



Newsletter

25th October 2025

Happy 50th Birthday and Happy Half Term!

Dear Parents, Carers, and Friends of St Joseph's,

What a joyful and memorable week it has been at St Joseph's! We held a truly special celebration marking our school's 50th Birthday—a wonderful milestone that brought together past and present members of our community in thanksgiving and reflection. Our commemorative Mass was a beautiful occasion, not only honouring the legacy of our school, but also offering heartfelt thanks to Father Raphael for his dedicated service to our Parish. His presence and guidance have been a blessing, and we wish him every grace in the journey ahead. The final Mass of Thanksgiving will be celebrated in St Joseph's Church on Wednesday 29th October 2025 at 7pm, with the presence of both the Archbishop of Liverpool and the Abbot of Ampleforth Abbey, all are invited to attend.

On Wednesday, our head pupils shone brightly as they led tours during our Open Day for prospective families. Their confidence, warmth, and pride in our school were evident to all who visited. They did us proud, and we are so grateful for their leadership and example.

This week's Gospel reading—the parable of the persistent widow and the unjust judge—reminded us of the power of perseverance in prayer and the importance of wholehearted participation in all we are called to do. It's a theme that resonates deeply with our school values, and one we've explored together in class and worship.

Wishing you all a peaceful and prayerful week ahead.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Bridge and the St Joseph's Team.



Our 50th Birthday Celebrations





Class Romero

We have had an amazing final week of the half term. It has been such a joy to get to know all of our new Reception children. They have all settled in with such a calming and caring nature, I am excited to watch them blossom through the year. Thank you to all of the Year 1 children for supporting the younger children as they have settled in and helped make them feel comfortable in their new class. All of the children in Class Romero have started the year off with a mighty passion and enthusiasm towards their learning. They have thoroughly enjoyed all of our units across the curriculum. I hope you have an amazing half-term break and thank you for your continued support.

Miss McEvoy



Class Acutis

Our focus in English this week has been writing diaries. Pupils wrote about their first day in school from a Victorian child's perspective. On Friday they wrote a diary entry to their future selves which will be added to our 50th anniversary time capsule. In history, we compared how the lives of rich Victorians was different to those who had less money. Friendship was the focus of our PSHE lesson with children making a flower describing what makes a good friend.

Mrs Lawman.

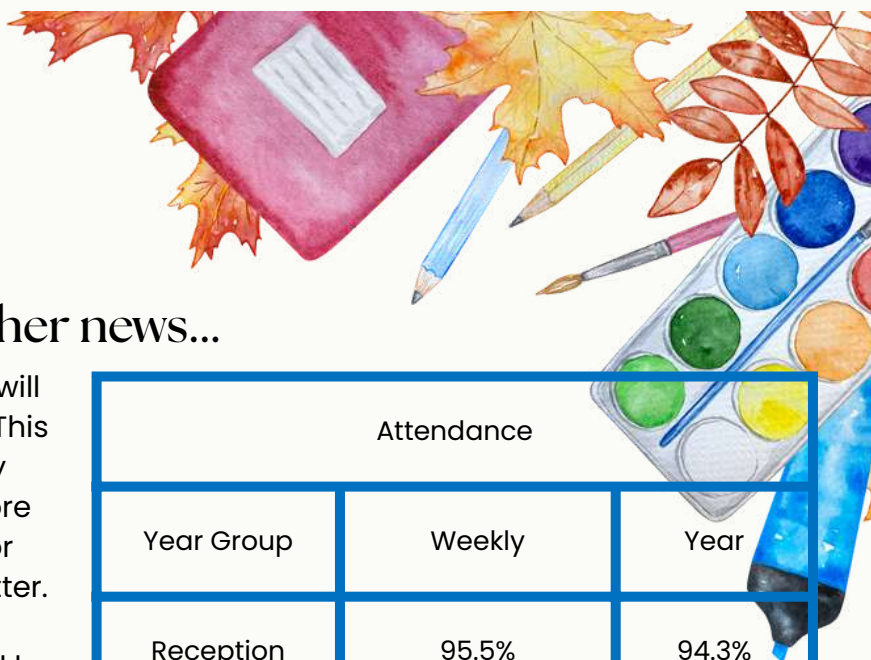


Class Kolbe - Weekly Update

Well, what a week it has been at St Joseph's! The children have been busy in English producing their formal written debates focusing on whether or not archaeologists should be allowed to excavate the pyramids. They have done an amazing job and were so proud of the work they produced.

