



Week 8

23<sup>rd</sup> October 2026

Our School is a family of faith, hope, love, fun and learning for all

### ✿ What a Wonderful Week at St Joseph's! ✿

As we reach the end of another busy and exciting half term, it's lovely to reflect on all the wonderful achievements, experiences and memories we have made together at St Joseph's! It has been a fantastic week, full of learning, laughter, teamwork and opportunities for our children to shine. We are so proud of everything our pupils continue to achieve, both inside and outside the classroom.

### 🦉 Year 6 Take on Robinwood!

A huge highlight this week was our Year 6 visit to Robinwood Adventure Centre! The children had the opportunity to challenge themselves, try new activities, build their confidence and work together as a team. Experiences like these create lasting memories and help our children develop resilience, independence and friendships. Well done, Year 6, for embracing the adventure!

### 🐻 Oakley Bear Willow Structure!

Our beautiful Oakley Bear willow structure is coming to life, thanks to the fantastic efforts of children across all classes. Every class has played a part in helping to create this special feature for our school, making it a wonderful symbol of teamwork, creativity and our St Joseph's family spirit. We cannot wait to see everyone enjoying Oakley and watching this special addition become part of our school environment!

### 🌿 A Huge Thank You to Our Amazing Community!

We would also like to say a heartfelt thank you to the college students and our wonderful school families who gave up their valuable time to help transform our EYFS and KS1 playgrounds. Your hard work, enthusiasm and generosity have made such a difference, creating more welcoming and exciting spaces for our youngest children to learn, play and explore.

It is this kind of community spirit that makes St Joseph's such a special place to be. We are incredibly grateful to everyone who supports our school and helps us make it the very best it can be for our children.

As we head into the half-term break, we hope all our children, families and staff enjoy a well-deserved rest. Take time to relax, have fun, make special memories and enjoy some quality time together.

**Wishing everyone a very happy, healthy and safe half term!**



We look forward to welcoming everyone back refreshed, smiling and ready for another exciting half term of learning, growing and achieving together.

Take care, stay safe and keep shining, St Joseph's! ✨

|                                                        |                                                                           |
|--------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 12 <sup>th</sup> October –<br>6 <sup>th</sup> November | Poppy sales<br>Purchase via<br>school shop on<br>Arbor.                   |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> November                               | <u>School reopens</u><br>KS2 Mass in<br>church- Parents<br>welcome        |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup> – 5 <sup>th</sup><br>November          | Bikeability YR5 +<br>Yr6                                                  |
| 11 <sup>th</sup><br>November                           | School<br>Photographs                                                     |
| 20 <sup>th</sup><br>November                           | Boccia + NAK KS2                                                          |
| 23 <sup>rd</sup><br>November                           | KS1 Remembrance<br>Mass                                                   |
| 6 <sup>th</sup> December                               | Parish pensioners<br>Christmas lunch                                      |
| 16 <sup>th</sup><br>December                           | KS1 Mass of the<br>Shepherds Parents<br>welcome<br>Christmas lunch<br>day |
| 18 <sup>th</sup><br>December                           | Christmas Jumper<br>day<br><u>School Closes</u><br><u>1:30pm</u>          |
| 4 <sup>th</sup> January<br>2027                        | <u>School reopens</u>                                                     |

### **Safeguarding**

Our safeguarding team at St Joseph's consists of myself (Miss Johnson), Mrs Heywood, Miss Bennett and Miss Raymond. If you wish to discuss any concerns with us, please ask and at least one of us will be available. All our staff are trained in safeguarding, and we are here to keep your children safe and happy at all times.

### **School Attendance and Term Time Holidays**

Please note that only absences categorised as urgent and exceptional will be authorised. No term time holidays will be authorised. A copy of the absence request form is on the school website and copies are available from the school office. Please provide adequate time for school to process the request.

Any child who arrives after 9:15am without valid reason (e.g. a medical appointment) will be classed as an unauthorised absence.

Penalty notices will be issued for any 10 unauthorised absences within a 10-week period (this is equivalent to 5 school days)

Penalty notices will rise to £160, per child, per parent. If paid within 21 days, this will be reduced to £80. If a second penalty notice is issued, this will be at £160 but will not have the option of being reduced.

