



St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School

'Guided by Jesus, learning together, striving for excellence'

Wednesday 3rd June 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back everyone after the half-term break! I hope you've all had a lovely rest and are ready for what's going to be a really busy but exciting half term.

A huge well done to our Year 6 pupils - they were brilliant during their SATs before half term. Their focus and determination really showed, and they handled everything with such maturity. They were also fantastic on their residential visit to Whitemoor Lakes! They cheered each other on and gave all the activities a go, overcoming many fears. If you haven't already seen them, have a look at the photographs of their adventures on the school Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/StJosephsCatholicPrimaryDarlston>

A big thank you Miss Maher, Mrs Cornes and Mrs Kaur who took Year 6 to Whitemoor Lakes for 3 days and 2 nights. Our children would not be able to benefit from these fabulous experiences if we didn't have staff members willing to generously give up their time to take them!

Don't forget to make note of all the important dates at the end of this newsletter - we've got Sports days, Learn with Me workshops, Assemblies, Leavers' events, and School Reports coming up!

CATHOLIC LIFE



Catholic Pupil Profile: This half term, we will be focussing on the virtues of **Attentive & Discerning**.

What does this mean? Pupils are growing to be **attentive** to their experiences and to their vocation; and **discerning** about the choices they make and the effects of those choices.

Wednesday Word You will receive a link to a copy of the Wednesday Word which is a reflection on Sunday's Gospel reading each week. Please take the time to share this with your child.



First Holy Communion

On Saturday 13th June at 4pm, six children from our Year 4 class will receive the Sacrament of the Eucharist for the first time along with other members of the Parish community. Please remember them in your prayers as they take this important step on their faith journey.



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Homework Reminders for pupils in Year 1 - 6

At St Joseph's, whilst we do not set written weekly homework, we do ask that children and parents spend some time at home practising key learning that will help each child with their learning in school. This partnership between home and school enables children to take advantage of the chance to have one to one adult time which is a great opportunity to rehearse key skills such as times tables and spellings. This helps our older students in particular to foster good habits of organisation and self-discipline in preparation for the demands of Secondary School.

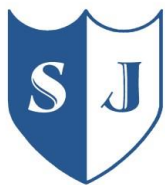
READING: All children should read for 15 – 20 minutes every night. Depending on the age and ability of the child, this could be: sharing a book e.g. one of the 1000 stories; practising phonics sounds; the child reading to an adult and discussing their reading or the child reading independently and discussing their reading. Parents should sign their child's planner each night to say they have heard their child read before returning the planner and reading book to school every day.

SPELLING: (Year 1 - 6) Children will be given spellings to learn at home each week. These will be stuck into pupil planners and displayed on the class page of the school website. Key words your child should be able to spell are also listed in their school pupil planner.

MENTAL MATHS: (Year 1 - 6): Children are expected to practice mental maths facts at home each week e.g. times tables, doubling facts, addition and subtraction facts. From Year 1 upwards children will be provided with login details for 'Numbots' and 'Times Tables Rockstars' as these websites / apps can be used at home for children to practice these important facts. KIRFS (Key Instant Recall Facts) for mathematics are also provided on the school website on each class page. This allows parents to see the key areas of learning for each term in Mathematics. **To meet the expected standard in maths, pupils need to be able to quickly recall ALL times tables facts up 12 x 12 by the summer term of Year 4.** This key knowledge is vital in helping them cope with the demands of maths in Year 5 & 6.

If you need any further advice, please speak to your child's class teacher. Thank you in advance for your support of your child's learning.





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'Learn with me' Parent Workshops this half term

This half term parents have the opportunity to come into school and join their children in their RE lessons and French lessons if they are able to.

Nursery - RE Workshops - Friday 12th June at 9.30am - 9.30am OR 2.45 - 3.15pm

Reception - RE Workshop - Wednesday 10th June at 2.45pm

Year 1 - RE Workshop - Tuesday 16th June at 2.30pm

Year 2 - RE Workshop - Thursday 18th June at 2.30pm
- French Workshop - Tuesday 23rd June at 2.45pm

Year 3 - RE Workshop - Thursday 11th June at 2.30pm
- French Workshop - Friday 19th June at 2.45pm

Year 4 - RE Workshop - Wednesday 15th June at 2.30pm
- French Workshop - Tuesday 14th July at 2.45pm

Year 5 - RE Workshop - Wednesday 17th June at 2.45pm
- French Workshop - Friday 3rd July at 2.45pm

Year 6 - French Workshop - Monday 15th June at 2.45pm
- RE Workshop - Wednesday 24th June at 2.30pm

Nursery spaces available for September

We still have a few vacancies available in our Nursery class from September 2026. If your child or anyone you know is looking for a place for a child after their 3rd birthday, please contact the school office for further information.





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Ready, whatever the weather

We are hopeful that in the coming weeks we will continue to experience some lovely warm weather! Please ensure your child brings a named water bottle to school each day, a hat and that sun cream has been applied before school.

However, this is England and therefore the weather is often unpredictable! At St. Joseph's, we make the most of our outdoor spaces at playtimes, lunchtime and for learning opportunities throughout the school day. Please make sure your child also brings a coat to school with them each day - a lightweight waterproof that can stay in their bag when not needed is ideal.



School Policy reminder - earrings

For safety reasons, earrings are **not permitted** in school.

If you are planning to have your child's ears pierced, please do so at the very beginning of the summer holidays. This will allow sufficient time for healing before the new school year begins in September.

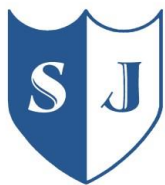
Parent & Emergency Contact details

Have you recently moved house, changed your phone number or email address? Please ensure your contact details are kept up to date throughout the school year - speak to Mrs Sheffield or Miss Wellington in the school office if your details need changing.



