



Newsletter

17th October 2025

Gratitude and Grace

Dear Families,

This week at St Joseph's, we've been reflecting on the simple yet powerful words: thank you. In our classrooms, playgrounds, and prayers, we've explored how gratitude can transform hearts and deepen relationships.

In this week's Gospel, Jesus meets ten lepers who cry out for mercy. He heals them as they walk away—but only one returns to say thank you. Just one. It's a moment that reminds us how easy it can be to forget gratitude, even when we've received something extraordinary.

Jesus doesn't just heal; He teaches. He shows us that thankfulness is more than good manners—it's a way of showing love. When we say thank you, we recognise the goodness in others and in God. We become more aware of the blessings around us, big and small.

As we reflect on the theme of gratitude this week, we offer our heartfelt thanks to the wonderful volunteers and governors who give their time so generously to support our school. Their dedication helps make St Joseph's a place of warmth, learning, and community, and we are truly grateful for all they do. As we approach the end of the half term and enter our final week, we also give special thanks to Father Raphael, who will celebrate his final school Mass with us on Thursday. His presence and ministry have been a blessing to our community, and we are deeply thankful for the guidance and care he has shared with us.

So as we move through the weekend ahead, let's take time to pause and give thanks—for our families, our friends, our teachers and assistants, and the gift of each new day. And in our prayers, let's thank God for all the good things we have.

Wishing you a week full of gratitude and grace.
Yours sincerely,

Mrs Bridge and the St Joseph's Team.



Class Romero

We have had a super busy week in Class Romero this week. Year 1s have been learning and exploring the concept of rhyming, we have been playing many rhyming games and completing activities. Reception pupils have been on a creative bus journey, they have been using their imagination to create some wonderful images and words in Drawing Club. It is amazing watching the children's progress in their writing and creativity. This week in R.E, Class Romero explored the special Catholic ceremony of Baptism. We learned about its meaning, symbols, and importance within the faith. To bring the learning to life, the children took part in a role-play activity, acting out the Baptism process using a doll as the baby. They carefully followed each step – from welcoming the child into the church to pouring water from a shell onto their head— helping them understand the significance of each moment. The children were enthusiastic and thoughtful throughout, showing a deep understanding of what it means to be baptised and why it's such a meaningful event for many families. I am looking forward to our final week of Autumn One, where has the time gone!

Miss McEvoy



Class Acutis

Class Acutis started the week by creating some beautiful pieces of art work to show the virtues of faith, hope and love. They look fantastic hanging on the washing line in the classroom. The children have also been very interested in finding out about what a day at school in the Victorian times was like and are getting ready to produce a piece of writing on this topic. This afternoon they continued working on sequences in gymnastics and added jumps to their routines. As always, a busy and productive week with these wonderful children!

Mrs Lawman.