Maths wise, Y5 have been focusing on comparing calculations and finding missing numbers, whilst Y6 have been focusing on multi-step problem solving (tricky work). We ended the week on an incredible high as we celebrated St Joseph's 50th birthday. The children were involved in the celebrations by planning and delivering readings in Mass and of course, enjoying our whole-school party.

Miss Bottomley



In other news...

HAF Half Term Club: Coaches from Absolute will be in school next week 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.

Mass of Thanksgiving for Fr Raphael: This will be celebrated in St Joseph's church on Wednesday (October 29th) 7pm and will be attended by both the Archbishop of Liverpool and the Abbot of Ampleforth Abbey. This is an opportunity to express thanks for the ministry of Fr Raphael who has served the parish since October 2008. Fr Raphael's last parish Mass will be on Sunday morning (October 26th) at 9.30am

Flu vaccination: There is still time to sign your child up for the nasal flu vaccine. The link will remain open until midnight on Sunday if you would like to sign up:
<https://nhsimms.azurewebsites.net/session/5de47696>

Exciting snack news: After half term, pupils will be able to have a slice of toast as a morning snack. This will cost 20p per day. Toast needs to be preordered on School Spider using the "bookings and payments" section where you will find the "hot snack". All payments must be made online, no cash please!

Half Term and Inset: School will close for the half term break today and re-open on Tuesday, 4th November.

The Ark: For safeguarding reasons - so that Nursery staff can register their children - please can school pupils who are arriving at The Ark after 8.30am use the door off the playground rather than the Nursery door, thank you.

Attendance		
Year Group	Weekly	Year
Reception	95.5%	94.3%
Year One	98.5%	96.9%
Year Two	97.5%	98.5%
Year Three	96.4%	97.1%
Year Four	92.5%	96.3%
Year Five	90%	95.5%
Year Six	90%	95%
School Total	94.2%	96.2%



Our beautiful new altar funded by the PTA. The PTA are always looking for more volunteers, so if you would to be involved, please let school know and we will pass on your details.





Parish News: Children's Liturgy Team

Sunday is 30th Sunday of the year and Jesus tells us a story about a Pharisee and a Tax Collector which teaches us how to pray and have a good heart. The Pharisee goes to the Temple to pray. He is full of pride and thinks he's brilliant, that he's done everything right and that God must love him very much. Then a tax collector comes to pray. The tax collector is humble and sorry. He knows that he has done wrong and he asks God for forgiveness.

Jesus wanted the Pharisees (religious leaders) and us, to understand that the things that we say when we pray are not as important as what is in our hearts, what we're thinking and feeling deep down. The Pharisees thought that the way to enter God's Kingdom was by keeping a lot of rules and by making new rules. The Pharisees thought that all the people who didn't keep their rules were bad and unacceptable to God.

The two men behaved very differently in the temple that day, didn't they? The Pharisee was proud and thought he knew better than other people. The tax collector knew that he was no better than anyone else and that only God could give him the forgiveness and mercy he needed.

The Pharisee judged the tax collector. He thought the tax collector wasn't as good as he was. But we are all equal and special in the eyes of God, who loves us all.

No matter who we are, where we come from, the colour of our skin, whether we are rich or poor, tall or short, we are special to God. God loves us all very much.

This week try not to judge others because they are different from you. Try to treat all people you meet with kindness and respect. Also think about the things that you could do better, say sorry to God for the times you get things wrong and ask God to help you to get them right next time. God is always ready to listen and to forgive us when we say sorry.