A 3<sup>rd</sup> penalty notice cannot be issued within 3 years of the first one. If the threshold (10 sessions) is met for a 3<sup>rd</sup> time, this will result in prosecution.

Our attendance and punctuality at St Joseph's is good however our biggest attendance issue is around holidays in school time, and following government guidelines, I am never allowed to authorise holidays in school time.

Please note that if your child is ill prior to or directly after a school holiday, or a planned holiday of 4 days or less, school may ask for evidence of illness or flight details. This is to comply with government guidelines and also from a welfare point of view.

### **Don't Miss Out – Year 7 and Reception places for September 2027**

**For children in Year 6** - the application window for high schools is now open and closes on the 31<sup>st</sup> October. The link to apply is as follows: <https://share.google/Zlqdv2gn4IL89Dt7Z>

**For children in Nursery** – the window for applications to primary school is now open and closes on the 15<sup>th</sup> January 2027. If your child attends St Joseph's Nursery, this does not automatically entitle you to a place in our Reception year group. You must still apply via the local authority. The link to apply is as follows: <https://share.google/kHulRvW0Gb6JCpamy>

### **Celebration Assembly**

This year's Celebration Assembly will take place on a Friday at 2:45pm in the main school hall. If your child has been selected for an award, we would like to invite you as parents to attend this assembly. As staff will be making a decision regarding awards on a Thursday, a message will be sent to you on Thursday afternoon to invite you if your child will be receiving a certificate. We hope to start this early in the new term.

### **School Uniform and PE Kits**

All children have been told about the importance of having pride in their uniform and how a school uniform lets everyone know that every child is part of our St Joseph's family. The children at St Joseph's have always looked smart in their uniforms and we need that to continue. The school uniform at St Joseph's consists of:

**White shirt or blouse**

**Grey trousers or shorts or pinafore dress or skirt**

**Purple sweatshirt or cardigan**

**School tie, black shoes/plain black trainers**

If your child has PE, they should come into school wearing their full PE kit:

**White or purple T-shirt**

**Purple short/ plain black shorts/ jogging bottoms**

**Trainers**

**Grey hoodie or purple sweatshirt or cardigan**

PE days are as follows:

| <b>Class</b>    | <b>Day</b>             | <b>Class</b>         | <b>Day</b>           |
|-----------------|------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| Nursery         | Tuesday                | Mr Ellam / Ms Mackey | Tuesday and Friday   |
| Reception       | Tuesday                | Miss Ellis           | Monday and Wednesday |
| Miss McNicholas | Tuesday and Thursday   | Mr Sutton            | Tuesday and Thursday |
| Mrs DiVito      | Monday and Thursday    | Mrs Hiddleston       | Monday and Wednesday |
| Mrs Prince      | Monday and Thursday    | Miss Bennett         | Wednesday and Friday |
| Mrs Bryan       | Wednesday and Thursday | Resource Provision   | Friday               |

### **School Meals**

The Autumn Term menu can be found at the end of the newsletter. The children will order their meal within class each morning during registration. A meal can only be ordered in Nursery and KS2 if your Arbor account has sufficient funds. Next week we will be on **week 3**.

Toast for Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 can also be ordered at registration subject to sufficient funds. If you are unsure how to add credit to your Arbor account, please speak to the office.

### **Parking**

Over the past couple of days, we have had several complaints by neighbours over the parking around school. Please be respectful to our neighbours by not blocking drives or access to their home. Thank you for your co-operation with this.

### **Forest School**

Mrs DiVito will be teaching Forest School to the **RP** class on the following dates:

**4<sup>th</sup> November**

**11<sup>th</sup> November**

**18<sup>th</sup> November**

### **After School Club**

After-School Club places **must** be booked via Arbor in advance (12 hours before). After-School Club runs from 3:15pm to 6pm. **Fridays it closes at 6pm**

The cost of after-school club is as follows: 3:15pm – 5pm £6  
3:15pm – 6pm £10

## 10 tips to stay safe online

Pass our pointers on to your child to help keep them safe online. You can read through these with your child, or give them this sheet, depending on their age and what you think would be most helpful.

