



Dear Parents,

It has been another very busy term at St Joseph's. The children have worked very hard, and it is always a joy and a privilege to walk into the classrooms to see them excited and engaged in their learning. More than anything, we are very proud of the way they treat each other: with kindness and respect – following Jesus' footsteps. Visitors to the school frequently comment on how cheerful and friendly our children are. I wish you all a peaceful, restful summer and I look forward to welcoming you back in September.

Miss Cassidy-Jones
Interim Headteacher



Today we say goodbye, God bless and good luck to our Year 6s as they leave us to transition to their secondary schools. It has been a privilege to watch them grow into the wonderful young people that they are today, and we wish them all the very best for the future. We look forward to hearing about their future successes.

We also say goodbye, God bless and good luck to the following members of staff. Mrs Devlin retires after 24 years of working at St Joseph's; Mrs Brooks retires (for the second time!); Mrs Dunstone retires and has worked with us as a teaching assistant for the last three years; we also say farewell to Mrs Higgs, Mrs Saunders and Mrs Guiver as their temporary contracts draw to an end. We thank them all for their hard work, commitment and service to the Family of St Joseph's, and we wish them all the very best for the future.

Mr Coldwell

It is with great sadness that we say farewell to Mr Coldwell today; he has served the Family of St Joseph's for over 19 years. During that time, he has successfully led the school through many changes, inspections and even an entire new building project. Mr Coldwell has always led with wisdom, humility, integrity and gentleness, and he will be sorely missed by the staff, children, parents and governors. We would like to thank Mr Coldwell for his dedication to the school and the community and for providing many, many children with an environment where they can grow in faith – growing closer to Our Lord - as well as academically, socially and emotionally. Mr Coldwell has had

countless achievements in his time as Headteacher at St Joseph's; above all, he will be remembered for his unwavering determination that the children come first; he always approached every challenge/question/concern with the question: 'What is the best thing for the children?' May God bless Mr Coldwell with the happy and healthy retirement that he deserves; we hope that he spends time reflecting on the huge difference he has made and the many, many lives that he has touched during his time at St Joseph's.

HEADTEACHER AWARDS – July 2024

Cedar	Tanya - For always being a brilliant role model and a caring learning partner. She is hard working, respectful and always gives one hundred percent in everything she does. She has a mature and positive attitude always following out our school mission. Philip – For his kind and caring nature and consistently working hard in all aspects of school life and for living out our school mission every day.
Cherry	Frankie – For approaching all tasks with maturity and for being a supportive learning partner. Well done for being a wonderful role model to others. Antonio – For embracing new experiences and for working extremely hard, both at school and at home. Well done for making tremendous progress in such a short period of time.
Elm	Helia – For always working hard and trying your very best. It has been wonderful to see how you have flourished this year. Elbe - For always trying your absolute best in all areas and you do it all with a smile on your face!
Fir	Venus – Venus has worked very hard this year in all aspects of learning, she always challenges herself and strives to do her best. Aiden – For trying his best in all that he does. This year, Aiden has tried very hard to be a supportive and kind learning partner, he always wants to help others.
Hazel	Jamie – For working very hard with your handwriting and doing your best to remember to use every line in your book. Leo – For being a super mathematician and sharing your knowledge with your friends when you are working in a group.
Maple	Alice – For making good academic progress this year and trying hard with her writing. Bruce – for working really hard all year and always trying his best, especially in maths.
Oak	Evie – For living out the Missions Statement every day. She is a kind and helpful member of the class. She has a positive attitude to all her learning and always presents her work beautifully. Finn – For always being polite and helpful. He works hard in all his lessons and has made great progress in RE. He is a kind and caring member of Oak Class who actively lives out our School Mission Statement every day.
Pine	Manaeli – For having a super positive attitude and being a fantastic friend. She is a calming influence on those around her. Olivia – For being considerate and thinking of the feelings of others. She always tries her best and seeks out ways to help her friends.
Poplar	Gershon and Milly – For being an outstanding play leader this year and giving your time to help support the younger children in this way. You have served the school community very well.

Rowan

Eleanor - For reflecting the Missions Statement in everything she does, particularly through her friendliness, patience and resilience. She has made brilliant progress in arithmetic this year, which is due to her perseverance and positive attitude towards her learning.

Kai – For being a hardworking and friendly member of Rowan Class, who comes into school every day with a smile and ready to learn. Kai consistently demonstrates a highly enthusiastic and keen approach to learning and enjoys challenging himself.

Sycamore

Daniel – For his outstanding academic achievements across the curriculum, always trying his best and having a great sense of humour!

Sophie – For setting a fine example for the younger children by living out the Gospel values at all times and thriving with her Chaplaincy team responsibilities. Well done too for your brilliant work ethic and fantastic attainment across the curriculum.

Willow

Harvey – For being a very reflective young man, who has worked very hard and achieved highly. He is kind to everyone, and shone in his role as Pumba in our production of The Lion King.

Alice - For working very hard this year - maturing and blossoming into a confident and kind young lady.



We are proud to say that for the first time, St. Joseph's have been awarded the Gold School Games Award! This is awarded to acknowledge our commitment and involvement in school games and for creating positive experiences based on motivation, competence and confidence.

