



St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School

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

Thursday 16th April 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back & happy Easter!

What a joy it has been to see so many happy faces back in school this week. The children have settled straight back into school routine and have been working hard - well done everyone!



A big thank you to all who sent in egg dioramas and Easter bonnets on Monday, we hope you had fun over the Easter break getting creative with your children!

Attendance reports were emailed out to all families on Monday. Please take the time to review your child's attendance information. The attendance target for all pupils to aim for is 97% or above.

If for any reason you do not receive an attendance report or are unable to open or read it, please notify the school office as soon as possible. In July, you will receive your child's End of Year school report using the same online system - it is important we address any issues now so that we are confident you will be able to read your child's report.

We look forward to another busy half term in school. As ever, if you have any concerns or questions, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

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.





St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School

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



CATHOLIC LIFE

Catholic Pupil Profile: This half term, we will be focussing on the virtues of **Grateful & Generous**

What does this mean? Pupils are growing to be **grateful** for their own gifts, for the gift of other people, and for blessings of each day; and **generous** with their gifts, both now and in the future.

Catholic Schools help their pupils grow by encouraging them to know and be grateful for all their gifts, developing them to the full so that they can be generous in the service of others

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.

Family Mass: On Saturday 25th April, we would love as many families as possible to attend our next school & parish family Mass at St Joseph's Church, Darlaston at 4pm. Please let the school office know if your child will be attending and would like to be involved in leading an aspect of the liturgy- we need children to read and take up the offertory gifts. Children who attend will be given an extra golden stamp for supporting the Catholic life of the school. Please note, everyone is welcome - Catholic or not!

Lenten Fundraising

Our Break the Rules Day was lots of fun and thanks to your generous donations raised £536.90 for Father Hudson's Caritas!

Our 'Big Lent Walk' raised £557.69 money for CAFOD to fight global poverty.

If there is any remaining sponsor money or donations for these charities, please send them into the school office by Friday this week.

Thank you for your generosity in support of these worthwhile charities.





St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School

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

Staffing News

The governors of St Joseph's have appointed Miss Lane as a permanent member of staff. Miss Lane has been doing a fabulous job teaching our Nursery class since September and we are delighted that she will be staying with us and joining our staff team on a long term basis.

Mr Kapoor ('Mr K'. to the children), who has been doing a fantastic job covering PE during Mr Davies' absence, will also be staying with us at St Joseph's for the remainder of this academic year.



Uniform Reminders

As we are now in the summer term, pupils can come to school wearing their summer uniform:

Navy V-neck Sweatshirt or Cardigan with School Logo

Navy Trousers/ **Navy** Skirt / **Navy** Shorts or Red & White gingham summer **dress** (not gingham skirts or shorts)

White Shirt with a collar (no polo shirts)

Red and Navy striped school tie

Black Shoes - **No trainers.**

- If your child has outgrown their uniform and it is still in good condition, please consider donating it to school so that it can be used by others.
- Hair - long hair must be tied back for school. No extreme haircuts or shaved lines/ patterns. Hair accessories must be small and in school colours - red, white, blue or black.
- **Earrings are not allowed at school. If you intend to have your child's ears pierced, please wait until the start of the long summer holiday to allow time for them to heal before returning to school in September.**
- Make-up and nail varnish are not allowed.

Thank you for helping to maintain our high uniform standards.



St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School

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

'Learn with me' Parent workshops this half term

In response to requests from parents, we are pleased to offer the following opportunities to join your children in school and learn alongside them this half term:

Nursery

- Minibeasts 'Learn with Me' - Friday 22nd May at 9am or 2.45pm

Reception

- Habitats 'Learn with Me' - Thursday 21st May at 2.45pm

Year 1:

- Phonics 'Learn with me' - Tuesday 28th April 9am - 9.30am
- Geography 'Learn with me' - Tuesday 19th May at 2.45pm

Year 2

- Science 'Learn with me' - Thursday 30th April at 2.45pm

Year 3

Science 'Learn with me' - Wednesday 29th April at 2.45pm

Year 4

- Computing 'Learn with me' - Monday 27th April at 2.45pm

Year 5

- Science 'Learn with me' - Thursday 14th May at 2.45pm

Year 6 look forward to inviting parents into school after half term - dates will be shared in the near future!

Breakfast Club

To help us prepare for the launch of our new Free Breakfast Club in September 2026, **please complete the online survey sent home this week.** Your responses are vital to help us judge the level of interest to make sure we plan appropriate levels, food ordering etc.





St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School

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

School Trips

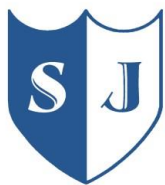
At St Joseph's, we're committed to giving our pupils an education that goes well beyond the classroom. A big part of this is our enriched curriculum, which includes speakers, workshops, and educational visits. Many other schools don't offer their pupils the same range of enrichment opportunities, and we think this really makes a difference to how well our pupils learn and enjoy attending school.

We know that families often struggle to afford cultural and educational experiences outside school. Theatre trips and specialist attractions can be expensive, and without school-organised visits, many of our pupils simply wouldn't get these opportunities. That's why we make it a priority at St Joseph's to organise and subsidise trips and workshops as part of what we offer.