We would love to see you on Sunday at 9:30am Mass - Children's Liturgy Room. It is Fr Raphael's last Parish Mass and we would love to see as many children there as possible. Refreshments afterwards in the Parish Hall

Upcoming Events

Save the date! Our Christmas production will be taking place in school on Tuesday, 16th December at 2pm and 5pm

More details will follow after the half term break

Dance workshops for all pupils led by staff from South Ribble Sports Partnership in school on Friday, 7th November

Stay and Play for Class Romero from 9am to 10am on Monday, 1st December - more details to follow

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

Parent's Evening: Monday, 10th November - book now 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...*

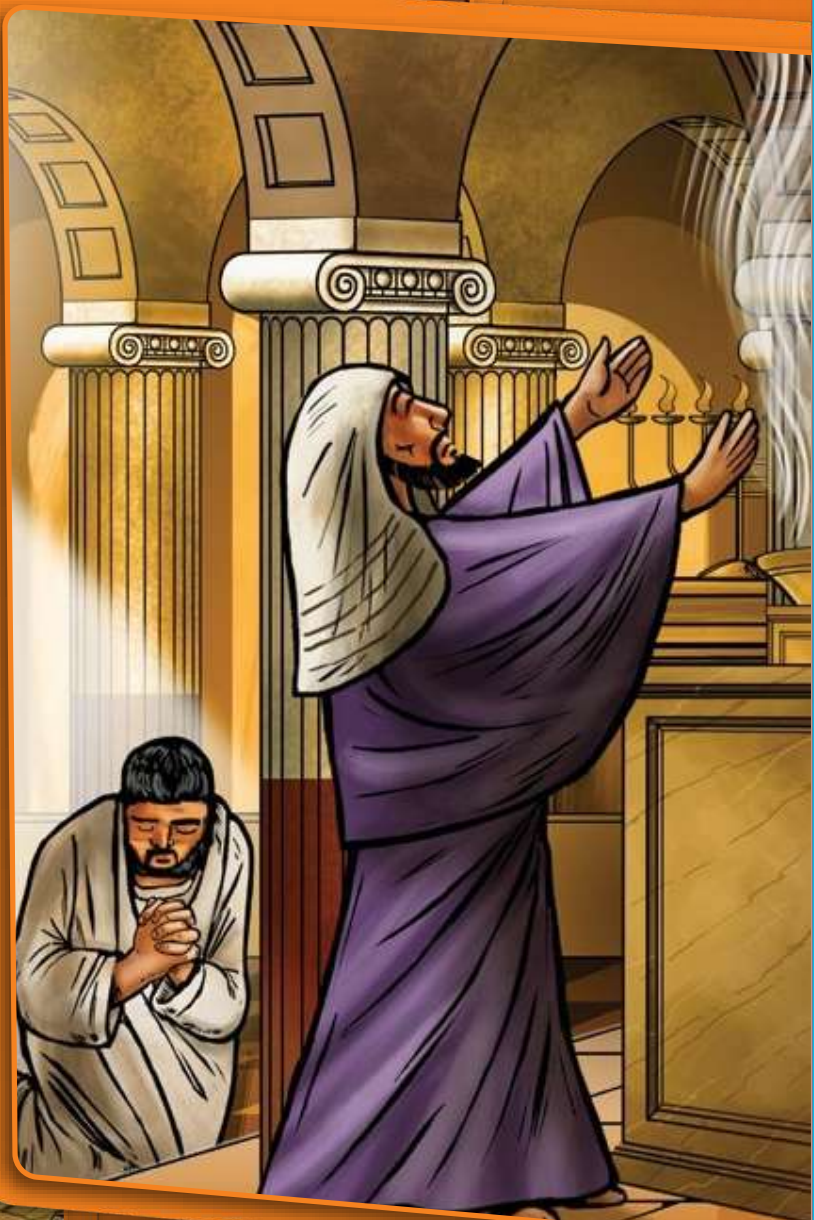
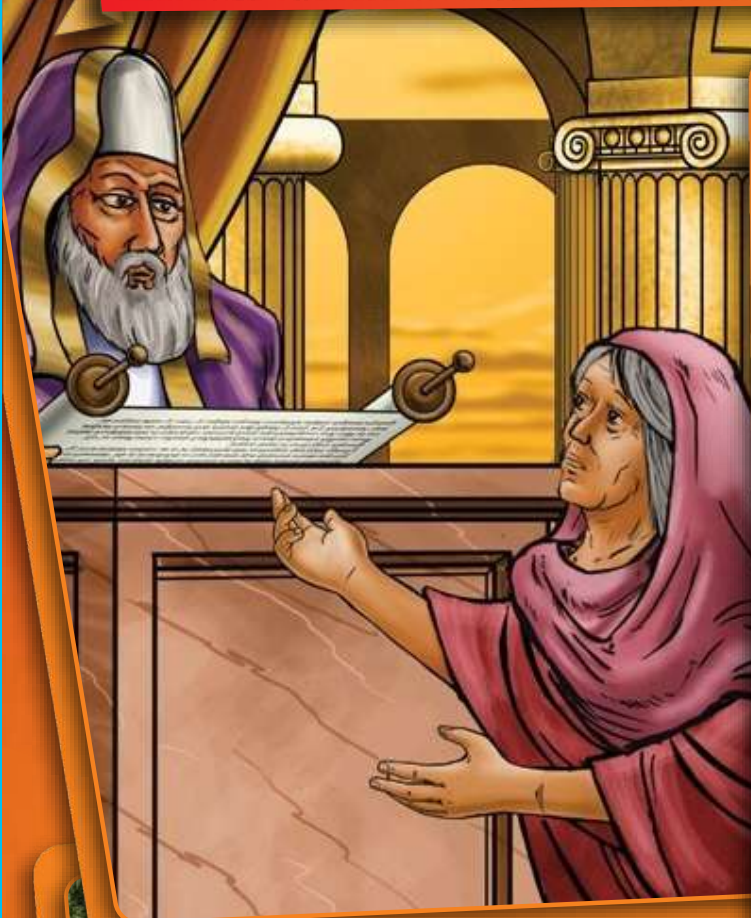
This Week in Pictures