This year pupils from St. Joseph's have taken part in more than twenty different sporting competitions and events, ranging from Boccia to Basketball! Thank you to all parents, staff and children who have supported us in sporting competitions this year, without your support this would not have been possible.

In addition to this, playground leaders from Years 4, 5 and 6 have been trained and have done a fantastic job in keeping everyone active at lunchtime, by leading games, supervising and providing sport equipment and making sure everyone feels welcome and involved. Thank you to all the children involved – you have shown great dedication and done a wonderful job! Here is a photo of some of our leaders from this year.



Here are some photos from our most recent sporting event, the Bishop's Stortford Schools Partnership Quad Kids Athletics competition.



Design & Technology Week

We have been busy celebrating Design and Technology across the school through the children taking part in projects. During our week, Year 5 had a brilliant taster day at St Marys, where they made pizzas and plastic coasters out of recycled materials. In KS1, Year 1 made moving pictures and Year 2 made pizzas! Year 3 had fun creating their moving monsters and Year 4 are making maths games for other year groups. Year 6 will be building some bridges!



R.E.

In the last half of the summer term the whole school has been connecting with different World faiths in our Encounter and Dialogue unit. We began this unit by looking at people who lives their lives in a certain way because of their beliefs, we looked at famous people such as the Pope and people within our local community.

We then studied Islam as part of our Encounter with World Faiths, we researched their beliefs and why prayer is important to them. Even though we are different, we now know that prayer plays a very important role in many faiths.

We ended the unit by looking at a very special prayer that is prayed by many Christian faiths - The Lord's Prayer. We learnt that this prayer is prayed across the globe, so we invited some of our children to share this prayer in their own home language. This is an area that we plan on developing next year!



Maths Games

Year 5 created wonderful Maths board games to play with their Year Two friends. They had such fun practicing their number bonds, times tables and problem solving.

"I had such a great time with the Year Five children. I had to roll the dice and make the number as big as possible!" – Olek Fir
 "We had such fun, my favourite part was snakes and ladders!" – Darcy Elm Class



playing games with We had to roll the largest number Class favourite part was ladders!" – Darcy



KS1 Sports Day

We had a great morning taking part in our KS1 Sports Day, we all tried our hardest and most importantly, we all enjoyed ourselves. To end this amazing morning we had a picnic with our family, friends and loved ones.



KS2 Sports Day

On Friday 12th July the KS2 children enthusiastically participated in Sports Day. This year it involved a carousel of eight competitive events, followed by the long race, relay and the highlight of the day for many; the parents and staff race!

Much fun was had by all and the children finished the morning with huge smiles on their faces, a multitude of stickers and even a medal for their efforts! Big thanks to all the children, parents and staff who helped make it such a special morning.





School Council

An enormous thank you to all of the School Council Representatives. You are a credit to your school. Well done for dedicating so much of your time to ensure the views of your peers have been heard and for making good choices to benefit them. Your accomplishments have helped many, such as raising money for our school, local charities and national charities.

Cedar – Emilia & Fred

Cherry – Una & Adam

Elm – Ayda & Beau

Fir – Orla & Jacob

Hazel – Josie & Stevie

Maple – Nancy & Seth

Oak – Jenna & Davi

Pine – Valentina & Leo

Poplar – Olivia & Sean

Rowan – Sabrin & Michael

Sycamore – Anwen & Max

Willow – Georgina & Olly

Music Concert

Congratulations to all of our talented musicians who took part in our wonderful instrumental concert on 27th June. The audience greatly appreciated you showcasing your skills and sharing your love of music.

Ms Roper



Birchwood High School School's Orchestra

The children rehearsed and performed as part of a combined school's orchestra.

The pieces they played were Funk .com and Starwars.

This gave our pupils a wonderful opportunity to experience playing as part of a much bigger group and they also were inspired to pursue instrumental lessons at secondary school too.

Our school milk scheme

Our school provides a milk scheme that is available to all of our pupils. If your child is over 5 years of age and you wish to pay for your child to receive school milk, please see below:

Each child that registers with Cool Milk will receive a 189ml portion of semi-skimmed milk every day, delivered fresh and chilled to the classroom. Their school milk will not only provide them with essential nutrients, but as it is rehydrating and energy boosting it also bridges the gap between breakfast and lunch to help children stay focused.

Register and pay online at www.coolmilk.com

If you have any questions regarding school milk please visit www.coolmilk.com or contact Cool Milk directly on 0800 321 3248.

School Dinners

Please remember, if your child has a lunch booked and they are not in school, parents must cancel the meal on the Select Aspens site to avoid being charged.

Prayer:

**God be in my head,
And in my thinking.
God be in my eyes,
And in my looking.
God be in my ears,
And in my listening.
God be in my heart,
And in my understanding.**

The text 'ENJOY SUMMER' is displayed in a large, bold, sans-serif font. Each letter is filled with a vibrant, multi-colored watercolor pattern, featuring shades of yellow, orange, red, purple, and blue. The letters are arranged in two rows: 'ENJOY' on the top row and 'SUMMER' on the bottom row.