



'Live, love and learn in a caring Christian community'

Newsletter – 22nd May 2026

Dear Parents,

It is unbelievable that we are at the end of the first half of the summer term! Every term is busy, but it always amazes me how much we fit into the summer months!

Awards Assembly

Each half term, we recognise the children who have made a huge effort to follow our school rules.

S	Safe choices and listening.
A	Always remembering to be honest, kind and gentle.
I	I do the best I can, and I help others to do the same.
N	Noticing and acting when someone needs help.
T	Treating ourselves, our community and our property with respect.
S	St Joseph's is a place where we follow in Jesus' footsteps.

This half term, we say a huge 'well done' to the following children:

S	Isabella W, Annamarie, Rory M, Diogo, Harry P, Mia S, Christian Z, Erin, Phoebe, Eoghan, Joseph, Jack L, Theo H.
A	Kalli, Fred, Zoe, Oscar, Jay, Antonio M, Harley, Beau, Dominic P, Thomas P, Neya D, Leo C, Rumi, Edward J.
I	Ava H, Arthur, Fraser G, Matei K, Sophia N, Jesse C, Julia D, Harry S, Alice D, Sophie M, Stevie C, Finn Mc, Rose.
N	Vicente, Maisy T, Luka Z, Levi M, Franklin, Maria R, Aleksander C, Oscar D, William, Maisie M, Maya G, Merlin, Rafael D.
T	Bailey, Gaia, Dalia, Robbie, Theo Co, Frankie C, Tymi, Audra, Lily O, Oliver D, Theo Ca, Davi, Joseph E.
S	Isabella B, Conor, Riella, Casey, Philip, Grace, Aiden, Barbara, Eloise, Gabi, Miriam, Ann, Sharlet, Adriel.

House Points:

There were so many house points to count from this half term, our winners will be announced after half term!

Davi's Hair Donation to 'The Little Princess Trust'

We are all very proud of Davi in Year 6, who has donated his hair to 'The Little Princess Trust', a charity that supports children who are going through cancer treatment by providing wigs for them. He has been growing his hair since 2020! Davi has also raised £2,800 for the charity. Davi's efforts were recognised on the local ITV news yesterday evening – please click on the link for the report:

[Boy who hasn't cut his hair since lockdown finally gets a much-needed trim for charity - Latest From ITV News](#)

Well done, Davi!

World Flag Day:

Our first ever World Flag Day was a wonderful, vibrant celebration of the cultural diversity within our school community. The children all paraded, happily and proudly waving the national flags that they had created of the countries they have connections with. The atmosphere was lovely, with children happily cheering each other on. The parade culminated in the whole school coming together to sing the St Joseph’s anthem: ‘This is our school’ to symbolise that, despite our different backgrounds, we are all completely united in the Family of St Joseph’s.



Marian Procession:

Our Chaplaincy Team joined the Chaplaincy Team from St Mary’s in a Marian procession to mark the start of May – the month of Mary. There were readings and music as the children were encouraged to think of the troubles that they could ask Mary to guide them through. One of the highlights was the crowning of the statues of Our Lady in our prayer garden and at St Mary’s.



Ascension:

The children enjoyed learning about the Feast of the Ascension, where Jesus was raised up Heaven. They know that this was the sign that Jesus's work on earth had been completed and that the work of spreading the Gospel had passed to the disciples – including us!

Of the images representing Ascension that were shared in assembly, the following was voted the most popular. Please do ask your child what this Ascension image means to them.



ECO News:

Walk to School Week



This week we have been taking part in Walk to School Week. During the week we have enjoyed Happy Shoesday, where we chose our favourite footwear to come to school in. This was to encourage us to walk more if we can. Many classes designed funky shoes as a fun activity! Throughout the week we have had a chance to 'Bling My Ride' and each Key stage has held a bike and scooter parade. Congratulations to our winners.

Woodland Repurposing Project

Update on nesting boxes: We have a family of bluetits who are establishing a nest in one of our boxes, which is wonderful news.

Coming up soon... 'Clean Air Day' on Thursday 18th June, where we try to cut our carbon emissions and reduce the air pollution around the school area.

SATs:

Well done to our Year 6s for the resilience and determination that they showed during SATs Week. I was extremely proud to see them approach the tests in a calm, purposeful way – a real

testament to their hard work and the way in which they had been prepared by all the staff. The children know how proud we are of every one of them for their unique qualities and that the SATs only measure a tiny fraction of their amazing skills. The SATs breakfasts were joyful, where the mood was excited and it was clear that the children felt relaxed. The Year 6 children enjoyed a day at the park to celebrate their amazing efforts.



Parent Communication:

I would like to say a huge thank you to the vast majority of our parents who communicate with our staff in a respectful way.

Our teachers always do their best to be available for brief meetings with parents at the end of the school day; please respect that they often have meetings or tasks to attend to. As I'm sure you will appreciate, the priority for our teachers during the school day is teaching your children, so it is unlikely that they will be available to meet with you in person if you arrive without an appointment. To avoid disappointment, my suggestion would be that you request a meeting by emailing the school office.

Staffing News:

Mrs Panayi has made the decision to move on from the school. We wish her happiness for the future.

We are delighted to be welcoming back Mrs Kitchen following her maternity leave. Mrs Kitchen will be sharing responsibility for Hazel Class with Miss Hope for the final half term of the year.

As mentioned in my email this morning, I am delighted that Mrs Wendy Clark has been appointed as Deputy Headteacher at St Joseph's and will begin her role in September. I am very much looking forward to welcoming Mrs Clark to the Family of St Joseph's.

Key dates for next half term:

Monday 1st June – children return to school

Wednesday 3rd June – EYFS Little City Enrichment / Year 2 School Trip

Thursday 4th June – Year 1 School Trip

Monday 8th – Friday 12th June – Bikeability Week (Year 6)

Monday 8th June – Year 3 School Trip / Smartphone Free Childhood Meeting at 2pm

Wednesday 10th June – School Association Sponsored Bounce

Tuesday 16th June – Open Day (more information will follow)

Friday 19th June – Year 5 School Trip

Sunday 21st – Wednesday 24th June – Year 6 Residential Trip

Monday 29th June – Mass for children who made their FHC at 2pm (parents invited)

Thursday 2nd July – KS1 Sports Day (9am – 12pm)

Friday 3rd July – KS2 Sports Day (9am – 12pm)

Monday 6th July – EYFS Sports Day (9am – 12pm)
Thursday 9th July – Secondary Transfer (meet new teachers) Day
Friday 10th July – School Association Summer Disco
Monday 13th July – Year 6 Show to Parents 2pm
Tuesday 14th July – Year 6 Show to Parents 6pm
Thursday 16th July – Leavers’ Mass 6.30pm (parents invited)
Friday 17th July – Leavers’ Assembly 9.15am (parents invited)
Friday 17th July @ 13.30 – End of Term for Pupils

May – the month of Our Lady:



**Hail Mary, full of grace,
The Lord is with thee.
Blessed art thou among women,
And blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.
Holy Mary, Mother of God,
Pray for us sinners now and at the hour of our death.
Amen**

On behalf of all the staff, I wish you and your families a lovely half term break, and we look forward to welcoming you all back to school on Monday 1st June.

With every good wish,

Ann Cassidy-Jones
Headteacher