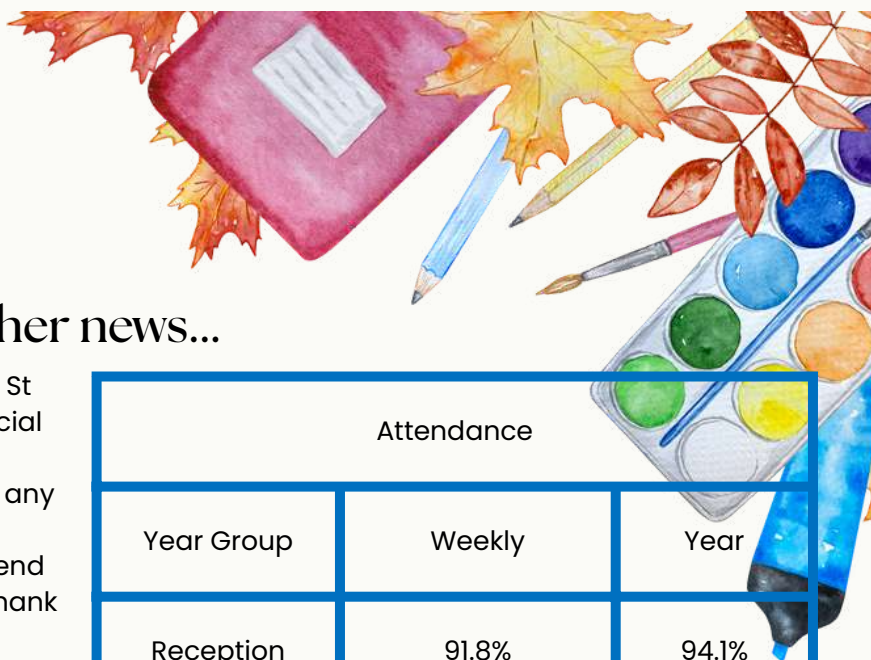
Class Kolbe - Weekly Update

And just like that we are heading towards the final week of Autumn one!

We had a lovely start to the week by completing the Crucial Crew workshop in Chorley on Tuesday morning. The children participated in 4x sessions focusing on essential life skills: firework safety, accessing victim support, oral hygiene and recognising anti-social behaviour. As always, the children were fantastic and set a brilliant example.

In English this week, we have been focusing on developing the grammatical skills needed in order to write a formal debate - I cannot wait to see what the children produce next week. In R.E, we have been exploring the new covenant (the promise between God and humanity delivered through Jesus). Finally, in P.E we have come to the end of our gymnastic unit and the children finished by showcasing their routines to the children in Reception who, of course, were very impressed.

Miss Bottomley



In other news...

50th Birthday Celebrations: On 23rd October 2025, St Joseph's will celebrate its 50th Birthday with a special party after school. All are invited to attend (see invitation attached to this newsletter). If you have any photographs or memories of St Joseph's that you would like to contribute to our exhibition, please send them into school for the attention of Mrs Bridge. Thank you.

HAF Half Term Club: Coaches from Absolute will be in school over half term to run a holiday club. This will be taking place from Monday to Thursday starting at 10am and finishing at 2pm. For more details and to find out how to book a place for your child, please see the flyer on the newsletter.

Resources Request: Our Early Years team are looking to acquire some used tyres to support learning outdoors. We are kindly requesting that any donations be brought to the main office for the attention of Mx Lane.

We are also looking to borrow a small model of 'Noah's Ark' for Mass next week. Please if you have one at home, can you send this into school for the attention of Mrs Bridge, and we will be sure to return it to you before we finish for half term.

Parent Governor Vacancy: If you would like to express an interest in the vacant parent governor role, you must contact Mrs Cox in the school office by 3pm next Friday (October 24th).

School Uniform: On Thursday (October 23rd), all pupils should come to school in their full uniform. Pupils in Class Romero need to bring their Forest School kit with them to get changed into at lunchtime.

Exciting snack news: From Tuesday, 4th November we will be offering all pupils the opportunity to buy a slice of toast as a morning snack. This will cost 20p per day. Toast will need to be preordered on School Spider - pupils will not be able to order and pay on the day and all payments must be made online, no cash. An order form will be sent out next week.

Attendance		
Year Group	Weekly	Year
Reception	91.8%	94.1%
Year One	98.5%	96.6%
Year Two	100%	98.6%
Year Three	96.4%	97.2%
Year Four	100%	96.9%
Year Five	100%	96.3%
Year Six	98.2%	95.7%
School Total	97.8%	96.4%

Reminder: If your child needs throat lozenges, these must be signed in at the school office and not kept in pupil bags. If your child requires any medication during the day, such as antibiotics or pain relief, this can be administered by staff, but a form must be completed and signed. All medication should be brought straight to the school office.





Parish News: Children's Liturgy Team

Sunday is 29th Sunday of the year. In the gospel we hear Jesus telling a story about a bad judge and a woman who wants justice – she wants what is right and fair.

Judges are supposed to be fair and honest, but this isn't always the case. The prophets in the Bible were always getting angry with bad judges who thought more about themselves than about the people who needed their help. And if the judges didn't sort out the problems fairly then people would suffer again and again.

The woman was ignored by the judge, but she didn't give up. She just kept asking the judge to make things right. Eventually, just to get rid of her, he gave her what she wanted. Her prayers were finally answered.

The woman is like us. Just like she asked the judge, we call to God in our prayers to give us what we need and want.