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

THE **WORD** Wednesday **SHARING SUNDAY'S GOSPEL**

A GIFT TO YOU FROM YOUR CATHOLIC SCHOOL



Good News for Families

Wednesday 15th October

Wednesday 22nd October

Wednesday 29th October

Sunday's Gospel connecting Home, School and Parish

w: wednesdayword.org

e: gospel@wednesdayword.org

Wednesday 15th October

Good News for Families TOGETHER TIME

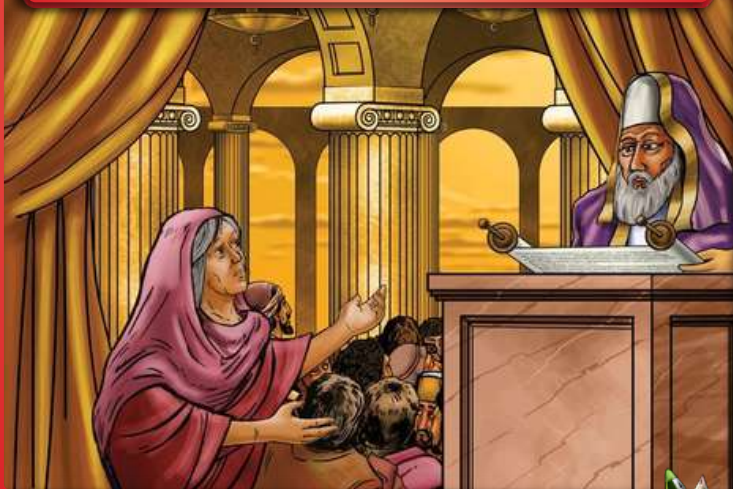
1 Enjoy reading this Sunday's Gospel

Jesus wanted to teach his disciples that they should always pray and never give up. So he told them a story. Jesus said, "There was a judge in a certain town who had neither fear of God nor respect for any other person. In the same town there was a widow who kept on coming to him and saying, 'I want justice from you against my enemy!' For a long time the judge refused, but at last he said to himself, 'Maybe I have neither fear of God nor respect for any other person, but since she keeps pestering me I must give this widow her just rights, or she will continue coming and worry me to death.'" Then Jesus said, "If even the unjust judge eventually helped this woman who didn't give up, then how much more will God, who is good, help those who pray to him every day."



From the Gospel of Sunday 19 October Cf. Luke 18:1-8. (The 29 Sunday in Ordinary Time)

Which words stood out for you in this Gospel, and why? What does the picture make you think about? Now enjoy exploring this Wednesday's word, which is PRAYER.



To colour the picture for this Sunday's Gospel, please see the back page.

2 Wednesday's Word PRAYER

"Prayer brings us not only nearer to God but also nearer to one another." *Pope Benedict XVI*

What was Jesus teaching his disciples? In this Sunday's Gospel, Jesus tells us that God is not like the unjust judge who is irritated by the woman pestering him. No matter how much we pray to God, he doesn't think we are pestering him - he is our loving Father. There are many kinds of prayer. This Gospel reminds us about the value of 'Asking Prayer' and not giving up in our prayer requests. Ask your child what the word 'prayer' means to them. Does your child like to pray aloud or quietly, alone or with others? What is their favourite prayer?

Prayer, at its simplest, is spending time with God - talking, listening, being together - telling God all about our lives. We can trust that God always hears our prayers and will always do what is best for us and those we pray for. We can pray anywhere, anytime. Each of you say when and where you like to pray (e.g. at home, in bed, at church, at school, outside, elsewhere). What would you like to pray and ask God for this week? Who can you pray for throughout the coming week (e.g. a family member, a friend, your teacher, your priest, a poorly, hungry or lonely person)? How else can you help that person?

3 For tonight's closing prayer, ask your child if they know 'The Lord's Prayer': Our Father, who art in heaven...



SMARTSEARCHERS FIND THESE EIGHT WORDS EITHER ACROSS OR DOWN

POOR
WIDOW
CONSTANT
REQUESTS
JUDGE
HELPED
PRAY
ALWAYS

SUPERSEARCHERS FIND THE WORDS BACKWARDS OR DIAGONALLY

W Y I W A L W A Y S
U H I P R A Y A S A W
D E P L E H J Y T O A
G L E E Q U E N D C Y
E P G J U C A I G E W
P E D L E T W L E Y I
L D S T S E U Q E R D
E R J N T U Q Y H P O
D C O N S T A N T Q W
U C P O O R E G D U J
S O C P P S Y A W L A

Cross out the letters i m b in the 4 jumbled words to find 4 real words.

pirbamy wabnitemd tebamchi simhoubl
Jesus ____ to ____ his disciples
that they ____ always ____.

God wants us to spend time with him through prayer. Just as we need to put oil in a car to make it work properly, so prayer helps us to work properly - keeping us in good order.

This week I will try my best to ...

Write a promise & draw a big smile on Smiley



Wednesday
22nd October

Good News for Families TOGETHER TIME

1 Enjoy reading this Sunday's Gospel

There were some people who thought they were better than everyone else. One day Jesus told them a story. "Two men went into the Temple to pray. One of them was a Pharisee and the other was a tax collector. The Pharisee stood there and said this prayer to himself, 'I thank you, God, that I am not greedy, dishonest, and unfaithful like other people, and particularly that I am not like this sinful tax collector here. I fast twice a week and always give money to the Temple.' The tax collector stood some distance away, not even daring to raise his eyes to heaven, but he bowed his head and said, 'God, have mercy on me, for I am a sinner.'" Then Jesus said, "It was the tax collector who was pleasing to God, not the Pharisee. Those who praise themselves and think they are better than others will be humbled, but if you humble yourself then you will be praised by God."