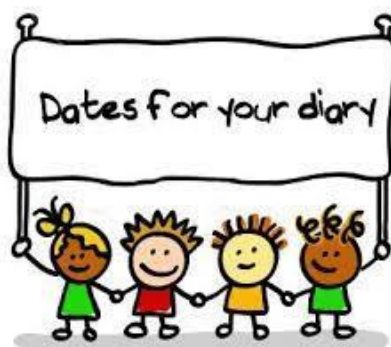
Staffing News

Staffing arrangements for September are currently being finalised, and information will be shared in the next newsletter.

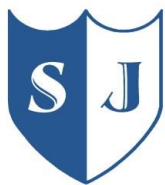


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DATE	EVENT
Monday 1 st June	Back to School
Monday 1 st June	Attendance reports emailed home
Monday 1 st - Friday 5 th June	Year 6 'Bike Right' cycling week
Tuesday 2 nd June	Year 6 start swimming
Tuesday 2 nd June	Year 5 to Mass at St Joseph's Catholic Church, Darlaston for Mass at 10am. Parents and carers welcome
Wednesday 3 rd June	School photographer in school - Class photos
Monday 8 th June - Friday 12 th June	Year 1 Phonics Screening Check Week
Monday 8 th June - Friday 12 th June	Year 4 Multiplication Check Week
Monday 8 th June	PE Enrichment Day - Reception to Year 6 pupils all wear their PE kit to school
Tuesday 9 th June	New Reception Parents Meeting at 2.30pm or 5pm - for parents of children starting Reception in September 2026.
Tuesday 9 th June	Year 2 to Mass at St Joseph's Catholic Church, Darlaston for Mass at 10am. Parents and carers welcome
Wednesday 10 th June	Year 1 visit to Weston Park
Wednesday 10 th June	First Holy Communion retreat Day for children in Year 4 enrolled on the sacramental programme.
Thursday 11 th June	Year 4 Vikings Workshop in school
Friday 12 th June	KS2 Steel Pan music workshop in school
Saturday 13 th June	First Holy Communion Mass at 4pm, St. Joseph's Church, Darlaston
Tuesday 16 th June	Year 6 to Mass at St Joseph's Catholic Church, Darlaston for Mass at 10am. Parents and carers welcome
Wednesday 17 th June	CAFOD speaker in assembly and workshops for Years 3, 4 & 5
Thursday 18 th June	Year 3 Ancient Egyptians Workshop in school
Friday 19 th June	Reception Class Assembly - Parents & carers welcome
Monday 22 nd June	Dentaid Dental Care Assembly
Tuesday 23 rd June	Year 4 to Mass at St Joseph's Catholic Church, Darlaston for Mass at 10am. Parents and carers welcome
Thursday 25 th June	Nursery Pirate Picnic Day in school
Saturday 27 th June	Parish Mass, Stalls & BBQ at St Joseph's Darlaston
Monday 29 th June	Year 6 Leavers Play 'The Tempest' at 2.15pm - Parents & carers welcome.



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	PLEASE NOTE THIS DATE HAS BEEN CHANGED TO AVOID CLASHES WITH TRANSITION VISITS TO HIGH SCHOOLS, APPOLOGIES FOR ANY INCONVENIENCE.
Tuesday 30 th June	Year 6 Leavers Play 'The Tempest' at 2.15pm - Parents & carers welcome. PLEASE NOTE THIS DATE HAS BEEN CHANGED TO AVOID CLASHES WITH TRANSITION VISITS TO HIGH SCHOOLS, APPOLOGIES FOR ANY INCONVENIENCE.
Tuesday 30 th June	Year 3 visit to Walsall Canal Basin
Tuesday 30 th June	New Nursery Parents Meeting at 2.30pm or 5pm - for parents of children starting Nursery in September 2026.
Wednesday 1 st July	Transition Morning - Children spend time in their new classrooms getting to know their new teachers ready for September
Monday 6 th July	Sports Day - Parents & Carers welcome - All pupils come to school in PE kit. EYFS & KS1 races will begin at 9.15am KS2 races will begin at 1.30pm
Tuesday 7 th July	Year 5 retreat day at St Thomas More School
Tuesday 7 th July	Year 3 to Mass at St Joseph's Catholic Church, Darlaston for Mass at 10am. Parents and carers welcome
Wednesday 8 th July	Year 4 'Born Free' Online workshop
Thursday 9 th July	Reception to Sea Life Centre
Friday 10 th July	Music Performance assemblies for parents Reception & KS1 at 9.10am KS2 at 2.45pm
Friday 10 th July	PUPIL END OF YEAR REPORTS EMAILED HOME
Monday 13 th - Tuesday 14 th July	Year 5 1-night residential visit to Woodlands
Wednesday 15 th July	French Day in school
Thursday 16 th July	Nursery & Reception 'Beach Day' at school (Children in own clothes)
Thursday 16 th July	Year 6 Leavers Mass & presentation at 2.15pm - Year 6 parents and carers are encouraged to attend.
Friday 17 th July	Break up for the summer holidays!
Tuesday 1 st & Wednesday 2 nd September	Staff Training Days - School closed to pupils
Thursday 3 rd September	School opens to all pupils in Year 1 - Year 6 New Reception pupils in school until 11.45am Nursery closed to pupils
Friday 4 th September	Reception pupils in school until 1.30pm Nursery 'Stay & Play' sessions with parents
Monday 7 th September	Reception pupils first full day of school Nursery pupils start allocated sessions without parents