If even the bad judge eventually did the right thing, how much more will God, who is all-powerful and good, do what is right? So, if we don't get what we pray for the first time, should we just give up?

Jesus says that God hears the cries of all who call out to him day and night. And God will certainly answer our prayers, even if it's not in the way that we expect.

There are many things that are unfair in our world. And there are many people like the woman in the story who struggle to make their voices heard.

We can pray for these people, but we also have to do what we can to make sure that all people are treated fairly. Who knows, we might even be the answer to someone's prayers!

This year is a Jubilee Year, a special year when we try to make the world a fairer place for all people to live in. We are called to join together as pilgrims of hope, working together for God's kingdom of justice, peace and love.

This week think about how you can treat other people fairly and justly. Remember to keep praying and asking God to help you.

We would love to see you on Sunday at 9:30am Mass – Children's Liturgy Room

Upcoming Events

Our open day for prospective parents – Wednesday 22nd
October at 9.30am-11am; 1.30pm-3pm & 4-5pm

Individual and sibling photographs: Tuesday, 21st
October

Lancashire Post photographer in school to take
Reception photo: Monday, 20th October

Celebration Assembly – every week at 2:50pm. All are
welcome to attend.

Parent's Evening: Monday, 10th November – details to
follow on School Spider

Class Kolbe's Celebration of the Word: Friday 7th
November, 9am. All invited to participate.

Class Acutis' Celebration of the Word: Friday 14th
November, 9am. All invited to participate.

Class Romero's Celebration of the Word: Friday 21st
November, 9am. All invited to participate.

*St Joseph. most loving and watchful father.
Pray for Us...*

This Week in Pictures



St Joseph, most loving and watchful father.
Pray for Us...

Join us for our

50th Birthday Party



Let's celebrate 50 years of St Joseph's
with one enormous party!



Photograph Albums & Archives

Time Capsule

Afternoon Tea

Live music



Meet Stafford & New



Plant our Jubilee Rose



THURSDAY, 23RD OCTOBER 2025
AT 3PM-5PM
IN THE SCHOOL HALL

SCHOOL
ADMISSIONS
PRIMARY

APPLY NOW!

at lancashire.gov.uk/schools

School and Academy places September 2026

You must apply if your child has a 4th birthday between 1 September 2025 and 31 August 2026.

You must apply even if an older brother or sister is already at the school, or the school is linked to your child's nursery.

If you're a non-Lancashire resident apply through your own local authority.

Please read the admission criteria for your chosen schools on the website or get a copy from them.

CLOSING DATE
15 January 2026

School transport



If travel cost is an important factor in your school preference, search 'school transport' at lancashire.gov.uk or scan the QR code.



lancashire.gov.uk



**SCHOOL
ADMISSIONS
SECONDARY**

APPLY NOW!
at lancashire.gov.uk/schools

School and Academy places September 2026

You must apply if your child is in their last year of primary school (year 6) from September 2025.

You must apply even if an older brother or sister is already at the school.

If you're a non-Lancashire resident apply through your own local authority.

Please read the admission criteria for your chosen schools on the website or get a copy from them.

CLOSING DATE
31 October 2025

School transport



If travel cost is an important factor in your school preference, search 'school transport' at lancashire.gov.uk or scan the QR code.



lancashire.gov.uk



October

Multi-Sports & LEGO Holiday Camp

absolute

Activities Include: Glow In The Dark Games,
Lego, Dance, Football, Tri - Golf
Plus much more Fun!

**St Joseph's Brindle Primary
School**

**Bourne's Row, Hoghton
Preston PR5 0DQ**

What to bring:
Packed Lunch & Snacks
Still Drinks
Appropriate Clothing &
Footwear for Indoor & Outdoor activities

£15 per day

LIMITED PLACES AVAILABLE

To book: Scan/Tap the QR code or visit
<https://absolute.classforkids.io/camp/115>



