



‘Live, love and learn in a caring Christian community’

Newsletter 17th July 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

As always, it would be impossible to capture all the events that have taken place in school since I last wrote to you, but this newsletter will hopefully provide you with a flavour of life at St Joseph's over the last half term alongside our sporting newsletter.

Awards Assembly:

As you know, each child has received an award this year during our half termly assemblies for the way in which they have followed our SAINTS rules.

During our awards assembly on Wednesday, we celebrated the following children for being wonderful role models in the way that they have consistently lived out our Mission Statement throughout the year:

Cedar	Verity, Charlie C
Cherry	Daria F, Louis T
Elm	Ruby M, Sebastian S
Fir	James F, Ivana A
Hazel	Tami, Courtney
Maple	Sedem, Lola
Oak	Payton N, Scarlett
Pine	Alex, Ayda
Poplar	Clark, Ruramai
Rowan	Sophia F, Oliver W
Sycamore	Finn M, Poppy J
Willow	Bella, Daniel S.

Congratulations to **Amelia Himsworth** for being awarded our Trust Award for living out the Franciscan values of care for creation, compassion and peace-making.

Year 6 Awards:

At our Leavers' Assembly this morning, we celebrated every one of our Year 6s for their individual attributes and the contribution that they have made to our school family. In addition to these certificates, we also have several awards which are presented to individual children. We say a huge 'congratulations' to the following children:

Award:	Explanation:	Recipients:
Jack Fielder Achievement	This is awarded to children who have shown determination, resilience and perseverance in their studies.	Raafael G Sophia Ru
Jack Fielder Scholar	This is awarded to children who have consistently demonstrated academic excellence.	Nina Harel
O'Carroll Cup	This is awarded for one child who has shown excellence in Religious Education and has been a role model for living out our faith.	Benjamin D
Fr Hanton Citizenship	This is voted for by the children and is awarded to the boy and girl who has most epitomised the Mission Statement during their time at St Joseph's.	Leo Emily M

News from the School council:



Over the last few weeks, the School Council have been busy brightening up our school environment. They worked hard to plant some new flowers outside the Year 1 classrooms, taking much care and consideration. The Year 1 children love the new additions to the outside area and have been helping to keep them watered.

Chaplaincy Retreat:

What a fantastic day we had at the Trust Chaplaincy Retreat at Aylesford Priory in Kent! From the moment we stepped onto the coach, it was wonderful to reconnect with chaplaincy members from across our Trust schools. The day began with a series of fun team-building activities led by Mr Eddleston from St Mary's. These games encouraged everyone to talk, work together, and build new friendships.

The day concluded with a powerful liturgy, made even more special by the awe-inspiring music provided by our very own Ms Roper. It was a wonderful way to end a day filled with friendship, faith, reflection, and fun. We returned home with lasting memories and strengthened connections across our Trust chaplaincy community.

Library Updates:

We are delighted to share our wonderful new artwork in our school libraries! These vibrant additions have helped to create inspiring environments that promote a love of reading and learning for all our children. A huge thank you to our School Association for generously funding this project. The children were so excited to see their transformed library areas when the artwork was installed – thank you for making this possible. We are looking forward to the second and final phase of the library project during the summer holidays.



Staffing News:

We wish Miss Roque a very happy wedding day and look forward to her returning in September as Mrs Coxall! We pray that God will bless their marriage and grant them a future filled with health and happiness.

Mrs McKenna will be returning to school in September for a short period of time before her maternity leave begins.

Staff Farewells:

At the end of this school year, we say farewell to the following members of staff:

Mr Rafferty – thank you for making learning fun and exciting for the children; you have truly inspired a love of learning and instilled in the children a belief that they can achieve anything they set their minds to.

Mrs Higgs – thank you for your creative approach to teaching; you know your class so well and have tailored learning experiences to ensure that every child can succeed.

Mrs McLaughlin – thank you for the crucial role you have played in our leadership team as well as providing the very best learning experiences for the children in your care. Your impact will live on in the staff you have supported and the children you have inspired to be the best that they can be.

We thank them all for their hard work and dedication to the school during their time here. They have all enriched the lives of our children and our school community and we wish them all the very best for the future.

Key dates for the Autumn Term:

Tuesday 1st September: **INSET Day – school closed to pupils**

Wednesday 2nd September: Pupils return to school

Monday 26th October – Tuesday 3rd November: **HALF TERM**

Wednesday 4th November: Pupils return to school

Friday 18th December: **End of Term 13.30**

On behalf of all the staff, I thank you sincerely for your support of the school this year, and I wish you all a wonderful summer.

We look forward to the start of the new school year, which will begin for the pupils on the 3rd September.

Loving Lord,

We thank You for the gift of this school year. We are grateful for the lessons learned, the friendships made, and the challenges that helped us grow. Thank You for watching over us and giving us the strength and knowledge to complete this journey.

As we step into a season of rest and summer, we ask that You grant us peace and refreshment. Keep our minds and bodies safe during our travels and daily activities. Help us to unwind, recharge, and find joy in the days ahead.

Look after those who might be facing difficult or uncertain times during this break. Surround them with comfort and be a guiding light for everyone as we prepare for what lies ahead.

Amen

With every good wish,

Ann Cassidy-Jones
Headteacher