We're strategic about how we fund these visits. We work hard to get charitable support and use school budget carefully so we can subsidise as many trips as possible. Whilst trip letters ask for a voluntary contribution, we understand that not all families can afford to pay. When you receive a letter about a school trip, **we ask that all parents consider if they could contribute at least some money towards the cost, even if your family finances mean you are unable to pay the full amount requested.** If you are unable to contribute, please speak in confidence to the class teacher organising the trip, Mrs Hannett or Mrs Beech. This information helps us to better understand the needs of our families. **We are grateful to those families who always make the requested contribution, and we need good contributions from those who can, so we can keep our trip programme going. If contributions don't cover costs, we might have to cut back on the number and scope of visits we can offer, which would mean fewer enrichment opportunities for our pupils.**

It's worth saying that these visits aren't just days out for fun. Each trip is carefully planned to enhance what pupils learn in the classroom. We often arrange visits well in advance - sometimes a year ahead - and when a trip is scheduled, we expect all pupils in that class to take part. That's because the visit is a key part of their learning. We'd ask that parents don't ask their children whether they want to go on a trip; instead, pupils should be helped to understand that if their class is visiting somewhere, it's because that hands-on experience is important for their education. Unless there are really exceptional circumstances, **all** pupils are expected to attend school visits.

Thank you for your understanding and support. Please speak to us if you have any concerns or problems - we are here to help!



St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School

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

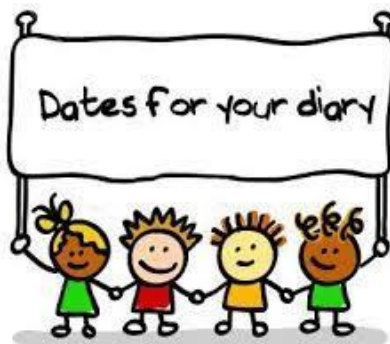
Nursery spaces available for September

We 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.

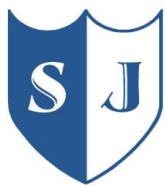


Sun safety

We are hopeful that in the coming weeks we will start to experience some lovely warm weather! When the sunshine arrives, please ensure your child brings a named water bottle to school each day, a hat and that sun cream is applied before school.



DATE	EVENT
Tuesday 14 th April	Year 6 visit to St Chad's Cathedral, Birmingham
Tuesday 14 th April	Year 5 to Mass at St Joseph's Church, Darlaston at 10am. Parents & Carers welcome.
Tuesday 14 th April	Year 2 start swimming lessons on Tuesdays (for 6 weeks)
Tuesday 21 st April	Year 4 to Mass at St Joseph's Church, Darlaston at 10am. Parents & Carers welcome.
Thursday 16 th April	National Offer Day for Reception Places for September 2026
Thursday 23 rd April	St George's Day - Members of St George's house can wear own clothes to school
Friday 24th April	Year 3 Class assembly - Parents & carers welcome
Friday 24 th April	Year 4 SPARKS Fire Safety workshop



St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School

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

Saturday 25 th May	School & Parish Mass at St Joseph's Catholic Church, Darlaston at 4pm - all welcome
Monday 27 th April	Year 4 Computing 'Learn with me' for Parents at 2.45pm
Tuesday 28 th April	Year 1 Phonics 'Learn with me' lesson 9am - 9.30am
Wednesday 29 th April	Year 3 Science 'Learn with me' for Parents at 2.45pm
Thursday 30 th April	Year 2 Science 'Learn with me' for Parents at 2.45pm
Friday 1 st May	Whole School Mass in School to celebrate the feast of St Joseph's the Worker at 2.30pm - parents and carers welcome
Monday 4 th May	BANK HOLIDAY - School closed
Tuesday 5 th May	Year 3 to Mass at St Joseph's Church, Darlaston at 10am. Parents & Carers welcome.
Thursday 7 th May	Year 2 Queens Workshop
Thursday 7 th May	Year 4 to Harry Potter Studios
Friday 8 th May	Year 1 Class Assembly - Parents & carers welcome
Friday 8 th May	Year 3 to Pasford Farm
Monday 11 th May - Thursday 14 th May	Year 6 SATS Week
Thursday 14 th May	Year 5 Science 'Learn with me' for Parents at 2.45pm
Friday 15 th May	Year 6 Pizza making workshop
Friday 15 th May	May Procession at 2.45pm - We honour Mary, the Mother of Jesus with flowers and plants during a special prayer service, led by our Year 5 pupils. Parents & Carers welcome.
Monday 18 th May - Wednesday 20 th May	Year 6 Residential Visit to Whitemoor Lakes
Tuesday 19 th May	Year 1 Geography 'Learn with me' for Parents at 2.45pm
Tuesday 19 th May	Year 2 to Mass at St Joseph's Church, Darlaston at 10am. Parents & Carers welcome.
Thursday 21 st May	Reception Habitats 'Learn with me' for Parents at 2.45pm
Friday 22 nd May	Key stage 2 First Aid Workshops with St John's Ambulance
Friday 22 nd May	Nursery 'Learn with me' for Parents at 9am or 2.45pm
Friday 22 nd May	Break up for half term
Mon. 25 th May - Fri. 29 th May	School Closed for half term
Monday 1 st June	Back to school!