**27th-30th
October**



10.00am-2.00pm



**4-11 years Old
(Primary School)**



**AbsoluteFutbol
absolutefutbol ltd**



FREE HAF PLACES

AVAILABLE

CALL 0845 094 2290 TO BOOK



FRIENDS OF
BRINDLE ST
JOSEPH'S PTFA
INVITE YOU TO OUR
AGM

HELP PLAN FUN EVENTS THE
CHILDREN WILL ENJOY

HELP RAISE FUNDS
FOR SCHOOL

FRIDAY 24TH OCTOBER

2025

3.20-4.00

ELECT POSITIONS FOR THE YEAR
AHEAD

ANNUAL REPORT FROM 24-25

IN THE SCHOOL HALL

EVERYONE IS WELCOME TO ATTEND OR
GET INVOLVED, CAN'T MAKE THE
MEETING BUT WANT TO HELP SPEAK
TO THE SCHOOL OFFICE



What Parents & Educators Need to Know about MEMES

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Memes may look like simple jokes, but, for many teenagers, they form a shared cultural language. Quickly created and reworked, they spread across social media platforms as images with text or short videos. Nearly eight in ten teenagers share memes (79%, YPulse), making them part of daily life. While memes encourage creativity and participation, they can also spread misinformation or reinforce harmful stereotypes.

SPREADING MISINFORMATION

While memes help to communicate complex topics, they can also spread misinformation. Memes may sometimes include content presenting false facts or biased viewpoints, especially around health, politics, or current events and, as they're designed to be shared quickly, young people may not question their accuracy.

EXPOSURE TO INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Memes are widely circulated, and not always age-appropriate, meaning young people may encounter explicit language, sexual content, or graphic imagery, even without searching for it. As memes spread fast on platforms like Instagram, TikTok, or WhatsApp, it's nearly impossible to filter them completely.

MASKED MESSAGES

Some memes are designed to be confusing or layered with hidden meanings, making them hard for parents, and, sometimes, other young people to understand. Online groups often create these memes to look like inside jokes, but they can sometimes conceal offensive, harmful, or misleading content.

HIDDEN HARMS & LOSING SENSITIVITY

When serious topics like violence, racism, or mental health are turned into jokes, children and young people may become less sensitive to these issues over time. While a funny meme may seem light-hearted, it can carry messages that belittle certain groups, encourage risky behaviour, or mock personal struggles. Repeated exposure through memes can make harmful behaviour seem normal or less important. Over time, this can blur their understanding of what is funny versus what is discriminatory, harmful, or damaging to themselves and others.

PERMANENT DIGITAL FOOTPRINT

Unlike spoken jokes, memes leave a trail. Created or shared memes can resurface later and be misunderstood, even if intended as harmless. Once online, memes may be copied, saved, or spread beyond a young person's control - digital actions can follow them into their future, shaping how they are perceived by peers, teachers, or even employers long after the original meme has been shared.

Advice for Parents & Educators

ENCOURAGE OPEN CONVERSATIONS

Talk regularly with young people and try to understand their online world - discuss what they find funny about the memes, and why. By listening without judgement, you build trust, making it easier for them to come to you if they see something harmful. Open conversations also help children and teens think critically about the messages behind memes rather than simply accepting them at face value.

MODEL HEALTHY BOUNDARIES

Show children and teens positive online behaviours, such as taking breaks from screens, avoiding late night scrolling, and engaging in offline activities. Setting clear routines around screen time at home can help to reinforce healthy boundaries and reduce the risks of excessive. By modelling balanced technology use, adults can help children and young people see that digital entertainment, including memes, should be just one part of life.

Meet Our Expert

Dr Cristina Moreno-Almeida is a Senior Lecturer in Digital Culture at Queen Mary University of London. She specialises in memes, online networks, and youth culture, examining how digital spaces shape identity and everyday life.



TEACH DIGITAL LITERACY

Help children and young people learn to question where information comes from and whether it's reliable - developing media literacy skills prepares young people to understand and navigate through their future online lives. Show them how memes can sometimes exaggerate or misrepresent facts for laughs, and encourage them to check credible sources when memes claim to present truth.

FOSTER EMPATHY ONLINE

Remind children and young people that memes should never come at someone else's expense. Encourage them to think about how a meme might make another person feel before sharing or creating it. Highlight examples of positive memes that celebrate creativity without hurting others. Fostering empathy, respect, and kindness in digital spaces will help them become more aware of promoting a safer, more supportive online culture.



The National College