



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