- Be careful talking to people you don't know and trust in real life – anyone can pretend to be a child online. If you do talk to people you don't know, don't tell them your personal information – such as your name, age, what street you live on, your school's name, or your location. If they ask for images or videos of yourself, say no, stop talking to them and report this to a trusted adult
- You need to be 13 years old to use most social media apps. If you do use them, keep your profiles private, to limit what others can see. Think carefully about what you share and with who – once you've shared an image, you can't control what the other person does with it. Remember, it's against the law to take, share or view sexual images of under-18s
- Use AI chatbots carefully – not everything they generate is real. They may also tell you to do things that could harm you or someone else. Don't give them your personal information or photos – they could be used to make fake images, or to bully or blackmail you
- Keep in mind that what you post online now could be seen by people in the future, like when you're trying to get a job when you're older
- If you see something upsetting, or you're bullied online, tell an adult you trust. Ask them to report it by following the instructions on the website, game or app – they'll probably need to select the 3 dots next to a post or comment
- When you read, listen to or watch the news online, think about where the information comes from, and if it could be made up or a hoax
- Look out for hoaxes and scams, like messages you're meant to forward on or ones that ask you for payment details or your password
- Be wary of schemes promising easy cash for receiving and transferring money – they're almost definitely criminal activity
- Watch out for loot boxes or other parts of games where you pay money to take a chance on getting a reward – you can end up spending lots of money on them
- Remember, people make their lives look more exciting and interesting online. People often edit their photos to make them look better, or make fake images with AI tools, so don't believe everything you see. This includes gang lifestyles – they're not as glamorous as they look

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Don't feel confident talking to your child about online safety?

Read this [advice from the NSPCC](https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/talking-child-online-safety): <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/talking-child-online-safety>

| Week 1                                      |                                          |                                                 |                                   |                                       |
|---------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Monday                                      | Tuesday                                  | Wednesday                                       | Thursday                          | Friday                                |
| Sausage, beans and hash brown               | Tomato mascarpone pasta and garlic bread | Roast chicken, roast potatoes, carrots and peas | Chicken curry, rice and sweetcorn | Fish and chips, mushy peas or beans   |
| Sandwich – tuna, cheese or ham              | Sandwich – tuna, cheese or ham           | Jacket potato and salad                         | Sandwich – tuna, cheese or ham    | Jacket potato and salad               |
| Ginger biscuit, fruit or yogurt             | Chocolate Sponge, fruit or yogurt        | Melting moment, fruit or yogurt                 | Fruit jelly, fruit or yogurt      | Golden crunch, fruit or yogurt        |
| Week 2                                      |                                          |                                                 |                                   |                                       |
| Monday                                      | Tuesday                                  | Wednesday                                       | Thursday                          | Friday                                |
| Pizza, wedges, beans or peas                | Mac 'n' cheese and garlic bread          | Beef burger, wedges, beans or peas              | Chicken curry, rice and sweetcorn | Fish fingers and chips, beans or peas |
| Sandwich – tuna, cheese or ham              | Sandwich – tuna, cheese or ham           | Jacket potato and salad                         | Sandwich – tuna, cheese or ham    | Jacket potato and salad               |
| Vanilla sponge and custard, fruit or yogurt | Fruit jelly, fruit or yogurt             | Chocolate crispie, fruit or yogurt              | Vanilla muffin, fruit and yogurt  | Chocolate muffin                      |
| Week 3                                      |                                          |                                                 |                                   |                                       |
| Monday                                      | Tuesday                                  | Wednesday                                       | Thursday                          | Friday                                |
| Sausage roll, mash potato and baked beans   | Tomato basil pasta and garlic bread      | Pizza, wedges, beans or peas                    | Chicken curry, rice and sweetcorn | Fish and chips, mushy peas or beans   |
| Sandwich – tuna, cheese or ham              | Sandwich – tuna, cheese or ham           | Jacket potato and salad                         | Sandwich – tuna, cheese or ham    | Jacket potato and salad               |
| Shortbread finger, fruit or yogurt          | Chocolate muffin, fruit or yogurt        | Rice pudding, fruit or yogurt                   | Fruit jelly, fruit or yogurt      | Festival cookie, fruit or yogurt      |

Seasonal vegetables and salad will be available daily.

A vegetarian alternative will be available each day.