From the Gospel of Sunday 26 October Cf. Luke 18:9-14. (The 30th Sunday in Ordinary Time)

Which words stood out for you in this Gospel, and why? What does the picture make you think about? Now enjoy exploring this Wednesday's word, which is HUMBLE.



To colour the picture for this Sunday's Gospel, please see the back page.

2 Wednesday's Word HUMBLE

"When we live humbly, God takes our small efforts and creates great things." Pope Francis (Pope from 2013-2025)

Whose prayer was pleasing to God: the humble tax collector's or the proud Pharisee's? This Sunday's Gospel reminds us that we should be humble – especially when we pray. Ask your child what the word 'humble' means to them. (Parent help - humble people do not think that they are better or more important than others; they are honest about their weaknesses and not afraid to say 'sorry' to God if they have done wrong). Who does your child know who is talented, but does not boast or show-off? It may help your child if you give an example of a humble person that you know.

"God speaks to those who are truly humble of heart" St Pio of Pietrelcina

God is pleased with those who are humble. A humble person knows that all good comes from God and that any talents we have are gifts from God. As a family, name one of each other's special God-given gifts, something that you admire in the other person. Then each of you name a gift that you are especially grateful for – it could be a quality, skill or attitude. Decide on a way that you will use that gift to help someone in this coming week. You may like to finish this evening's special Family Time in humble prayer, each thanking God for the gift that he has given you to share with others (please see the prayer below).

3 O my God, I thank you for the gift of [Each person name their gift], which you have given to me. Help me always to serve you **humbly** and use my gift to make the world a better place. Amen.



SMARTSEARCHERS FIND THESE EIGHT WORDS EITHER ACROSS OR DOWN

PHARISEE
TEMPLE
TAX
COLLECTOR
HUMBLE
PEOPLE
PLEASE
GOD

P R O T C E L L O C
A P H A E L B M U H M
C T X A P E O P L E P
O E G O R L B L G O D
L M E D H I S E M E T
L P H A R I S E E X H
E L H U B A R E C T U
C E G A E T E L E L M
T A T L E L P M E T B
O H P M D O G E S A L
R P P L E A S E G X E

SUPERSEARCHERS FIND THE WORDS BACKWARDS OR DIAGONALLY

Cross out the letters
a k c
in the 4 jumbled
words to find
4 real words.

tahkecn Gakocd kawilcl chaumkble

"If you _____ yourself _____
you _____ be praised by _____."

This week let's make a special effort to: say sorry to each other if we have done wrong; praise other people's strengths and successes; regularly remember to thank God for our own gifts.

This week I will try my best to ...

Write a promise & draw a big smile on Smiley



Wednesday Good News for Families

29th October TOGETHER TIME

1 Enjoy reading this Sunday's Gospel

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain and sat down. Jesus' disciples gathered around him, and he began to teach them. "Blessed are people who know they need God, for the Kingdom of Heaven belongs to them. Blessed are people who are gentle, for the earth is theirs. Blessed are people who are sad now, for God will comfort them. Blessed are people who work for justice, for God will give them all they need. Blessed are people who show mercy, for they will have mercy shown to them. Blessed are the people whose hearts are pure, for they will see God. Blessed are people who make peace, for they will be called children of God. Blessed are people who are treated badly for doing what God wants, for the Kingdom of Heaven belongs to them. So, blessed are you when people insult you and mistreat you because of me. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven."



Which words stood out for you in this Gospel, and why? What does the picture make you think about? Now enjoy exploring this Wednesday's word, which is SAINTS.



To colour the picture for this Sunday's Gospel, please see the back page.

2 Wednesday's Word

SAINTS

"We should not only want to be with the saints, we should also hope to possess their happiness." *St Bernard of Clairvaux*

What did Jesus say belongs to people who know they need God? This Sunday we celebrate the feast of 'All Saints' - those people whom the church recognises as models of love and who are already in heaven. In this Sunday's Gospel, the blessings which promise happiness are called the Beatitudes and they show us the path that will lead us closer to God. The saints tried hard to follow the teaching of these beatitudes in their day-to-day lives - Jesus calls us to do the same. Ask your child what the word 'saint' means to them. Which saints have they heard about? Which one is their favourite and why? Are they, or you, named after a saint or do they know anyone who is named after a saint?

Jesus' Sermon on the Mount (this Sunday's Gospel) is one of the most well-known passages in the Bible and has guided the saints throughout the ages. Did you know that the Catholic Church dedicates every Wednesday to Saint Joseph (the patron saint of families) and Wednesday Word Family Time is also dedicated to him? Which people do you know who try to follow these teachings and show some of the saintly qualities described in this Gospel? Each of you decide on one way that you can be a 'blessing' to others this week (you may want to read this Sunday's Gospel again for some ideas).

3

Dear Lord Jesus, please help me to see and admire the saintly

WEDNESDAY WORDSEARCH

SMARTSEARCHERS FIND THESE EIGHT WORDS EITHER ACROSS OR DOWN

JESUS
CROWDS
DISCIPLES
BLESSED
REJOICE
GLAD
REWARD
HEAVEN

SUPERSEARCHERS FIND THE WORDS BACKWARDS OR DIAGONALLY

E Z D D I S C I P L E S
C V C C B E U S E J E S
I R R R B L E S S E D U
O E O O L P E H V S A G
J J W W E I V S N U R L
E O S D D C H V S S N A
R I D S U S E J H E D D
E C N V E I A R V R D L
R E W A R D V A A N N A
W R Z W A D E W O W N D
A S E L B H E A V E N A
D N G W Z R D S Z A L G

Cross out the letters
o u k
in the 4 jumbled
words to find
4 real words.

nuekedo tohuemk karueo otuhek

"Blessed ___ people who know they ___ God,
for ___ Kingdom of Heaven belongs to ___."



There are special saints to whom we can turn if we need help. These are called 'patron saints'. We can call upon these saints, taking our cares and concerns to them, knowing that they will pray to God with us and for us.

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
absolutefutboltd**



FREE HAF PLACES

AVAILABLE

CALL 0845 094 2290 TO BOOK

HALLOWEEN ACTIVITIES

JOIN US FOR HALLOWEEN CRAFTS AND GAMES

THURSDAY 30TH AND FRIDAY 31ST OCTOBER

2:00PM - 4:00PM BOTH DAYS

AT BRINDLE ST JOSEPHS PARISH HALL

PRIVATE ROAD, PR5 0DE

ALL CHILDREN BETWEEN THE AGES OF 4-11 ARE WELCOME

£5 PER CHILD

INCLUDES THURSDAY AND FRIDAY SESSIONS

(CASH ONLY VENUE)

CONTACT TRUDY TO BOOK

07970 792622





**BEST
START
IN LIFE**



Duke Street Family Hub
**LANCASHIRE
FAMILY
HUBS
NETWORK**



WARM &



Welcome

MONDAYS AFTER SCHOOL

**Starting 20th October
3.30pm - 5pm**

JOIN US FOR FREE
ARTS & CRAFTS
WARM DRINKS &
CREATE YOUR OWN
PIZZA!



HALLOWEEN PARTY



SATURDAY 1ST NOVEMBER

6:00PM - 7:30PM

AT BRINDLE ST JOSEPHS PARISH HALL

PRIVATE ROAD, PR5 0DE

ALL CHILDREN BETWEEN THE AGES OF 4-11 ARE WELCOME

FANCY DRESS ENCOURAGED

£5 PER CHILD

LIGHT REFRESHMENTS PROVIDED

(CASH ONLY VENUE)

CONTACT TRUDY TO BOOK

07970 792622

